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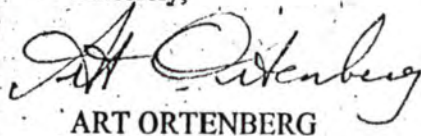


LIZ CLAIBORNE
ART ORTENBERG
FOUNDATION

MR. ALAN JABBOUR
Director

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER
Library of Congress
Washington, DC 20540-8100

Sincerely,


ART ORTENBERG

11 January, 1996

Dear Alan:

Having just reviewed the minutes from the December 18th Montana Heritage Project meeting as well as the accompanying director's report on schools, it is clear that the larger vision so eloquently outlined in your *Folklife Center News* article can be realized. The project has begun to fulfill its promise as an opportunity for research and discovery allowing students, teachers and hopefully communities to apprehend both the harmony and dissonance between past and present and to define anew what it means to be a Montanan. As Marta Brooks from St. Ignatius tells us, she is uncertain about the final product but very excited by the process. And so are Liz and I.

The more clearly defined leadership role that we have asked Brian Cockhill and the Montana Historical Society to play with the advice and counsel of the smaller working committee has, in our view, resolved earlier uncertainties and loss of focus. We fully support this arrangement and believe that if everyone continues to play a helpful and objective role, the project will achieve the lasting relevance and impact that all of us hope for.

212-333-2536/3888

650 5TH AVENUE

NEW YORK 10019

956-3531 (FAX)

MHW95 CR

SUMMER FIELD SCHOOL

David A. Taylor

The Center has been invited, by the University of New Mexico's Center for Regional Studies (CRS), to co-sponsor a field school for cultural documentation in New Mexico this summer. However, the invitation is contingent on the availability of sufficient funds for the project when CRS's budget is finalized--probably in late January.

Although a 1996 field school is tentative at this point, essential preliminary planning has proceeded on the assumption that funds will be made available. As currently envisioned, the field school will take place July 8-26, and will be based at the campus of New Mexico Highlands University, in Las Vegas, N.M. The focus of fieldwork activities will be the historic land grants of the region, with particular attention to recent economic development and its impact on the land base and especially the water rights of longstanding subsistence farms. Three river valleys are central: Rio Gallina, Rio de Mora, and the upper Rio Pecos. Research on these subjects is currently in progress by University of New Mexico faculty and students, and residents of the local communities. It is expected that field school participants will work in collaboration with them and make contributions toward their goals. With respect to course enrollment, it is expected that one-third of the participants will be residents of the study region, one-third will be residents of similar northern New Mexico regions, and one-third will come from areas outside northern New Mexico.

As with the two previous field schools in Colorado, it is expected that the Center will mainly contribute the time of staff (principally David Taylor), travel funds, and documentation equipment. The host institution (the University of New Mexico) will provide staff; lodgings; classroom facilities; documentation equipment; and funds for outside faculty, expendable supplies, and other expenses. Field school participants (approximately 12) will, once again, be expected to pay a modest course fee.

APPALACHIAN FOREST FOLKLIFE PROJECT

Mary Hufford

In late December, the Fund for Folk Culture notified us that we have been awarded a grant in the amount of \$15,000 to document the relationship between culture and the forest on Coal River in southern West Virginia. Since the last meeting of the board, several articles have appeared on the project, one in Folklife Center News, the other in American Forests. Of special interest in this project are linkages we are making within the environmental and scientific community. The Sierra Club, for instance, paid for one of my trips this past fall to document ginsenging in the region, and continues to be interested in this project. I have just sent a related article off to the Sierra Club for its inaugural issue of Appalachian Voice, a publication of the Sierra Club's Southern Appalachian Regional Task Force focussing on environmental issues throughout the region. Another environmental agency, the West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection, provided a helicopter ride over the field site, where Lyntha Eiler took many photographs. A state inspector of surface mines accompanied us to interpret the emerging landscape of mountaintop removal and reclamation in that part of the state, stimulated by the Clean Air Act revisions of 1990.

The grant monies are being administered through Trees for the Planet, Inc., and will pay for photo documentation through the seasons by Lyntha and Terry Eiler, as well as for my travel (three to four days every six to eight weeks), and to support locally initiated cultural presentations. The first of these will be a concert on the penultimate evening of the Lucy Braun Association's annual meeting, to be held March 15-17, 1996. The concert will feature musicians we've documented on Coal River, who will perform music and discuss the historical value of the forest for communities along the river. A second promises to be a tour (still photos, with audio and video documentation) of historically significant sites, produced in consultation with members of the United Mineworkers Local in Sundial. Ultimately we are hoping to produce a CD Rom with the documentation, and/or a photo-illustrated book and sound recording. A copy of the proposal, American Forests, and Appalachian Voice (if out) will be available at the board meeting for anyone wishing to read them.

EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Peter Bartis

Two recording machines and accessories were loaned in support of school projects associated with the Montana Heritage Project, and occasional loans to the Prints and Photographs Division continue to be made in support of that division's Look Magazine Project (interviewing photographers).

Although we have two requests for recording equipment for the spring, there was an extremely low request rate during the past year. One reason may be the availability and desirability of digital recorders. Another may be that less fieldwork is being planned by our colleagues in the field due to both real and perceived cuts in funding sources.

AGENDA

PLANNING AND POLICY COMMITTEE
"Cultural Affairs" Conference Room
Madison Building, Room LM 605

February 8, 1996
10:45 a.m.

1. Long-range Plan
2. Personnel

Committee Materials Included:

Long-range Plan (Alan Jabbour)

Personnel Update (James Hardin)

Committee Members:

Judith McCulloh, Chair; all board members serve

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
LONG-RANGE PLAN, December 11, 1995

Given the budgetary pressures on the Federal Government in the last half of the 1990s, the following long-range plan for the Center is designed to accomplish three fundamental goals:

1. Stabilize the Center's appropriated base, insuring a commitment from the Congress and the Library to maintain the base as an essential facet of the Library's long-range future.
2. Expand the Center's national impact through fundraising, partnerships, and leveraging of private-sector funds.
3. Refocus the Center's priorities and its public programming to emphasize the centrality of its collections to all of its work.

The mission of the Center, as stated succinctly in the American Folklife Preservation Act, is "to preserve and present American folklife." Viewed through the lens of this mission statement, the goals described above, with accompanying objectives, are as follows:

I. STABILIZATION of the Center's appropriated base

- A. Seek permanent reauthorization of the Center.
- B. Integrate the Center with the collections-based divisions of the Library.

II. PRIVATE-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS to raise funds and extend the Center's national impact

- A. Arrange for public-private partnerships to disseminate the Center's collections through publications and public media.
- B. Increase the number and size of the Center's trust funds.
- C. Raise private funds for public presentations, exhibitions, and events highlighting folklife traditions and issues.

III. COLLECTIONS-BASED INITIATIVES to strengthen the Center's collections and share them with the public

- A. Increase acquisitions of major ethnographic collections.
- B. Reduce arrearages by organizing and processing Center collections.
- C. Improve access to Center collections through improved reading room service and online sharing of collections information.
- D. Work with the National Digital Library to digitize and disseminate Center collections.

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER
Board of Trustees Meeting, February 1996
PERSONNEL REPORT
James Hardin

1. Nora Yeh has accepted the position of processing archivist. She will begin in late February.
2. Jennifer Cutting has been named Folklife Specialist (Reference). Her principal assignments include Reading Room duty and reference correspondence.
3. Mary Gainey has been extended on a new 120-day temporary assignment as clerk/typist (GS-5). Applications are being reviewed for a two-year indefinite posting for the same position.
4. Carol Moran began a 120-day temporary appointment in December 95. She will be working on reference-related projects at the Reading Room.
4. James Hardin has completed two details of "undescribed duties" from June to October 8 and October 9 to February 5, performing the administrative work of the assistant to the director.

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
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THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540-8100

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

December 11, 1995

To: Board of Trustees

From: Alan Jabbour

Enclosed are copies of Center monthly reports for September, October, and November; the Library of Congress Gazette, December 8, with James H. Billington's testimony before the Joint Committee on matters of security and management at the Library; a draft of a new, simplified long-range plan for the Center; and the minutes of the October 6 board meeting.

The last few weeks have been a time of learning and adjustment as we settle into the Library's new organizational scheme, which began on November 13. As you know, the Cultural Affairs service unit no longer exists, and the Center is now part of Public Service Collections (PSC), headed by Sarah Thomas, which is part of Library Services (LS), headed by Winston Tabb. Procedures are a little more bureaucratic than we are accustomed to (and service less personalized), but so far staff at LS/PSC have been friendly and helpful. As you can read in the Gazette article, collections security and financial constraints are the two principal concerns at the Library these days, affecting all areas of activity.

Nevertheless, we are hopeful that we can work our way through these difficult times, focusing on the work that is of central importance to the Center and its mission (see the enclosed long-range plan). My best wishes to you all for a happy holiday season. We at the Center look forward to seeing you and continuing our discussions in the New Year.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

TO: Carolyn Brown
Associate Librarian
Cultural Affairs

DATE: October 10, 1995

FROM: Alan Jabbour
Director
American Folklife Center

SUBJECT: September 1995 Monthly Report

SPECIAL EVENTS

September 21, the Center presented the final concert in this year's Neptune Plaza Concert Series, the music and dance of Argentine tango, with the New York Buenos Aires Connection. The event was presented in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

MEETINGS AND VISITORS

On September 7, Judith Gray met with Narissa Ramdhani, archivist for the African National Congress, from Johannesburg, South Africa, and on September 20 with Kerehi Waiariki Dick Grace, the manager of Maori Policy and Planning at the National Library of New Zealand, and Patricia Grace, one of New Zealand's leading contemporary writers.

On September 12, Marc Okrand, inventor of Star Trek's Klingon language, visited the Folklife Reading Room. A linguist who had studied California Indian Costanoan languages (which are no longer spoken), he was delighted to hear Costanoan words for the first time, on cylinder recordings in the J.P. Harrington collection.

On September 13, Alan Jabbour made a presentation about the Center to a group of staffers from the House Oversight Committee and from the personal staffs of committee members. He briefed them on Center collections and activities in preparation for the Center's pending authorization.

On September 14, Judith Gray provided orientation to the Folklife Center collections for the members of the Library's Reference Collections class.

On September 20, Alan Jabbour made a presentation on "Ethnographic Collections in the Digital Future" for a joint meeting of the International Association of Sound Archives and the Association of Recorded Sound Collections, held at the Library of Congress.

On September 26, Carrie Byer of the Preservation Division gave a presentation to the Center staff on care for collections in case of various kinds emergencies. In October Carrie will assist the staff in developing improved protection and emergency planning for Center collections.

PROCESSING

Michelle Forner completed the processing of the Popescu-Judetz Romanian Dance Collection. On September 25, she gave a short presentation on this collection, with examples, for the president of Romania, who was visiting the Library.

PROJECTS

On September 11, Alan Jabbour was interviewed for a program being prepared by the Global Library for cable and broadcast dissemination.

September 7-9, David Taylor made a presentation on the Center's field project in Paterson, New Jersey, at the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History, held in Saratoga Springs, New York. His presentation was part of the session "The Urban History Initiative in Paterson, New Jersey: Cooperative Work in the Great Falls National Historic District."

PUBLICATIONS

On September 11, Alan Jabbour and Stephen Wade met with a producer at National Public Radio to discuss the concept of a series of short radio segments featuring field recordings from the Archive of Folk Culture, to be broadcast on a magazine program such as "All Things Considered" or "Morning Edition." The series would parallel the book and compact disc recording being written and edited by Stephen Wade featuring highlights from the longstanding series of folk music recordings issued from the Archive.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

On September 14, Jennifer Cutting gave a lecture at Borders Bookstore in Rockville, Maryland, on British folk revival trends and activities in London in the 1980s.

On September 14-17, Alan Jabbour traveled to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he chaired a panel of experts who reviewed about eighty grant applications for the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Community Folklife Program, which is administered by the Fund for Folk Culture.

On September 17-20, Joseph Hickerson attended the annual conferences of the Association of Recorded Sound Collections and the International Association of Sound Archives held jointly in Arlington, Virginia, and at the Library of Congress.

From September 26-28, Cathy Kerst traveled to Iowa in her capacity as curator of the Iowa Program of the Smithsonian's 1996 Festival of American Folklife. During that time, she was in Des Moines to conduct a meeting with Iowa curriculum specialists aimed at developing an Iowa Folklife Educational Kit and then conducted a training session in Iowa City for community scholars who will be doing field research for the 1996 festival.

On September 27, Alan Jabbour attended the award ceremony at the White House for the National Heritage Fellows, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.

On September 28, Stephanie Hall (along with Dr. Iêda Siqueira Wiarda of the Library's Hispanic Division) gave a presentation on the Literatura de Cordel Brazilian Chapbooks Collection at the Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

On September 29-October 1, Alan Jabbour traveled to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, to give the keynote address and chair the final discussion panel for a symposium on "Keepers of Culture: Folk Arts in a Global Society" held at the National Museum of Wildlife Art.

In September, David Taylor began teaching a graduate course on material culture in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Folklore & Folklife.

PERSONNEL

John C. DeMetrick of George Washington University began an internship on September 7. Kenneth G. Schweitzer of the University of Maryland began an internship on September 11. Zara E. N. Johnston of Northern Ireland began an internship on September 18.

Memorandum

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

TO: Carolyn Brown
Associate Librarian
Cultural Affairs

FROM: Alan Jabbour
Director
American Folklife Center

SUBJECT: October 1995 Monthly Report

DATE: November 6, 1995

During October, the American Folklife Center began preparations for its change in organizational structure within the Library of Congress, as part of the Library's realignment of its departmental structure.

SPECIAL EVENTS

On October 10, the Center sponsored "Current Themes in Nordic Folklore Research," a seminar that featured presentations by leading folklorists from Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. The visiting folklorists were: Anne Leonora Blaakilde, University of Copenhagen; Barbro Klein, Stockholm University; Birgitte Rorbye, University of Copenhagen; Torunn Selberg, University of Bergen; Gry Heggli, University of Bergen; Ulf Palmenfelt, Nordic Institute of Folklore; Knut Djupedal, Norwegian Emigrant Museum; and Stein Mathisen, Finnmark College.

MEETINGS AND VISITORS

On October 3, the Fund Committee for the Parsons Fund met to plan the first announcement soliciting proposals for grants from the fund. The fund has now received donations amounting to over \$18,000.

On October 5-6, the Center's Board of Trustees met at the Library. New members attending were Ada Deer, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Shirley Sagawa, Corporation for National and Community Service, as well as Sarah Howes, representing Madeleine Kunin, Department of Education. Discussion focused on the budget cuts that have taken place at all the federal agencies represented on the board and the reorganization at the Library of Congress that places the Center under Public Services Collections.

ACQUISITIONS

The Center has acquired two 10-inch tapes containing seventy-nine songs sung by five women of the Shoshone tribe of the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming, and two Shoshone songs previously recorded by Edward Curtis and Willard Rhodes, generated from the Judith Vander Collection at the Archives of Traditional Music at Indiana University, Bloomington. Except for the two previously recorded songs and five songs recorded by two of the women themselves on cassette, the tapes were originally recorded by

ethnomusicologist Judith Vander of Ann Arbor, Michigan, from 1977-83, as part of fieldwork for a Master's thesis at the University of Michigan.

The Folk Music Institute in Kaustinen, Finland, has donated eleven monographs, four periodicals, seventeen CDs, and thirty ephemera on Finnish folk music.

Israel G. Young has donated copies of thirteen newsletters and twenty-one ephemera associated with the Folklife Center he operated twenty to thirty-five years ago in Greenwich Village.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

On October 1, Joseph Hickerson presented a lecture entitled "Singing the Sea: Maritime Song & Maritime Culture" with recorded examples as part of "Working the Port: A Conference and Festival of Maritime Work and Culture" held at the South Street Seaport Museum in New York City.

On October 11-15, staff members Stephanie Hall, Mary Hufford, and David Taylor presented papers at the annual meeting of the American Folklore Society in Lafayette, Louisiana. Hufford has been invited to remain on the editorial board of the *Journal of American Folklore*. Taylor chaired the annual meeting of the AFS Occupational Folklife Section. Joseph Hickerson staffed an information table and, during the business meeting on the 14th, delivered a eulogy to Gerald Parsons. The AFS Archiving Section honored Parsons with a special award and presented a check for \$100 to the Parsons Fund for Ethnography.

On October 18-22, staff members Judith Gray and Joseph C. Hickerson attended the annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in Los Angeles, California. Hickerson staffed an information table and chaired a meeting of the SEM Archives Committee. Judith Gray participated in a preconference on "Music and Technoculture," as well as in meetings of the Editorial Board and the Archiving Committee. She has been elected Secretary of the Society and, in that capacity, will represent the society at the American Council of Learned Societies' Conference of Administrative Officers.

On October 18, Alan Jabbour chaired a telephone conference of the trustees of the Fund for Folk Culture in which they approved thirty-two grants for \$370,000 from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Community Folklife Program, which is administered by the Fund for Folk Culture.

PERSONNEL

On October 1, Catherine Kerst began a one-year assignment at the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, on an inter-agency exchange. She will work on the Iowa program for the 1996 Festival of American Folklife.

Six staff members received awards in October: Judith Gray and Stephanie Hall received within-grade step increases; and Peter Bartis, Doris Craig, James Hardin, and David Taylor received cash awards.

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER
Library Services/Public Services Collections
The Library of Congress

November 1995 Monthly Report

On November 13, the American Folklife Center became part of Library Services/Public Services Collections in a Library-wide reorganization.

SPECIAL EVENTS

On November 9, the Center cosponsored (with the LC Employee Film Society) the showing of a documentary film on George "Speedy" Krise, country music song writer and dobroist (produced by Library staffers Charles Bean and Ray Schmitt). The event was attended by Rep. Tom Sawyer, from Akron, Ohio, and there were newspaper reports in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (November 10) and the *Akron Beacon Journal* (November 13).

MEETINGS AND VISITORS

On November 7, Vilnis Auziņš, director of the Latvian Photography Museum in Riga, visited the Center.

Judith Chapman, a 1995 Churchill Fellow from the National Resource Center for Dance in the United Kingdom visited the Center to talk with dance archivist Michelle Forner about archiving ethnographic dance collections.

ACQUISITIONS

Henrietta Yurchenco, professor emerita of music at the City College of New York, has donated twenty 5-inch tapes of folk music recorded in Ireland by herself and her students in 1973-74. She has also donated 145 pages of complete musical and some textual transcriptions of Michoacan Indian songs, which she recorded in Mexico in 1965-66. Featured in the Irish collection is music performed on the accordion, bodhrán, concertina, fiddle, flute, tin whistle, and uilleann pipes, along with songs in both English and Gaelic. Yurchenco has contributed a number of recorded collections to the Folk Archive dating from 1944 and will be donating her Michoacan tapes and other collections at a later time.

Sarah J. Lupro has contributed a 263-page document entitled "Charles W. Carter: An Alaskan Pioneer," which describes her grandfather's "life story as told through his writings, newspaper articles, documents, photographs and our memories."

PROCESSING

During November, contract employee Peter Harrington completed the processing of field data and other materials augmenting the Maine Acadian Culture Survey project collection.

REFERENCE

The Folklife Center now has an Internet mailing address for reference queries. The address is not being made public at this time. It is currently being used internally as a forwarding address for the National Reference Service and others in the Library who receive Internet mail requests related to folklife. Judith Gray and Jennifer Cutting are answering these requests.

PROJECTS

On November 5-8, Alan Jabbour traveled to London to participate in a joint meeting between the British Library and the Library of Congress to begin laying plans for a joint exhibition featuring British-American relations.

On November 17, Alan Jabbour traveled to Helena, Montana, to meet with the Montana Historical Society and other state agencies regarding administration of the Montana Heritage Project.

PUBLICATIONS

On November 4, Alan Jabbour had a planning meeting in Boston with Martin Sandler of Eagle Productions to discuss the "Treasury of American Folklife" they are co-editing for publication by HarperCollins.

Folklife Center News (fall 1995) was published this month, with articles by Michelle Forner, on Romanian folk dance documentation (and the Dance Heritage Coalition Access Project); by Joseph Hickerson, on significant acquisitions during fiscal 1995; by Stephanie Hall, on the World Wide Web; and by Joseph Hickerson, et.al., on the publication of a new finding aid on tales of the supernatural in the Folk Archive.

Boatbuilding Documentation in the Archive of Folk Culture appeared this month, number 16 in the "LC Folk Archive Finding Aid" series. The 26-page document was compiled by Seth Bruggeman, an intern from Pennsylvania State University.

A Global Library Project video program entitled "Freezing Time: Photography as Visual Archeology" (part of a series on communications) includes a segment on American Folklife Center photographic collections.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

On November 3, Alan Jabbour traveled to Concord, New Hampshire, to give an address at the annual meeting of the statewide preservation organization Inherit New Hampshire.

On November 10, Alan Jabbour traveled to Cooperstown, New York, to address the 30th annual meeting of the Cooperstown Alumni Association, in conjunction with the Cooperstown Graduate Programs.

On November 15-17, Joseph Hickerson attended the annual conference of the American Anthropological Association in Washington, D.C.

Dance archivist Michelle Forner was appointed to the Multi-Disciplinary Advisory Panel for the Maryland State Arts Council for one year.

David Taylor has become a consultant to two museums: the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (St. Michaels, MD), in connection with its exhibition "Deadrise: The Relationship of Watermen to Their Boats;" and the Penobscot Marine Museum (Searsport, Maine), in connection with its exhibition "An Ocean-Going Community: Searsport at Sea and Ashore."

Camila Bryce-Laporte has been reappointed to the folk arts panel of the Maryland Arts Council.

JBH: 12-8-95

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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The Gazette

Volume 6, No. 45

A Weekly Newspaper for the Library Staff

December 8, 1995

JHB Testifies Before Joint Committee



Photo by Craig A. Hobson

'I would welcome the opportunity to work with the members of the Joint Committee to examine more thoroughly how the Library might best serve Congress and the nation.'

—Dr. Billington

By GAIL FINEBERG

“Even with far more dollar and resources than we have yet been given, there will always remain a security *threat* to the Library, barring a radical improvement in human nature,” Dr. Billington told the Joint Committee on the Library (JCL) last week.

“With 108 million items on 532 miles of shelving that have to be served by hundreds of staff within buildings that are in active public use and were not designed for security, the Library must serve the Congress, scholars, and others who are naturally preoccupied with access today rather than preservation tomorrow,” Dr. Billington said.

“What we have been doing—and will be doing steadily in the future—is to reduce the *risk* to the collections of theft and mutilation by blocking, deterring, and pursuing thieves and slashers while better tracking the items in our collection,” he told the committee.

Chaired by Senator Mark O. Hatfield (R-Oreg.), the Joint Committee held an oversight hearing Nov. 29 after widespread allegations of continuing thefts and mutilations of Library materials and after complaints that Library police had failed to honor a request by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia to report

CFC Drive Slowed by Furlough

By DREW LINGINFELTER

Slowed down by the LC reorganization, a government furlough, and an early change of campaign leadership, Dr. Billington and CFC leaders now hope staff will get in touch with their keyworkers and donate generously.

Said Dr. Billington: “We at the Library have long upheld a fine tradition of strong support for CFC, helping those less fortunate in the wider community. We can do it again in 1995.”

As of Tuesday, Nov. 28, 236 gifts from LC employees totalled \$67,957.28 — 18 percent of the Library's 1995 campaign goal.

“We were slowed down by all sorts of things, but now we're fully geared up,” said Carolyn Brown, associate librarian for library services and vice chair of the campaign.

“We want everyone to be reminded of the great need there is,” Brown said. “We want to make sure all the staff members are contacted by their keyworkers so they have a chance to give.”

To help staffers learn about CFC and its organizations, tables stocked with information packets and brochures sit at the entrances of the coffee shop on the ground floor, and the cafeteria on the 6th floor.

See CFC, Page 10

See HEARING, Page 11

LCPA Employee Art Show Opens. See story on Page 3.

Actions from the October 6, 1995, Meeting
Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center
Library of Congress

1. That the minutes of the May 12, 1995, meeting be approved as presented.
2. That the director prepare and send to board members in advance of the next meeting (by December 15) a new draft of a long-range plan, prepared in consultation with the staff.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

October 6, 1995

Members Present: Lindy Boggs, Carolyn Brown (representing James H. Billington), Ada Deer, Carolyn Hecker, Sarah Howes (representing Madeleine M. Kunin), Alan Jabbour, Suzi Jones (representing Sheldon Hackney), William L. Kinney Jr., Richard Kurin (representing I. Michael Heyman), Robert Malir, Christine Marasigan (representing Jane Alexander), Judith McCulloh, Shirley Sagawa, and Juris Ubans

Members Absent: Nina Archabal, Joseph Duffey

Staff Present: Peter Bartis, Theadocia Austen, Doris Craig, James Hardin, Joseph C. Hickerson, Mary Hufford, and David Taylor

Guests Present: Craig D'Ooge, Michelle Forner, and Betsy Peterson (representing the American Folklore Society)

Chairman Juris Ubans called the meeting to order at 9:40 A.M. in Dining Room A of the Library of Congress's Madison Building. At the chairman's request, Shirley Sagawa read section 2, "Declaration of Findings and Purpose," of P.L. 94-201, the Center's enabling legislation. **William Kinney moved, and Carolyn Hecker seconded the motion, that the minutes of the May 12, 1995, meeting of the board be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chairman Ubans asked for a moment of silence in memory of long-time Center reference librarian Gerald E. Parsons, who died of cancer on July 13. Alan Jabbour mentioned that Parsons established a fund in honor of his parents before he died, in order to provide grants to persons wishing to use the Library's ethnographic collections.

Ubans spoke about the financial climate in Washington for cultural agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, but urged everyone to think of the challenges often inherent in facing difficult times. He introduced Associate Librarian for Cultural Affairs Carolyn Brown and asked her to speak about the situation at the Library of Congress (a reorganization at the Library that takes place in mid-November eliminates the Cultural Affairs service unit, so this is Brown's last Center board meeting as the Librarian's representative).

Brown reported that the Library fared very well in the congressional appropriations process but was notified that it must find ways to downsize in an orderly fashion. In response, the Library will emphasize its core functions of acquisition, processing, and reference service, and find ways to support its cultural programs through public-private partnerships. She recommended that the Center focus on its collection-based activities and attempt to secure major acquisitions to enhance its position in the Library, but at the same time work to maintain its separate identity as a Center.

In response to a question from Richard Kurin, Carolyn Brown explained that, while the Library wants very much to continue its interpretive programs of exhibitions and publications, Congress has become less willing to support such national cultural activities. In response to a question from Judith McCulloh, she said that Winston Tabb is primarily interested in the Center's collections and historical presence in the Library of Congress. She added that the participation of the Librarian in the Center's appropriation "battle" made him an advocate for the Center.

Lindy Boggs recounted the story of the creation of the American Folklife Center as part of the celebration of the nation's bicentennial in 1976, "to support and conserve the traditional life of American cultural groups." She explained to the new board members, "We cannot just become a collection of the Library of Congress without changing the legislation." The impulse that created the Folklife Center also led to the rise of other folklife programs and cultural tourism around the country. Alan Jabbour added that the Center's board of trustees symbolizes its separate legislation and identity.

Ubans suggested that the board conduct a discussion about the cultural values to which the Folklife Center is dedicated, about what "this great nation stands for."

William Kinney asked for a report on the collection security problems at the Library. Brown said that about two years ago incidents of theft and mutilation led the Librarian to close the stacks, but that fully appropriate actions were not taken. A police officer made reports of unreported thefts. When a request from the U.S. Attorney's office was not handled well, a further investigation was initiated to discover what happened and who was responsible.

At the conclusion of Carolyn Brown's remarks, Robert Malir read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

Whereas CAROLYN BROWN has greatly assisted the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center during her years as Associate Librarian for Cultural Affairs,

Whereas, in the current reorganization of the Library of Congress, she is assuming new duties coordinating area studies and scholarly programs within the Library,

Be it therefore resolved that the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center, at its meeting on October 6, 1995, through this resolution, express our sincere gratitude to her for all of her encouragement and support and extend to her our good wishes for continued success in her new position.

Further, Be it resolved that this resolution be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting and a copy be presented to CAROLYN BROWN with our appreciation.

Director's Report

Alan Jabbour reported that there was a "scare" this summer during the congressional appropriations process when a faction in the House attempted to seize the funds intended for the American Folklife Center for another purpose. The press gave extensive coverage to the proceedings, and there was an E-mail campaign in support of the Center. While the Center's appropriation was removed in the House, it was restored in the Senate. Although the appropriations bill grants the Center \$1,120,000 for FY96, a congressionally mandated downsizing at the Library means that the Center will have a FY96 budget of only \$891,000.

A bill for reauthorization has been introduced in the Senate by Sen. Mark Hatfield, but as yet there is no bill in the House. The Library may attempt the strategy of asking the Senate to pass its bill in the hope that such action would prompt the House to respond.

Reports from Committee Chairs on Meetings Held on October 5

Collections Committee: Judith McCulloh reported on a discussion of collections policy and priority in the light of budget, time, and staff. She asked the head of the Center's acquisitions unit to provide, at the next board meeting, a one-page statement on the principles of priority and choice employed by the Center,

along with a list of materials or collections targeted for acquisition and ranked in order of priority.

Once again, the committee discussed the subject of separating collections within the Library by format and curatorial control--such as the Carpenter and the W.P.A. California Folk Music collections. They asked Alan Jabbour to resolve the problem of "territorial controversy" with Jon Newsom, acting chief of the Music Division.

Public Services Committee: Carolyn Hecker reported on the sense of "unease" at the Library surrounding public events, but expressed the hope that we might turn to new activities, particularly educational programs, that would continue to carry out our mandate to "present American folklife." The Endangered Music Project has now generated enough money for a payment to the communities where the original recordings used for the series were made, and four more CDs are being planned.

Alan Jabbour reported that there will be no Neptune Plaza Concert Series in 1996, but that we will not abandon public events altogether. In response to a question from Lindy Boggs, he expressed the hope that we might establish a trust fund to support a program of public presentation.

Projects and Development Committee: Robert Malir reported on the Field School, the Education Initiative, the Montana Heritage Project, the Quilt Alliance meeting, and the Equipment Loan Program, calling on program coordinators in each case to provide details. David Taylor reported on the second successful field school in Colorado and said that future schools were being planned for New Mexico and Ohio. William Kinney said he liked the idea of conducting the school in different locations around the country. Peter Bartis reported on the first phase of the Montana Heritage Project: the hiring of project director Michael Umphrey, the summer workshop, and the identification of school projects.

Planning and Development Committee: Judith McCulloh reported on reauthorization legislation: it is not moving forward in the House, and the Library's Congressional Liaison Office will turn its attention to the Senate bill. The committee believed that it was important to speak positively about the Center's future and prevent negative rumors from affecting its situation at the Library of Congress. McCulloh said that the Center's long-range plan should be on the agenda at future meetings of the board.

Judith McCulloh moved, and Robert Malir seconded the motion, that the director prepare and send to board members in advance of the next meeting (by December 15) a new draft of a long-range plan, prepared in consultation with the staff.

Federal Agencies Reports

National Endowment for the Humanities: Suzi Jones reported that the National Heritage Awards had taken place this year at the White House, September 27, and that the Frankel Awards, also at the White House, had included William Ferris and Bernice Reagan. The budget for NEH has been cut 40 percent for FY96, requiring a consolidation of divisions and sixty-three reduction-in-force notices. Language in the new legislation requires that the agency fund projects of "national significance." Neither of the two endowments has been reauthorized for next year.

National Endowment for the Arts: Dan Sheehy (via FAX) reported that in October about 40 percent of the staff would be laid off and that there would be a 40 percent cut in grant and administrative funds. There will be a reorganization and consolidation of functions at the agency, and the folk arts program will become part of "Heritage and Preservation."

Smithsonian Institution: Richard Kurin reported that the Smithsonian Institution received a "flat" budget for FY96, with some additional money for building maintenance. Some consolidation will take place at the institution to accommodate inflation and pay increases. Record sales are doing well, but income is down on *Smithsonian Magazine* and the sale of items in the various museum shops. The institution is attempting to raise \$150 million in private money for its 150th anniversary celebration. The Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies has begun a "friends" organization. The 1996 Festival of American Folklife will feature the state of Iowa and, in conjunction with the Olympics, the culture of the South.

Department of Education: Sarah Howes (representing Madeleine Kunin) reported that all programs are being cut, including Goals 2000, which is supported by the president.

Corporation for National and Community Service: Shirley Sagawa reported on the work of her agency to engage people in community service. She expects a 25 percent cut in programs, including Americorp.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: Ada Deer reported that her office of 12,000 employees, with a \$2 billion budget, would be cut, and that this would have a serious impact on the Native Americans who work there and the Indian communities that are supported by the bureau's programs.

Howes, Sagawa, and Deer all reported that misperceptions and rumors about their agencies affected the appropriation and authorization process.

Personnel and Financial Report

Alan Jabbour reported that the office now has thirteen full-time equivalent positions (FTEs), which is down from sixteen. We "lost" the position of deputy director, and will probably lose both the assistant director and reference librarian positions. Folklife specialist positions have been rewritten to stress the collection-based activities connected with them.

James Hardin reported that the Center's budget for FY96 has been set by the Library at \$891,000, which represents a 20 percent reduction from last year's budget. This will necessitate greater emphasis on fund-raising for programmatic activities, although many are already being supported with private or leveraged money--field projects and commercial recording projects, for example.

New Business

Future meetings of the Board of Trustees are scheduled for February 8-9; May 9-10; and October 10-11.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M. The board members assembled for a group photograph, and most stayed for lunch in Dining Room A.



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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540-8100

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AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

TO: Board of Trustees
American Folklife Center
Library of Congress

DATE: January 25, 1996

FROM: Alan Jabbour *AJ*

*1/29
do you have this?*

I have enclosed a package of materials for our February 7-8 meetings, including a schedule for activities, agendas for the committee and board meetings, and reports from staff on Center activities. The agendas for our four committee meetings also list those of you who serve on each committee. Several weeks ago we sent you draft minutes for the meeting; please bring them with you to Washington. Remember that at the board meeting on Friday, we will be electing a new chair and vice chair.

Juris and I would like to invite you to have dinner with other Center board and staff members on Wednesday evening, February 7, at 7:00 P.M., at the Grill From Ipanema, 1858 Columbia Road N.W. (202-986-0757), in the Adams-Morgan section of Washington (Dutch treat; meet at the restaurant). If you would like to join this gathering, please notify Jim Hardin (202-707-1741) or David Taylor (202-707-1737), so they can make reservations.

*AD -
Carh*

For out-of-town board members, Peggy Parsons has secured a number of passes for the Vermeer exhibition at the National Gallery for Friday afternoon, February 9, at 3:00 P.M. Please speak to Jim Hardin following the board meeting if you would like to see these wonderful paintings.

All of us look forward to your visit next month. Please call the office if you have any questions or need more information.

*See per
Jeh
& agenda*

*(2) This is the first time
I hear about this mtg --
you have reviewed and let me what
part you want to attend.
also Schuler's training is Feb 8 & 9.
you can go to the Feb 9, Group II
session. I just have to
to what
belong?*

*(3) What
belong?*

Federal Agencies

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