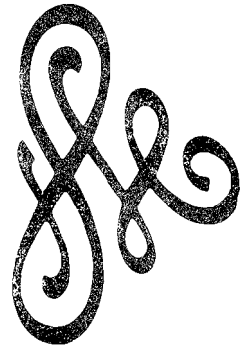
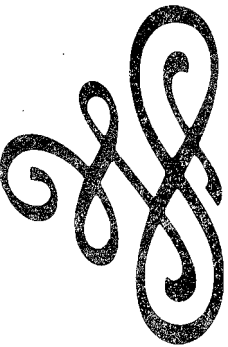




Volume II
#4

NEWSLETTER

APRIL



MFS Presents
THE BATTLEFIELD BAND
KEENE STATE COLLEGE - RECITAL HALL - 8:00 P.M.
THURSDAY - APRIL 22

Excitement prevails!

The name BATTLEFIELD BAND has been at the forefront of the tremendous resurgence of Scottish music that has been going on since the mid-70s. They have pioneered the use of such diverse instruments as organ, electric piano, synthesiser, fiddle and Highland and Northumbrian bagpipes. By an approach that is ever respectful of their tradition, and yet allows them to be startlingly original, they have broken down many musical barriers, reaching an ever-widening audience throughout the world.

Quoting from The Scotsman, "They came and went like the Concorde, playing gigs and reels with something akin to fury. Their slower pieces, by contrast, were elegantly poised."

And the West Highland Free Press has said, "It would be difficult to find a traditional line-up as good as this anywhere in the world."

On Thursday, April 22, anywhere in the world will be the acoustically exquisite Recital Hall at Keene State College. Tickets may be purchased (\$5.50 advance, \$6.50 door) at Yankee Lady Records in Keene, the Toadstool Bookstore in Peterborough, and Maple Leaf Music in Prattleboro. This concert is sure to be a big one, so get your tickets early. For more information call (603) 827-3054.

Dear Friends,

I got a new job the other day. It has something to do with computers, which is not terribly unusual these days, and for the most part it is a considerable improvement over the previous job I had. Since it deals mostly with that which is binary or digitalized or automated, it will perhaps be some time before it becomes appropriate to feature details of it in these pages (though I suppose we might call Ar-too Dee-too a legendary folk hero).

Regular readers of this newsletter will notice a significant change in the format. This is where the new job comes in. The old one gave me access to an IBM Selectric II, with which I gracefully typed up the first four issues of the newsletter. Not that a Selectric is an essential tool in the folk publications business, but it did lend a touch of class, and it also made it possible to use a much smaller type which meant more material in less space, and that eventually has economic implications. I would like to get back to that style, and to that end I here solicit the advice and/or services of any members or friends that would be inclined to help us.

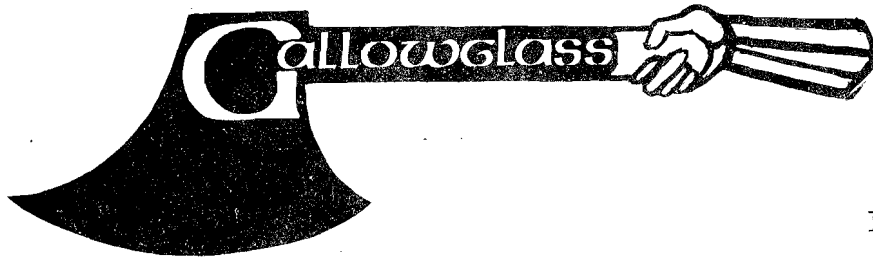
The style, however, is really secondary. Part of my personal motivation in starting the Monadnock Folklore Society was to give myself and others the opportunity to have a perpetual flow of cultural and scholastic information available. We are fortunate to have on the board Mary DesRosiers, whose wealth of ancient lore can occasionally be tapped for these pages. Mary also produces two radio shows for WFCR (public radio in Amherst, Massachusetts) and is becoming increasingly in demand as a dance caller. So I can ask her for three pages on the esoteric significance of trees in pre-Celtic culture, but I can't expect to get it overnight. Now I've got a hunch that there are a number of people in this area who can share their knowledge with us, and before someone comes up with another IBM Selectric, I'd rather use this trusty old Smith-Corona to type in articles which our members and friends are interested in sharing with us. I've always been curious about what life was like in the Monadnock area before our immediate ancestors "civilized" it. Or what about ley lines in this region? Our music here is strongly influenced by the Cape Breton traditions. Anyone care to elaborate? This is an invitation to join us, actively, in developing this journal.

We are grateful to those businesses who have begun to advertise with us. It should come as no surprise to anyone that between printing and mailing, it is fairly costly to produce the newsletter. Readers rest assured, however, that we will remain tastefully selective in our sponsors.

A couple of weeks ago I was invited over to the Gallowglass studio to play some tunes for a party/show that Art Ketchen was having. I had seen Art's name attached to a Celtic thing or two, but I'd never met him. Between tunes I caught bits of conversation and began to realize that here was not only a fine artist, but an enthusiastic scholar. I was delighted when he responded favorably to my idea of a course, and I am especially excited that he is also giving a lecture (April 10, details elsewhere in the newsletter). Art has something very special to share with us and I hope many of you will be there.

And the Battlefield Band is coming! Need I say more?

Gordon Peery



LECTURE and COURSE IN
CELTIC ART

Celtic illustrator and calligrapher Arthur W. Ketchen will speak at the Peterborough Library on Saturday, April 10, at 1:00. The subject of his talk will be the underlying symbolism of Celtic Art and it's influence on other cultures, such as American Indian and Viking.

The talk will serve as an introduction to an eight week course on basic Celtic design, featuring interlace, keyboard and spiral patterns from Ireland, Britian and Gaul.

The course is offered through the auspices of the Monadnock Folklore Society. This marks the beginning of our educational endeavors which we expect to expand into a variety of subject matter over the coming months.

Arthur Ketchen is a 1972 graduate of the School of the Worchester Art Museum. Since 1977 his studio, Gallowglass, has employed modern applications of Celtic design. Ketchen presently teaches three classes in Celtic design through the Massachusetts and New Hampshire area.

The Saturday Lecture is free and open to the public. The course itself will begin Wednesday, April 14, and run for eight consecutive weeks. Classes begin at 7:00PM and are being held at the Folkway on 85 Grove Street in Peterborough. The cost is \$28, and you may register at the lecture, by mail (MFS, Box 43, Peterborough, N.H. 03458) or by phone (603) 827-3239. The course will be limited to twenty participants.



Have you noticed that our front page looks like a poster that could be tacked to a bulletin board? Help us publicize and pin the newsletter somewhere (after you've read it of course).



The Monadnock Folklore Society
NELSON CONTRA
DANCE

Ken Wilson - caller
Roger Treat - Gordon Peery
fiddle piano

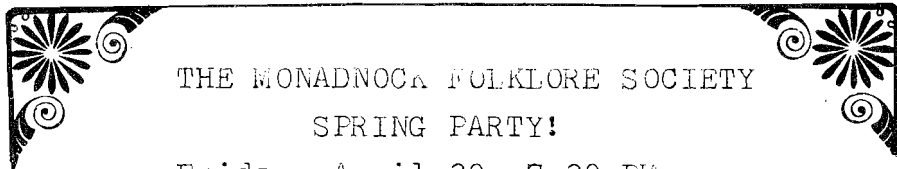
Membership in Monadnock Folklore Society

Fees for membership are \$10, \$8 student (full time please) or senior citizen, \$14 per couple, and \$2 for each dependent child.

Children under six are freely admitted to all MFS functions, and special prices for children under 12 will be available for appropriate events.

Membership benefits include subscription to the newsletter, a fifty cent discount on our monthly concerts, and admission to a special spring dance held especially for members.

Additional donations are welcome; our tax deductible status is pending.



THE MONADNOCK FOLKLORE SOCIETY

SPRING PARTY!

Friday, April 30, 7:30 PM

TROY, TOWN HALL

The Spring party and dance of the Monadnock Folklore Society will be held in Troy, New Hampshire on the last evening of April. The evening will begin with dancing on the green by the Harrisville Women, a Morris dancing team.

Then we'll move indoors for a contra dance with caller Todd Whittemore and musicians April Limber and Bob McQuillen. The dancing will be interspersed with refreshments, songs and other forms of jolliness.

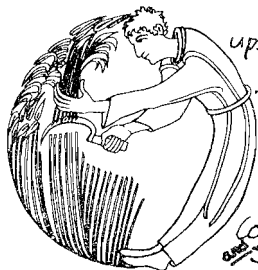
*If you are a member of MFS, this event is absolutely free.

*If you are not a member, but would like to join that evening, you may apply the \$3.00 admission towards your membership.

*If you just want to come by for the fun, your \$3.00 admission will prove well worth it, and it goes to a worthy cause.

Come help us welcome in the merry month of May.

The Common Ground



a worker's cooperative

upstairs at 25 Elliot St. Brattleboro, Vt.

NATURAL FOODS
FRESH FISH ORGANIC CHICKEN
VEGETARIAN SPECIALTIES
BEER & WINE

Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner,
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Catering 257-0855



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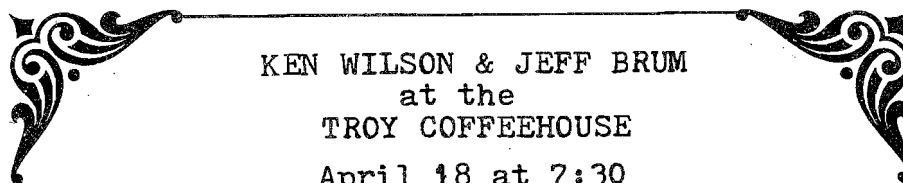


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KEN WILSON & JEFF BRUM

at the

TROY COFFEEHOUSE

April 18 at 7:30

Ken Wilson and Jeff Brum are the performers this month at the Gap Mountain Bakery Coffeehouse. Performing with voice, guitars, and harmonica, they will give the listening audience a taste of both traditional tunes and some more contemporary selections of the folk and folk-rock genre.

This month's coffeehouse has been moved to the third Sunday, April 18, so as not to be on Easter Sunday. The Gap Mountain Bakery is right off the common in Troy. Excellent victuals are served, and admission is a donation of one dollar. A very pleasant and peacefull way to spend a Sunday evening.

CONTRA DANCES

PERFORMER LISTING

MARCH

- 1-Kenny Roberts - Folkway
- 2-Kendell Kardt - Folkway
- 3-Orrin Star & Gary Mehalick - Fway
- 4-Chris Morgan - Deacon Brodies
- 8-Reilly & Maloney - Folkway
- 9,10-Tom Dundee - Folkway
- 15-Bill Staines - Folkway
- 16-Robin & Linda Williams - Fway
- 16-Jason Little - Keene State
- 17-Dick Nevell- Folkway
- 18-Bob Doucet - Deacons
- 18-Ken Wilson & Jeff Brum - Gap Mt.
- 22-Battlefield Band - Keene State
- 25-Martha Gallagher - Deacons
- 27-Alex de Grassi & Scott Cossu- Fway
- 30,1-Jim Post & Randy Sabien - Fway

Weekly Dances

- Monday -- Harrisville -- Clark Hall
Monday -- Amherst, Mass. -- Unitarian Church
Thursday -- Northampton, Mass -- Peoples Institute
Sunday -- Brattleboro -- Green St. School
- 2 - Northfield - Town Hall
3 - Peterborough - Elementary School
9 - Henniker - Cong. Church Hall
10 - Brattleboro - Cong. Church
10 - Frankestown - Town Hall
16 - Northfield - Town Hall
17 - Nelson - Town Hall
24 - Acworth
30 - Troy - Town Hall

The Performer Listing is a regular feature of the MFS Newsletter. It is open to all New Hampshire Performances and exceptional out of state performances. Information must be received by the 12th of the previous month.

The Monadnock Folklore Society Newsletter is published monthly. We welcome submissions of articles or information pertinent to our cause. We reserve the right to determine the appropriateness of the material.

Subscription to the newsletter is included as part of membership, or may be obtained separately for \$5.00 annually.



Monadnock Folklore Society
P.O. Box 43
Peterborough, New Hampshire
03458

MFS Board of Directors: Mary DesRosiers, Gary Heald, Ken Wilson, Jennifer Price, Gordon Peery

