

Working Americans

The skills of workers from a large number of contemporary occupations are exhibited in the Working Americans area of the Festival.

In addition, this program focuses on the folklore of these occupations: occupational jokes, rituals, beliefs, customs, language, and stories that express workers' true attitudes toward themselves, their jobs and co-workers, their working conditions and unions, their industries, and local communities. Concern is to present the worker not only as a skilled practitioner of his or her trade, but even more importantly, as a person whose entire expressive culture is heavily influenced by the work he or she does.

Putting the worker before the machine in line of importance and consideration at the Festival of American Folklife represents a turnabout from conventional trade fairs, exhibits, and festivals which have stressed the product and technology and ignored the technician both as person and as worker. To present living workers in contextual frames enables the visitor to see other citizens at work, to savor their lore, and understand how their work, if nothing else, makes them participants in history.

This year, with Workers in Communication as the theme, visitor participation continues to be built into exhibits. Through personalized interaction, conversation, singing, or sharing a skill, both the visitor and the participant can take home a better understanding and appreciation of each other.

The Exhibit

As the visitors enter the 17th Street Walkway to the Working Americans area, they will be greeted by a Bicentennial prototype exhibit, focusing on the sights and sounds of three occupational fields: iron and steel, textiles, and communica-

tions. This exhibit is planned for use by groups doing labor presentations across the country.

Graphic Communications

In the Graphic Communications area, visitors can follow simplified processes of papermaking, ink milling, and ink testing. Guided by the skilled participants, visitors may try some of these processes. Highlights of the exhibit include contrasting old and new processes—for example hand lock-up composition with computerized composition. The "Festival of American Folklife" newspaper with stories from each area, and daily highlights, is being printed on the site daily, through the Graphic Arts International Union. The modern high speed press on which the newspaper is printed is contrasted with the 600 pound lithostone illustrating basic principles.

The commercial radio communications area will feature radio personalities in a simulated broadcast studio, designed to exhibit the skills of the studio engineer, technician and announcer. The broadcast day, from equipment check to sign-off, will be demonstrated. National Public Radio, the country's only non-commercial radio network, will broadcast live to 164 stations in 42 states during the festival.

Telephonic Communications

Also participating the first week of the Festival will be members of the Communications Workers of America: cable splicers, telephone operators, installers, linespeople and rescue crews. Visitors will be invited to trace the path of a phone call by using phones installed in one exhibit area, transmitted to another.

Cable splicers will demonstrate skills

from an unusual manhole exhibit. Cable splicing normally takes place under the streets as well as on telephone poles. At the Festival, a simulated demonstration manhole will allow viewers the unusual sight of the "inside" of a manhole.

Other workers, atop poles, will perform a pole-top rescue assisted by specially trained rescue men.

Ham Radio

During the second week of the Festival, visitors are invited to participate in the multi-faceted aspects of Amateur Radio Communications or "ham" radio. This exhibit will feature DX or international communications, FM repeater communications, an actual working station and exhibits focused on some of the newer ideas in ham radio—communications via satellite and ham TV. The amateur radio station will be using the special call, WW3FAF, issued by the Federal Communications Commission for the occasion. Contact will occur with other amateur stations on a world-wide basis. Exhibits will be operated by members of the Foundation for Amateur Radio, a Washington, D. C. ham radio organization.

Workers in Theater

Workers in Theater will be sharing their skills and lore the second week of the Festival. In the rehearsal area, actors will be working with a director, musical director and choreographer to prepare a musical. Some of the songs, dances and scenes will be in early stages of rehearsal; some will be performed under conditions simulating a "dress rehearsal." In design booths, scenic artists working with sketches, paintings and models will demonstrate how they transform design ideas into physical reality. Costumers will explain their art from

sketches to finished product.

Throughout the day, participants will share the experiences, stories and customs associated with their lives in theater. Next to an open stage, a typical callboard will detail the order of each day's schedule.

Musicians are usually considered entertainers or people who make music for their own enjoyment. Musicians are surely workers in communications too. Workshops in the Working Americans area will explore with musicians the communication of ideas, dreams and beliefs, as well as music as an occupation and livelihood. The education of a musician, the creation of a song, the performance situation, and subjects that are the source of song, are topics to be explored. In discussions among musicians and other workers, workshop leaders will draw out similarities and differences between music and other occupations—from finding the job to receiving a pay check; from changing conditions to worker's folklore.

Since 1971 the Festival of American Folklife has broadened the scope of traditional folklore by including exhibits featuring the American working man and woman. The premise is that folklore is a continuing process and that occupations generate individual styles, superstitions, language, initiations that unite those workers within one occupation across the country and around the world. Festival presentations are the result of extensive planning and cooperation among the AFL-CIO, the U. S. Department of Labor, the Smithsonian and its folklife scholars, and the National Park Service.

Presentations are being developed toward the major Festival of American Folklife planned for the Bicentennial, which will include as many as 90 occupational groups.



Festival-visitors have viewed Working Americans exhibits from the second story of a shelter built on site during the 1973 Festival, and from ground level. This year high-wire cable splicers and underground man-hole operators are part of the presentation.

Participants

Communications Workers of America

President: Joseph A. Beirne

Exhibit Coordinator: Jeffrey Shaw

Participants:

Albert Greenwood
Calvin Foster
Edward O'Connor
James Spicknall
Chris Dreslin
Max Lindsey
Elmer Pilgrim
Richard Lincoln
Don Fox
Groff Yeck (Sarge)
John Claggett
Francis J. Kriege, Jr.
Roger Culler
C. W. Smith
Harold Newton
John Rumsey
Alice Williams
Vicki White
Blondell Ware
Wila Hall
David Moore
Bernice LaCour
Hazell Rouse

Graphic Arts International Union

President: Kenneth J. Brown

Exhibit Coordinators: John A. Staggs
Walter Lypka

Participants:

Carolyn Forster
Harvey Lovin
Arnold Grummer

Other members of the Graphic Arts International Union will also be participating in this exhibit.

Foundation for Amateur Radio

President: Hugh Turnbull W3ABC

Exhibit Coordinator: Edmund B. Redington W4ZM

The Foundation acknowledges the support and co-operation of the national organization of radio amateurs, The American Radio Relay League, Inc. (Newington, Conn.), and the participation

of the following League officials: Victor Clark W4KFC (Vice President), and Harry McConaghy W3SW (Director, Atlantic Division).

Department Of State Amateur Radio Club

Bryan Cordray WA5SPI
John Swafford W4HU
William R. Jochimsen W3UV
Fred Vogel WA3QBK
Hersh Miller W3SWD
Mac Shimp WA3PPP
Jim Brown W5DRP
James Bullington K4LSD
Gale Conard K3VTA
Pauline Conard WA3VHH
Tom Masingill WB4KNW
Glen Starkey K4PUI
Sam Staton K4ITB
Dexter Anderson K3KWJ
Will DeClerq WA4DIB
Earle Sherman K4HQP

National Capital DX Association

Don Search W3AZD
Jim Douglas W3ZNH
Lynn Lamb W3BWZ
Pete Huber WA3KSQ
Joe Mikuckis K3CHP
Burt Cohen W3CRE
Dick Price W3DBT
George Grant WA3MBQ
Dick Propst W3NL
Bill May W3RX
Mort Cohen K3SXQ
Bill Shepherd W3ZSR
Steve Jarrett K4CFB
Ray Johnson K4DXO
Pete Raymond K4EKJ
Jinny Beyer W4IDG
Ray Porter K4OMR
Ray Spence W4QAW
Ted Cohen W4UMF
John Kanode W4WSF
John Boyd W4WWG

The American Federation of Television and Radio Artists

Northern Virginia FM Association, Inc.

George Miller K4EJY
Charles Raybuck W4YEB
J. William Miller K3MM
Walter Lockhart W3PWB
Donald Dunlap WB4QAX
Robert Payton W4GPD

Amateur Radio Public Service Corps

Karl Medrow W3FA
John Munholland K3LFD
Bob Slagle K4GR
Bud Cone WA4PBG
Sherm Winings WB4RDV
John Manning WB4MAE
Charles Stay W4HE
Craig Church K4GOR
Philip Sager WB4FDT
Steve Floyd WB4YHD
Marc Pressman WB4DRB
Ken Johnson WN4GHY

Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT)

Perry I. Klein K3JTE
Jan A. King W3GEY
Wm. A. Hook W3QBC
Charles Dorian W3JPT
William A. Tynan W3KMV
Joseph Kasser G3ZCZ/W3
Richard Daniels WA4DGU
Thomas H. Mitchell WA3TBD
Edward Ramos W3HQH
R. Alfred Whiting K3BRS

Metrovision, Inc.

(Amateur television club)
Terry Fox WB4JFI
Mike Bray WB4DVD
Bruce Brown WB4YTU
Tom Lucas WA4RBE
Paul Lain W4WHO
Don Miller W9NTP
John Oehlenschlager WA4EMO
Stu Mitchell WAODYJ
John Hart K3KWO
Phil Poole WB4FQR
Frank Lamm WB4FUJ

Washington Area Young Ladies Radio Club (WAYLARC)

Irene Akers W3RXJ
Elizabeth Zandonini W3CDQ
Ethel Smith K4LMB
Maxine Harris WA4UWK
Janie McIntyre K4BNG
Claire Bardon K4TVT
Mary Seaton W4HRD
Pat Morton LU1BAR/3
Meg Cauffield W3UTR
Peg Demueles WA3SCX
Sandra Rutiser K3SQX
Ginny Pemkerton K4SHE

Actors Equity Association

National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians

Scenic Artists, of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades

*Workshops on labor lore are part of
the Working Americans presentation.
This year such topics as: The Labor
Movement—heroes, heroines, scabs
and skunks; the Labor Movement—
organizer's lore; Music as
communication—songmaking, are
scheduled. Check the listing for
time and place.*

American Federation of Musicians

Hal C. Davis, *President*
in cooperation with

THE MUSIC PERFORMANCE TRUST FUNDS

Kenneth E. Raine, *Trustee*

Music Performance Trust Funds

The music for this occasion is provided by
a grant from the Music Performance Trust
Funds, a public service organization, created
and financed by the recording industries
under agreements with the American Fed-
eration of Musicians.

Phyllis Boyens
Philip Cassadore

Singer, guitarist
Apache singer

Sam Chatmon
Hazel Dickens
Jim Garland
Joe Glazer
Sarah Ogan Gunning
Janie Hunter
Bessie Jones
Jesse Mays
Mary McCaslin
Paul Ortega
Bruce Phillips
Jim Ringer
Florence Reece
Houston Stackhouse
James "Son" Thomas
Varney Watson
Floyd Westerman
Nimrod Workman

Blues singer, guitarist
Singer, guitarist
Singer, guitarist
Singer, guitarist
Singer, ring-games
Singer, ring-games
Spiritual singer
Singer, guitarist
Apache singer
Singer, guitarist
Singer, guitarist
Singer
Blues singer
Blues singer
Singer, guitarist
Sioux singer
Singer, balladeer

