

Retirement will bring few changes for Dégh

After 26 years of service to IU, Linda Dégh will retire in June 1990. Throughout her career, honors and awards have testified to the brilliance of her achievements. Only a few can be mentioned here.

In 1963 she received the International Pitré Folklore Prize for her book, *Folktales and Society: Story-Telling in a Hungarian Peasant Community*. She was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship (1970-71) and a Fulbright Award (1984-85).

Linda Dégh chaired the Folklore Institute between 1981 and 1983 and in recognition of her outstanding international reputation, she was awarded the title of distinguished professor of folklore in 1981. In addition, she has held many offices in learned societies, including the presidency of the American Folklore Society in 1981-82.

As a testimonial to their respect and

affection, students and colleagues presented her with a festschrift, *Folklore on Two Continents* (Trickster Press, 1980). Linda Dégh has always shared willingly and generously her scholarship and has freely given of herself to her students. Demanding the highest dedication and effort from them, she has at the same time opened vistas for them and inspired many of them with her own enthusiasm and love for her subjects. She has directed many significant doctoral dissertations, and several of her students have gone on to fill important roles as teachers and researchers.

Retirement from teaching here at Indiana University will actually bring few changes for Linda Dégh. Her research will continue. She has been invited to teach as a visiting professor at other universities, and she is already planning other international confer-

ences to be held in Bloomington and elsewhere. Her students and colleagues look forward to her continued participation in many aspects of the Folklore Institute's activities and wish her the best in this new phase of her career.

—Warren E. Roberts

Here's to the next ten!



John McDowell presents Velma Carmichael with a pin commemorating 15 years of service to IU.

Fifteen years of service to Indiana University, twelve with the Folklore Institute, deserve a celebration. And that is exactly what happened. On Feb. 9, Syd Grant arranged a surprise party for Velma Carmichael to celebrate her 15 years here. Guests included folklore faculty, students, and staff. John McDowell gave a witty speech as he presented her with Personnel's silver pin for service. On a flower-laden table was a cake decorated with the words: "Only 10 More!" Velma, may the next ten be both happy and healthy!

Don't miss the folklore alumni reunion

Alumni are registering for the Folklore Institute reunion, May 14-15.

The reunion will be structured around informal morning presentations honoring Linda Dégh and Warren Roberts. The afternoons and evenings will be open for socializing and exploring. Alumni with a taste for nostalgia are invited to make arrangements with us to bunk in Read Hall, though people can of course stay with friends or at one of the several hotels in the Bloomington area.

Registration fees for the reunion are \$30 per couple or \$20 for singles. Children are invited to join us at no additional cost.

We are receiving enthusiastic responses and requests for additional registration materials. Some alumni may not have received their invitation letters because we may not have their most recent address change. If you need these materials, please contact Rachel K. Taber, Folklore Reunion, Folklore Institute, Indiana University, 504 N. Fess, Bloomington, IN 47405.

Please spread the news and "Come on back home to Indiana!"

Robb and Wheeler win 1989–90 Dorson Awards

The two 1989–90 Dorson Dissertation Awardees, *Karyl Robb* and *William Wheeler*, report on some of their experiences in Costa Rica and Spain.

Museums in Costa Rica

The Dorson Dissertation Award allowed me to travel to Costa Rica and conduct field research that I would have been unable to do otherwise. It permitted me to develop a fixed timeline, terminate an unrewarding part-time job, and focus on my dissertation research. The Dorson Award also allowed me to engage a research assistant to help carry out various internal museum profiles, including organizational structure, programming, collections, attendance, and funding.

By the spring of 1989, I had completed preliminary work for my dissertation on "The Role of Museums in (National) Development." However, lacking funds and the inspiration that comes with financial support, I had been unable to pursue further research. I left in early October for San Jose, Costa Rica, and spent ten weeks examining the role of museums in that country.

Through my preliminary research, I learned what museums and museologists say museums do. The case study in Costa Rica allowed me to look at museums in action; museums in relationship to their audience; and museums in their cultural, political, social, and economic context. I gathered information on public policy indicators, museum operational indicators, and external indicators.

In my opinion, the codification of the values, traditions, beliefs, and practices of a culture are revealed in cultural policies, and they are expressed in museum statements and legislation affecting museums. Operational activities of museums shed light not only on the actual role of museums, but on their unintentional and unofficial role as well. Operational indicators were studied through museum behavior toward its audience and attitudes of museum visitors and nonvisitors towards the museum.

External indicators also provided rewarding data. Some external indicators having interests that could include the use of museums are federal economic planning, foreign business investments, commissions on special populations, tourism, and educational planning.

I returned from Costa Rica with re-

search data in many pounds of excess baggage and am happily completing my dissertation. Now, I am able to share both process and product. In the spring, I will return to Costa Rica to present some of my findings at the International Council on Museums Colloquium for Latin America and the Caribbean. Shortly after that, I'll give a talk about my fieldwork, entitled "Venturesome Woman," at a women's conference in Cincinnati.

I began my PhD program with Richard Dorson's help. He taught Folklore Theory and Techniques during my first semester at IU. It gives me pleasure to think of him helping me to complete the degree through the Richard M. Dorson Dissertation Research Award.

—Karyl Robb



Karyl Robb

Flamenco music in Spain

Thanks to the Dorson Dissertation Research Award I was able to travel to Spain to work with flamenco guitarists and explore various contexts of performance and practice in their everyday lives. I spent about two months in Madrid working extensively with three flamenco guitarists. I took lessons with each of them, observed rehearsals, and attempted to play along with one of them. I was also able to take lessons with and interview various other flamenco guitarists. I also spent a month in Seville, where I looked into possibilities for further research while staying with my friend and colleague Katherine Borland.

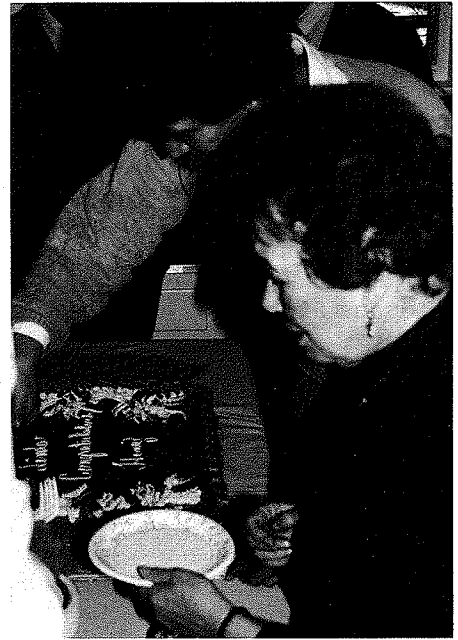
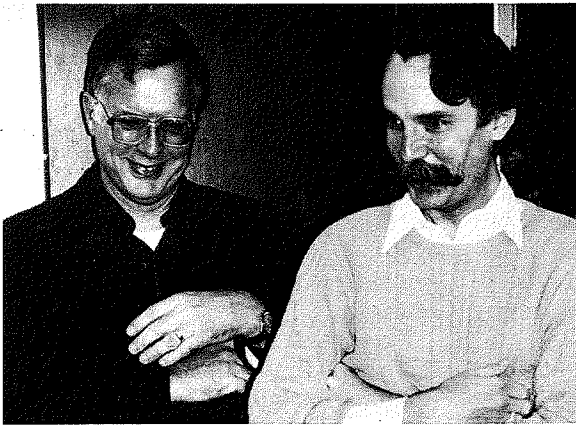
Perhaps the most rewarding and interesting experience of my stay was the opportunity to work with Katharine on a project in Niebla where we went on the *romeria de la virgin del pino*. This involved a day long pilgrimage on foot and on horseback, followed by a religious ceremony in the evening and a night of drinking and dancing *sevillanas*. This was a wonderful opportunity for me to do some joint fieldwork and to look at "flamenco" and "Gypsy" identity as it is transformed into an Andalucian regional identity in the popular flamenco-derived *sevillanas* song and dance form.

As much as I tried to circumvent problems by narrowing my research questions to issues of individual practice, I found fieldwork on flamenco problematic. Flamenco music is technically, emotionally, and theoretically demanding, requiring extensive daily practice. Flamenco identity is difficult to define because of the illusiveness of "Gypsy" identity and because of the impact of romantic nationalists, Spanish literati, foreigners, urban life, public commercial performance, outside musical fusions, "classical" flamenco dance schools, etc. Flamenco scholarship is haunted by polemics about authenticity and, in the end, it is difficult to distinguish a working definition of flamenco from personal likes and dislikes. I saw a lot in three months, but I'd like another ten years, please!

—William Wheeler



William Wheeler



Henry Glassie and David Nordloh possessed by the spirit of folk art. Below, Sandy Stahl takes folkloristics "literarily."

John McDowell provides an autograph from the ancestors.



Bookwarming party held

In 1988 a new tradition to honor faculty members who have recently published books began with the publication of Ruth Stone's *Dried Millet Breaking* (IU Press). This fall was especially rich with the production of four books: Linda Dégh, *Folktales and Society* (reprint, IU Press); Sandra Dolby Stahl, *Literary Folkloristics and the Personal Narrative* (IU Press); Henry Glassie, *The Spirit of Folk Art* (Abrams); and John McDowell, *Sayings of the Ancestors* (University of Kentucky Press).

Faculty, students, staff, and members of the authors' families attended two separate book-signing receptions where the new books were made available at discount rates. John McDowell and Sandy Stahl were fêted on Oct. 13, with Linda Dégh and Gregory Schrempp delivering brief commentaries on the books. Warren Roberts and Hasan El-Shamy made the presentations at the party for Henry Glassie and Linda Dégh on Nov. 17. This newly established tradition is a congenial and collegial occasion during which we all share in the successes of the Folklore Institute.

The taste of sweet success is at hand for Linda Dégh.

Folklore to assist in MLA indexing project

The Folklore Collection and the Folklore Institute are participating in a joint pilot project with the Modern Language Association for the enhancement of the MLA's annual international bibliography.

Because of the international reputation of the Folklore Collection, the Institute's faculty and folklore librarian were identified for this pilot project, which provides a home base for indexing the folklore volume of the *Bibliography*. If successful, this cooperative project will be extended to other research libraries with well-established and well-funded collections in particular areas.

Polly Grimshaw will manage the operations of the project, and part-time folklore assistant Moira Smith will coordinate the volunteer student and faculty indexers. We have been very pleased with the enthusiastic response that students and faculty have shown. To date, 20 students and faculty have become MLA indexers. Alumni participation is welcome; if anyone wishes

to be in this project and receive a copy of a journal to index, please contact Polly Grimshaw, IU Library.

In the past few years, many titles on the MLA's folklore master list have not

been indexed. We hope that this new cooperative project will enhance the coverage of the *Bibliography*, making it an even more valuable tool for folklorists.

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1989 Friends of Folklore

We would like to thank the people who have contributed to the Folklore Institute in 1990. Support of the Folklore Enrichment, Ethnomusicology, and Dorson Memorial funds enables the Institute to continue to provide quality programs and expand its educational resources.

In 1989, the Dorson Dissertation

Research Awards have allowed two outstanding graduate students to conduct fieldwork they would not have been able to pursue otherwise. Your donations also help to publish *Traditions*, to host the annual alumni reception at AFS, and to sponsor lectures by visiting scholars.

Also in 1989, the Folklore Student

Association took the Dorson Memorial Library under its wing. After reorganizing, cleaning, and moving, the library is open to researchers once again. It is located in Morrison Hall across from the Archives of Traditional Music.

Plans were set in motion in 1989 for this year's first-ever Folklore Institute reunion. Activities such as these cannot be supported by University funds alone. We depend on our folklore "family" of faculty, alumni, and friends for the crucial additional funds which make our goals realities.

We are deeply indebted and grateful to the following contributors for their thoughtful support in 1989:

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News of students and alumni

Garry W. Barrow, at the Virginia Federation for the Humanities, is coordinator for the newly established Virginia Folklife Program at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy.

Margaret G. Hagler, MA'56, PhD'71, retired in 1982 and is developing writing courses for Colorado Free University, Denver. She is also director of the Writers' Circle.

Martha T. Blache, PhD'77, is professor of folklore in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Buenos Aires. She is also the director of that university's Folklore Project.

Anthony T. Hellenberg, MA'77, is director of academic advising at St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn.

Glenda M. Keyworth, MA'78, is the director of academic computing at St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas.

Jens Lund, PhD'83, edited *Folk Arts of Washington State* (Washington State Folklife Council). The book contains articles writ-

ten by Lund as well as by **Phyllis A. Harrison**, PhD'83, **Janet Crofton Gilmore**, MA'73, PhD'81, and **Harry A. Gammerdinger**, MA'81, MS'83, PhD'88.

Regina Bendix, PhD'87, finished teaching as a visiting assistant professor in folklore at the University of California. She is in Turkey, where she and her husband are leading a study abroad program for Lewis and Clark College. Last November, Peter Lang Publishers published her book, *Backstage Domains: Playing William Tell in Two Swiss Communities*.

Thomas Walker, MA'82, was a conference organizer for "A Conversation of Learned Hands: Maritime Culture, 1930-1960," which took place in Brooklyn this past February.

John B. Wolford, MA'82, has been appointed to the student advisory committee to the dean of the University libraries and to the advisory board of the Indiana Arts Commission for 1989-1990.

Congratulations to our newest PhDs

Gail Matthews: "Looking at Life Funny: Reflexivity in American Ventriloquism"

Sean Galvin: "The Many Faces of Satiric Ballads in the Faroq Islands: Identity Formation, National Pride, and Charter for Everyday Life"

Eren Giray-Saul: "Jula Oral Narratives in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso"

Lee Irwin: "The Bridge of Dreams: Myth, Dreams, and Visions in Native North America"

Carl Rakhonon: "The Kantele Traditions of Finland"

Elizabeth (Betsy) Peterson: "Trickster and Trader: Portrait of an Afro-American Entrepreneur"

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