Newest

Sunrise at Sipayik: A Passamaquoddy Tribal and Personal Oral History
By David A. Francis as told to Karen Schaumann
Northeast Folklore Volume XLVII: 2015, 144 pages
ISBN: 978-0-943197-42-5, $25.00

My name is David Francis Sr. I am the oldest living Passamaquoddy tribal member (as of November, 2015). By my people, I am known for my language work, and as a story-teller. First, I will tell you about the Passamaquoddy tribe, and some of our history. Then, I’ll tell you about myself, and what it was like when I was growing up, and what life is like today on our reservation at Sipayik “Pleasant Point”. We are the most eastern tribe in the U.S. Originally, we called ourselves Nipayaponiyik, “people of the Northern Lights.” Nipayaponiyik is an old term: nipay “night” apon, “light” iyik, makes it people of the night light.

We are the stars which sing.
We sing with our light.
We are the birds of fire.
We fly across the heaven.
Our light is a star.
We make a road for Spirits,
A road for the Great Spirit.
Now Available

Crab Picking: An Endangered Maine Cottage Industry
By Blossom Kravitz
Northeast Folklore Volume XLVI: 2014, 289 pages
ISBN: 978-0-943197-01-02, $25.00

Author Blossom Kravitz conducted interviews with thirty-two people connected to the crab fishery between November 2011 and November 2012. She placed these interviews in the context of fishing regulations and policies. In addition to crab pickers, she interviewed individuals who held various jobs in, or interacted with the crabbing industry, including fishermen, seafood buyers and distributors, a seafood composter, a farmer, a food historian, the lead lobster and crab biologist for the State of Maine, a now retired lobster and crab biologist, a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points inspector, members of the Penobscot East Resource Center and the chief of the Maine Marine Patrol. From these interviews Kravitz tells a fascinating story of a once thriving cottage industry now in decline due to regulations that caused many to leave the occupation.
A Sampler of Songs and Stories from the Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History
Compiled and edited by Joshua Parda and Pauleena MacDougall
Northeast Folklore Volume XLV: 2013
225 pp. 15 illustrations, 1 map
ISBN: 978-0-943197-40-1, $25.00

Readers will notice that we have included a handful of songs from “Folksongs from Maine” in the Maine Song and Story Sampler, but we have also included much more. For starters, the Sampler includes not just songs, but also stories. Moreover, the Sampler has expanded the range beyond the borders of Maine into New Hampshire and Maritime Canada. Maine and its neighbors are connected by a shared culture, ecology, economy, and history within the region we refer to as “the Northeast.” The Sampler is in part a reflection of those regional ties. Fifty-four songs and stories are included in this volume, along with information about the context of the performance, the author or artist, and the collector.

British Ballads From Maine II
Compiled and edited by Pauleena MacDougall
Northeast Folklore Volume XLIV: 2012
346 pp., includes CD with tunes
ISBN: 978-0-943197-40-7, $25.00

Phillips Barry (1880–1937), Fannie Hardy Eckstorm (1865–1945) and Mary Winslow Smyth (1873–1937) collaborated on this collection of ballads in Maine. This long-lost work represents an important chapter in the history of folk song scholarship and the work sheds some light on the thinking of Phillips Barry and his collaborators about folk songs—such things as origins, re-creations, textual patterns and singing styles—as well as their thoughts about the meaning of tradition. Barry laid important groundwork in folk song scholarship and this volume is a significant contribution of his work. Barry’s extensive discussion of Child in his introduction will be of interest to scholars. The songs are also important. They are a major contribution from the repertoires of Eckstorm and Smyth’s primary informants especially Susie Carr Young, Annie V. Marston, J.P. A. Nesbitt, Horace Priest and Mrs. James McGill.
Joshua Gross Rich (1820-1897): The Life and Times of a Western Maine Pioneer and Wildlife Writer
Compiled and introduced by William B. Krohn
Northeast Folklore Volume XLIII: 2010
209 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-37-1, Paperback: $29.00

Joshua Gross Rich was an adventurous pioneer who helped settle western Maine. He supported himself and his family by trapping, guiding and farming.

Lost Atusville: A Black Settlement from the American Revolution
By Marcus LiBrizzi
Northeast Folklore Volume XLII: 2009
118 pages
ISBN: 978-0-343197-4, $19.95


If Maine Had a Queen: The Life of Brownie Schrumpf
By Karen Dodge Tolstrup
ISBN: 0-943197-34-1, $15.00

Brownie Schrumpf was a Maine institution. She attended the University of Maine in Orono, served as a home economist and 4-H officer, wrote a column for the Bangor Daily News, and actively promoted Maine products at Eastern States Exposition every year for the Maine Department of Agriculture.
**I Got the Idear: My Love Affair with Maine Language**
By Marion Kingston Stocking, with an introduction and essay by Pauleena MacDougall
ISBN: 978-0-943197-33-3, $15.00

The memoir of a University of Maine professor on language, especially spelling and Maine dialects.

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**No Flies on Bill: The Story of an Uncontrollable Old Woman, My Grandmother, Ethel “Billie” Gammon**
By Darcy G. Wakefield
Northeast Folklore Volume XXXIX: 2006
292 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-32-5, $15.00

A reflection on the life of an accomplished public historian through a series of oral history interviews conducted by her author/historian granddaughter.

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**Katahdin: Wigwam’s Tales of the Abnaki Tribes**
By Molly Spotted Elk with an introduction by Bunny McBride
Edited by Pauleena MacDougall
Northeast Folklore Volume XXXVII: 2002
208 pp.
ISBN 978-0-943197-29-5, $18.00

Stories about Mt. Katahdin, the origins of corn and tobacco, animal behavior, how the rabbit lost his tail, how mice became small, and numerous others by Mary Alice Nelson known by her public entertainer persona “Molly Spotted Elk.”
Wilmot MacDonald at the Miramichi Folksong Festival
By Edward D. Ives and Margaret L. Steiner
CD produced by Bruce B. Williams and Kevin Champney
Northeast Folklore Volume: XXXVI: 2001
62 pp. 10 photographs, CD included
ISBN: 0-943197-28-7, $12.00

MacDonald's repertoire consisted of the songs that got sung in the lumbercamps where he worked from the age of 14. MacDonald was the acknowledged star of The Miramichi Folk Festival in New Brunswick.

Edited by Pauleena MacDougall and David Taylor
Northeast Folklore Volume XXXV: 2000
438 pp., 32 photographs
ISBN: 0-943197-27-9, $19.95

Tales of the Maine Woods: Two Forest and Stream Essays (1891)
By Fannie Pearson Hardy, edited by Pauleena MacDougall
Northeast Folklore XXXIV 1999
105 pp. map included
ISBN: 978-0-943197-26-5, $15.00

In 1889 and 1890 Hardy published what she called her “Out of Door Papers”—devoted to observations on birds—in Forest and Stream, the leading sports magazine of the time. This is a reprint of those essays.
Memories of a Maine Island: Turn of the Century Tales and Photographs
By Marie Locke and Nancy Montgomery
112 pp., 200 photographs
ISBN: 0-943197-25-2, $18.00

The island is Little Cranberry and the photographs are from glass plates by Locke’s great-grandfather. Based on interviews with “Gram” (Irene Morse Bartlett) the volume tells the lively story of Fred Morse, a fish skinner and storekeeper.

The Sign of the Stag: A Chimera: Being the Saga of an Ancestral Quest Through Prince Edward Island to County Monaghan, Ireland
By James E., Joseph R., and Peter A. McKenna
With a Forward by Edward (Sandy) Ives
Northeast Folklore Volume: XXXII: 1997
89 pp.
ISBN: 0-943197-24-4, $15.00

“We stand on the red island shore looking across the sea. Frank must have left brothers behind him in Ireland. Their descendants would be our cousins, Who were they, and did they ever wonder about their cousins across the sea?”

Vermont Recollections: Sifting Memories Through the Interview Process
Edited by Jane C. Beck
ISBN: 978-0-943197-22-8, $15.00

Taken from interviews with six individuals, Bernice Wheeler, Sophia Bielli, Marjorie Pierce, John Lamberton, George Daniels, and Dorothy Rogers, the life stories are used to highlight some aspect of the individual’s life and to bring understanding to it.
White Pine on the Saco River: An Oral History of River Driving in Southern Maine
By Michael P. Chaney
Northeast Folklore Volume XXIX, 1990
88 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-21-X, $15.00

This volume is about lumbering on the Saco River in New Hampshire and Maine from about 1920 to 1960. It tells the story of timber cruising, harvesting, river driving, and sawmill activity carried out by J.G. Deering & Son, now known as Deering Lumber Company.

Dell Turner: The Stories of His Life
Edited by John T. Meader
Northeast Folklore Volume XXVII: 1988
128 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-19-8, $10.00


Tom Tilton: Coaster and Fisherman
Narrated by Tom Tilton
Edited by Gale Huntington
Northeast Folklore Volume XXIII, 1982
68 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-16-3, $6.00

Tom Tilton interviewed by Gale Huntington in Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts, in 1979 about his life, coasting, fishing, and Martha’s Vineyard.
Anna May: Eighty Two Years in New England
Narrated by Anna M. Sevigny, edited by Julia A. Hunter
Northeast Folklore Volume XX: 1979
106 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-13-9, $6.00

Anna Sevigny talks about her life history. Topics include Irish immigrant ancestry; education levels; misunderstandings of different cultures; living conditions as a new arrival to the United States; disposition of parents.

I’m a Man That Works: The Biography of Don Mitchell of Merrill, Maine
By Roger Mitchell
ISBN: 0-943197-12-0, $6.00


Suthin’ (It’s the Opposite of Nothin’): An Oral History of Grover Morrison’s Woods Operation at Little Musquash Lake 1945-1947
By Stephen Ballew, Joan Brooks, Dona Brotz, and Edward D. Ives
Northeast Folklore Volume XVIII: 1977
117 pp.
ISBN: 978-0-943197-11-2, $10.00

A series of interviews conducted about a pulpwood operation at Little Musquash Lake run by Grover Morrison. The collection includes the poem “Suthin,” other poems, information about daily work in the woods and with the portable sawmill, life in the woods camp.
Fannie Hardy Eckstorm: A Descriptive Bibliography of Her Writings Published and Unpublished
By Jean Patten Whitten
Northeast Folklore Volume XVI: 1975
107 pp.
ISBN: 0-943197-09-0, $5.00

Based on Whitten’s English Master’s Thesis at UMaine, this volume delves into Fannie Hardy Eckstorm and her writing as a Maine woods historian, specifically focusing on Natives Americans, folksong, Maine, and birds.

Me and Fannie: The Oral Autobiography of Ralph Thornton of Topsfield, Maine
Edited by Wayne Bean
ISBN: 0-943197-08-2, $5.00

This volume deals with life history of Ralph Thornton, the local history of Topsfield, and woods work and river drives. Thornton tells stories and sings songs.