

ROSE SWANSON TAPE LOG

October 31, 1980

March 19, 1965

Collector: Jim Leary
 Informant: Rose Swanson
 Mason, Wisconsin

NOTE: This is a copy of a tape made at a party during a blizzard. March 19, 1965 at Fritz Swanson's Indian Lake tavern.

1. Collector's announcement.
 2. Fritz Swanson plays "Skyss Vals" (Kiss Waltz).
 3. FS, "Kristiana Vals" (also called "Oslo Waltz" sometimes).
 4. Duane and Vera Olby sing "Happy Birthday" to a woman, Hazel ? , whose birthday coincided with the event.
 5. The Olbys, a song Duane wrote: "Wouldn't It Be Nice to Roll Back the Years."
 6. Fritz Swanson plays "Finska Vals" (Finnish Waltz).
 7. FS plays "Helsa der Hemma" (Greet the Folks at Home or The Immigrant's Waltz) with a drunken Carl Thornquist trying to sing while rocking back against the wall on his heels.
 8. FS plays the schottisch "Johan Pa Snippen" and people can be heard dancing in the background.
 9. FS plays Lager and Olson's "Midsommer Vals."
 10. FS plays "Lordogs Schottische" (Saturday Schottische). Rose Swanson says this was the favorite piece of her late husband Sigurd.
 11. The Olbys, "You're Gonna Pay for Your Lies (One by One)."
 12. The Olbys, "Out Behind the Barn," by Boudleaux Bryant, 1954.
 13. FS with Walter Levine singing: "Flicker vid Belmont Ro."
 14. FS plays "Finn Polka" which Fritz consciously modeled after the style of Viola Turpenein.
 15. FS plays "Life in the Finnish Woods."
 16. FS plays "Kristiana Vals."
 17. The Olbys sing "Happy Birthday."
- (END OF BLIZZARD TAPE ONE)
18. Olbys, "In a Little Dim Lit Chapel (Beyond Those City Lights)," a Duane Olby original.
 19. FS with Duane Olby on guitar and Walter Levine singing: "Kiss Waltz."
 20. FS plays a schottische, the title of which he couldn't recall.
 21. FS plays a polka, "Hesselby Steppin" (Hesselby Dance).

22. FS and Walter Levine do "Moder Min." Ole Lear used to play this and Fritz told me that "an old bachelor," Erik Welin, used to come into F's tavern from his nearby home and, after a "few beers," would always sing this number. Welin is dead now.
23. Carl Thornquist and Walter Levine sing "Halsa der Hemma" as FS plays.
24. The Olbys, "Too Old to Cut the Mustard," by Bill Carlisle, 1951.
25. The Olbys sing a delightfully raunchy version of "Chisholm Trail."
26. Rose makes an announcement with everyone's names: Clarence Klein and wife, the Swansons, the Olbys, Carl Thornquist, and Rose and Walter Levine.
27. The Olbys, "Female Hercules."

NOTE: The tape moves into a session two months later, Rose's May birthday.

1. The Olbys and others sing "Happy Birthday" to Rose.
2. The Olbys, "I'm Busted."
3. The Olbys sing "My Wild Irish Rose" to Rose Swanson.
4. Fritz Swanson plays "My Wild Irish Rose" on the accordion.
5. FS plays "La Cucaracha."
6. FS plays "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."
7. FS plays and Walter sings "Spis Kroken Vals" (Stovepoker Waltz). This was one of the first pieces Fritz learned; he heard it, not from a record, but from the button accordion players round about. Fritz and his friends gave the song a local name, "Pluggen's Roost," after a local logging hangout where a wild bunch of French Canadian loggers and drinkers used to hang out.
8. FS plays with Walter singing: "Kvasar Vals."

(THE TAPE ENDS)