

Woody Guthrie

Champion of the Working Poor & the Jobless, the Victims of the Dust Bowl & Depression
Program by **Hank Arbaugh**

- * Tips about Singing Along: e.g., "New York Town," "This Land... Land"
- 1 "Pastures of Plenty" the Visions & Pride of migrant workers & the Working Poor
- 2. "Do-Re-Mi" (Disillusionment about CA/Workers find no Garden of Eden there
* cf The Grapes of Wrath)
- 3. "Departee" Migrant works dehumanized/ Names unknown when plane crashes.
- 4. "Slip Knot" While a youth, Woody saw vigilante hanging of blacks - drew sketches.
- *5. "Reuben James" Sinking of a U.S. ship torpedoed while protecting convoy.
I'll tell stories about Merchant Marine period.
- *6. "Blowin' down This Old Dusty Road" dust bowl refugees cope heroically.
- 7. "Oklahoma Hills" (w/ cousin Jack) Cherokees work as cowboys. Will Rogers story.
- *8. "Roll On Columbia" The Bonneville Dam project = infrastructure jobs to 1000s
Franklin Roosevelt's infrastructure programs.
- *9. "Union Maid" Ira Wood, an ardent feminist-union organizer inspired this song.
- *10. "Hard Traveling" Review of Woody's & others' jobs while a-ramblin'
Jobs insecure & scarce during depression - one had to be a traveler & a jack of all trades
- 11. "Jesus Christ" Jesus contested the rich & upheld the everman. The bankers
and legislators called him an "agitator" so they "laid [him] in his grave."
- *12. one verse of "Fare The Well, Cisco" (Tom Paxton) background on Cisco)
- 13. "Talking Dust Bowl Blues" Woody started a whole new **Genre** - a style
for protest, for giving hope to the workers and dust bowl victims, and for
providing humor in otherwise bleak conditions



HANK ARBAUGH

Singer

Multi - Instrumentalist

Traditional Ballads • Blues • Celtic
Appalachian • Bluegrass
Children's • Cowboy • Swing

5376 Tartan Lane
Columbus, OH 43235-7380

(614) 538-8906
marbaugh@columbus.rr.com