Two Fun Songs From Michael Cooney

Mike Cooney can weave a long ballad like "The Flying Cloud," and get his audience to listen to every turn of the story. He also loves to laugh and draws from unlikely sources a large sampling of fun songs, some with remarkable chorus lines.

Mike opened his concert for the Philadelphia Folksong Society last December with these two gems: "I Don't Work for a Living" and "Down in the Fields Where the Buttercups All Grow." The title of the last song is fine for the audience to sing.

Mike describes the way he learns new songs:

I discovered that when I go to visit people who have record players they usually sing along with almost every song on the record, or they hum along with every classical piece.

Therefore, what you do is you get a tape recording of all your favorite folk songs that you don't know and you play it every day over and over and over again. The more songs the better so you don't get bored with them. Pretty soon you will have learned them all by osmosis and all you have to do is sit down and figure out the chords.

Down in the Fields Where The Buttercups All Grow

