**WRAP MY BODY IN A COTTON SHROUD**

Our member and friend John A. Lomax III sent us some CDs copied from a vinyl album he produced in 1964 of live performances at the *Jester* in Houston. For those of us who remember The Jester, the CD is a wonderful 60’s cultural document. The artists include Guy Clark, Lightnin’ Hopkins, Frank Davis, Alex Martin, Kay Oslin, Scott Holtzman, and others. I have transcribed Guy’s performance of *Cotton Mill Girls*. You can hear this performance on the HFMS Audio Archive page at <http://www.houstonfolkmusic.org/HFS_Audio_Archive.html>. I have transcribed the song in D. It sounds like Guy is playing in D with a capo on the first fret. For the first three people who email me at [pcooper1@peoplepc.com](mailto:pcooper1@peoplepc.com), I will bring a free copy of the CD to the April 9 Second Saturday concert with New York singer-songwriter Paul Sachs.

**COTTON MILL GIRLS**

By Hedy West

**D G**

Well, I worked in a cotton mill all of my life

**D A**

All I got to show is a Barlow knife.

**D G**

Worked in the mill most every day

**D A D**

The old man gambled my money away, and it’s

**CHORUS:**

**D G**

Hard times for cotton mill girls

**D A**

Hard times for cotton mill girls

**D G**

Hard times for cotton mill girls

**D A D**

Hard times for cotton mill girls.

Well, a cotton mill girl never had a chance

They never learned how to sing and dance.

Workin’ all day, spinnin’ thread

For the buck they’re havin’ might as well be dead, and it’s

**CHORUS**

Well, they tell me that before I die,

There’s two more drinks that I gotta try.

Milk and water, and I pause at two

All I ever had was old home brew, and it’s

**CHORUS**

Now, when I die just bury me

In the shade of a cottonwood tree.

Wrap my body in a cotton shroud,

Have all the people – we’ll sing out loud.

**CHORUS**