

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Adaptations for a Changing Association

Alice Brown

This year's conference theme suggested that the world is changing and Appalachia is adapting to those changes. Certainly the world is changing; whether Appalachia is adapting may be open to question. My major concern during this year, as president of the ASA, will not be how Appalachia is changing to adjust to national and international situations, but how the Association is changing to adjust to those factors which are affecting it.

First, while we are only slightly bigger in numbers of members, our conference registrations have brought an increasing amount of dollars to the Association. In 1987-88, when I was treasurer, the income from the conference was \$9,090; the last figure available for our immediate past conference was that income was expected to be close to \$22,000. These numbers reflect some increase in participation, but mainly they reflect increases in costs, necessitating increases in registration fees. While our profit margin remains nominal--the fact is that we are rapidly approaching the magic number--\$25,000---at which "the IRS requires annual informational returns." While they may not require the organization to pay taxes, the ASA will be subject to scrutiny in a way that it has not been in the past.

Second, while the topics addressed at the conferences have changed little, the numbers of papers submitted for presentation and the numbers selected have increased. There is more competition for a place at the presentation table. There is, as a result, greater need for clearly defined criteria for selection of presenters.

Third, while we have maintained much of the sense of family, or at least community, in the association, we have increasingly sought--and found--greater public visibility. We have said we want a voice that can address the national stereotyping and politicizing of the region. We cannot seek a greater voice and speak in whispers. We must invite not only our neighbors to join us--but the national audiences as well. In seeking this increased public image, we will encourage greater public scrutiny--a scrutiny which will examine not only our strong philosophies but also our governance by "ad hococracy."

All of these changes have the potential to lead the association to the last place most of us want to see it go--to a bureaucratic organizational structure. The task before the officers and steering committee and anyone else willing to participate in the discussions is to find a way to capture that sense of ownership that those involved with the association have had since its inception--that willingness to contribute unselfishly to the association's efforts--at the same time we protect it--and ourselves--from the potential for a financial catastrophe or a philosophical upheaval. We can never escape debate or disagreement over what is most or least important or desirable. We can, however, collaborate to strengthen the base of the association--its philosophy and its financial and organizational base.

The surveys that were distributed at our last conference were a part of our efforts to determine what it is that is most valued about our relationships and how well we are succeeding at protecting those values. This newsletter contains a tally of the results of the survey on the association itself. The results of the survey related to the conference will be distributed to the committee planning the conference for 1994. The surveys are only the starting point. Continuing discussion and gatherings are necessary. With a sixteen-year history and a growing (ever-so-slightly) membership, there is little doubt that the Appalachian Studies Association will continue. Our goal is to see that the base on which we continue is as strong as our ideals.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Papers & Presentations for 1993 ASA Conference March 11-13, 1994 at Virginia Tech

A call is extended for individual papers, roundtable or group discussions, panels, performances, poster sessions, or full sessions, which explore some aspect of Appalachia and the Politics of Culture. Cultural politics, or the politics of culture, refers to the social and political forces that influence what elements of a culture are featured or suppressed, promoted or ignored, sanctioned or censored. Historical and contemporary perspectives in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences on the theme are encouraged. Papers related to the theme will be given preference, but other papers will be considered. Proposals must include (1) name, institutional affiliation (where appropriate), address, telephone number; (2) a one-page (250 word) typed abstract of the paper or description of presentation (including title for either); (3) a one-paragraph biographical profile of the presenter(s) for introduction; (4) a description of all audiovisual equipment required or special facility needs. Abstracts for consideration by the Program Committee should be submitted **no later than September 30, 1993**, to the program chair:

Elizabeth Fine
Appalachian Studies Program
Department of Communication Studies
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0311

The Seventh Annual Appalachian Youth Conference An Invitation to Present

For the past six years, teachers and students have had the opportunity to participate in a valuable learning experience at the Appalachian Youth Conference. Past participants have met and exchanged ideas with others from the region and showcased their own projects. An invitation is extended for student projects, performances, panels, and teacher presentations which explore Appalachia and the Politics of Culture. Sessions are encouraged to examine issues relating to Appalachian culture, religion, politics, education, economy, health, arts, and environment. Proposals should be submitted in the form of a one-page typewritten abstract. Include name, institutional affiliation, address, telephone number, and title and type of presentation. Please describe fully any audiovisual equipment needs. Abstracts should be submitted **no later than September 30, 1993** to the Youth Conference Coordinator:

Jim Minick
Radford University, Box 6935
Radford, VA 24142

Attention ASA members of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association! Please try to attend the Appalachian session on the 1993 program. Your interest and presence can help us move toward making Appalachian Studies a permanent part of the annual program.

ALCA Summer Meeting

The ALCA summer meeting will be held Thursday, June 24, 1993 at 5:00 p.m. at MACADO's. The Highland Summer Conference presents Peter Catalanotto and George Ella Lyon at 7:30 in Davis 151. A reminder: Dues are Due! Send \$10.00 to Ricky Cox, Box 6935, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142.

Mark your calendar. In the early fall you will receive more details about an Appalachian Symposium, Friday - Saturday, November 12-13, 1993 in honor of Loyal Jones as he retires from the Directorship of the Appalachian Center, Berea College. (This is not a secret to be kept from Loyal Jones.) The symposium is sponsored by Hutchins Library, Berea College, Berea, Kentucky 40404.

The Appalachian Studies Association now has an informational brochure. (If you registered for the 1993 Conference, you got one in your packet.) If you would like copies for distribution, write, fax, or call:

Center for Appalachian Studies and Services
East Tennessee State University
Box 70556
Johnson City, TN 37614-0556
Fax & Phone: 615-929-5348 (Attn: Penelope Lane)

Billy Edd Wheeler and Loyal Jones will host the Festival of Appalachian Humor on the campus of Berea College on July 16-17, 1993. The festival will feature performances by a variety of humorists from the region; scholarly presentations on humor by two Tennessee psychiatrists; and a contest in which members of the audience are invited to present their best humorous story, tale, routine, songs, etc. for cash prizes. For more information, contact Loyal Jones at CPO 2366, Berea College, Berea, KY 40404; phone (606) 986-9341.

Now and Then, the Appalachian magazine from the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (CASS) is publishing a special issue, "The Civil War--and Beyond--In Appalachia." Articles, essays, photographs, poetry and short stories look at the war in Southwest Virginia, notable figures from the mountains, antebellum women, the experience of slaves and freedmen and women, the Cherokee brigade that served the Confederacy and today's Civil War re-enactors. Publication will coincide with the Reece Museum's opening on July 13, 1993, and the magazine will be available at that time from CASS, Box 70556 ETSU, or call 615-929-5348.

Attention writers: *Now and Then*, is also seeking articles, interviews, memoirs, poetry, short stories, photos(old or new), line drawings and book reviews about Appalachian life.

SPECIAL ISSUES COMING UP:

Focus	Date	Copy Deadline
Appalachian Storytellers	Fall 1993	July 15, 1993
Politics	Spring 1994	November 1, 1993
Celebrations	Summer 1994	March 1, 1994
Center for Appalachian Studies and Services 10th Anniversary	Fall 1994	July 1, 1994

Address all work except poetry to:
Pat Arnow, Editor, *Now and Then*, East Tennessee State University, Box 70556,
Johnson City, TN 37614

Poetry submissions should be sent to Jo Carson, Poetry editor, at the same address.

The Center for Educational Services to Appalachia (CESA) at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee invites you to view its current exhibit "Healing Waters and Wellspring Places in East Tennessee." The first in a series of five, the exhibit features photographs and artifacts of Tate Springs and Galbraith Springs, mineral spring resorts of the past. The Appalachian Center is open Monday - Friday from 1:00-4:00 p.m., through September 15. For more information contact Jeff Daniel Marion, Director, at 615/471-3596.

The next issue of APPALINK will appear in early September. The **deadline** for submitting announcements or advertisements: August 1, 1993. Send information for APPALINK to

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Department of English
Box 72059
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Jefferson City, TN 37760
(615) 471-3282

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Appalachian Studies Association Survey

These results have been tallied from the 80 responses returned during the 1993 ASA Conference:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. The ASA does a fine job and deserves my support.	45	32	0	0
2. I have considerable interest in ASA activities.	47	36	1	0
3. I support the current procedures for nominating and electing the Association's officers and committee members.	17	37	1	0
4. It is fair to say that the image of the Appalachian Studies Association is: (mark all that apply)				
a. Scholarly/Academic Conference			31	
b. Activities/advocacy group for the region			16	
c. An outlet for cultural/artistic activities			11	
d. All of the above			36	
5. I feel reasonable well-informed about the operation of and other materials related to the ASA.	19	42	20	1
6. I believe I have adequate opportunities to express my opinions on matters affecting the ASA.	22	42	9	1
7. I am willing to perform volunteer work for the ASA:	21	35	8	3
8. I think the ASA should: (prioritize the benefits from 1 to 5 with 1 being high)				
a. Provide information and contact services so members can keep in touch with one another.			3.2	
b. Conduct more appeals for funds.			4.2	
c. Take an active role in community affairs.			3.0	
d. Encourage the growth of ASA.			3.2	
e. Promote the study of Appalachia and related topics.			1.5	
9. The annual conference is valuable to me because it provides an opportunity for me to: (circle all that apply)				
a. Present a paper or participate in some way on the program.			43	
b. Celebrate the Appalachian heritage and culture.			45	
c. Interact with colleagues with similar interests.			52	
d. Address current issues in the region, and/or to find out what is happening across the region.			41	
10. Benefits of the membership in the Association which I most value are: (prioritize the benefits from 1 to 5 with 1 being high)				
a. Attendance at a conference/event.			1 - 1.4	
b. Receipt of newsletter.			3 - 2.8	
c. Receipt of scholarship(s).			4 - 3.7	
d. Attendance at youth programs.			4 - 4.0	
e. Receipt of the proceedings.			3 - 2.9	

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOU:

11. In what state do you live?

TN = 11	NC = 14	PA = 3
WD = 1	KY = 18	CA = 2
VA = 13	OH = 10	NY = 1
WV = 6	GA = 4	

12. What age bracket applies to you:

a. 14 and under	d. 26-30	6	g. 41-50	27	j. 71+
b. 15-18	e. 31-35	13	h. 51-60	19	
c. 19-25	f. 36-40	4	i. 61-70	3	

13. If you are affiliated with an academic institution please indicate your affiliation: (circle all that apply)

a. Junior high student	1
b. Senior high student	2
c. College undergraduate	4
d. Graduate student working on master's degree	5
e. Graduate student working on doctorate	3
f. Junior high school faculty or staff member	2
g. High school faculty or staff member	5
h. College or university faculty	37
i. College or university staff	4
j. High school faculty member	4

14. If you are affiliated with a community or regional organization, please indicate the category which best describes the organization with which you are involved:

a. Community group	11
b. Job-related association	8
c. Academic organization or institution	28

15. What are your major interest areas: (circle all that apply)

a. Arts	26	h. Folklore	38
b. Handicrafts	14	i. Politics	27
c. Music	22	j. Science	8
d. Literature	34	k. Health	9
e. History	55	l. Economic Development	23
f. Social Issues	43	m. Community Development	20
g. Religion	6	n. Other: Education	3
		Dance	1
		Anthro	1
		Sports	1
		Oral Hist/Rural Women	1

16. Are you:

1. Female	47	2. Male	33
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Are all services provided by the ASA mentioned in these questions? If not, list others below.

1. Wants more hands-on activities - crafts, etc.
2. Wants more cultural - artistic activities.
3. Wants folkdancing.

If you have recommendations you wish to make to the ASA about how it could have more meaning to you, or if you would like to volunteer to serve on committees or do other work for the ASA, please contact Alice Brown, ASA President, by October 1, c/o Faculty Scholars Program, 110 Maxwellton Court, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0347, 606/257-8269, FAX 606/257-2854.

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