

# NEWSLETTER

RECEIVED

Jan 20 1978

PRESIDENTS' OFFICE

## APPALACHIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

VOLUME I NUMBER I JAN. 1978

### APPALACHIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE ORGANIZED

The Appalachian Studies Conference was born at a planning meeting of 30 Appalachian scholars from 18 institutions in seven states representing twelve different academic disciplines, who met in Berea, Kentucky, on November 4 and 5, 1977. After sharing experiences, ideas and hopes, a final session saw the formal organization of the Appalachian Studies Conference whose purposes were seen to be:

- 1) to encourage Appalachian Studies through an annual conference, a newsletter and ad hoc meetings as necessary;
- 2) to provide a forum for the exchange of research information;
- 3) to coordinate analysis of the region's problems across disciplinary lines;
- 4) to increase and spread knowledge of things Appalachian;
- 5) to be an advocate for Appalachian research;
- 6) to relate scholarship to regional needs and the concerns of the Appalachian people; and
- 7) to support other organized efforts in harmony with the purposes of the Appalachian Studies Conference.

The A.S.C. considers itself an umbrella agency embracing various disciplines and points of view, and invites all with an interest in Appalachia into membership. At this point the organization is a loose one - our only officers are members of a Steering Committee with two co-chairmen and a treasurer, who have specific responsibilities for our first meeting in Berea on March 10 and 11, 1978.

The model for the Annual Conference was seen to be the very excellent conference honoring Cratis Williams in April, 1976, in Boone, North Carolina (see An Appalachian Symposium, J.W. Williamson (ed.); Boone: Appalachian State University Press, 1977). The particular theme agreed to for the first conference on March 10-11, 1978, will be Appalachian Studies, with special sections on 1) social action on specific regional problems; 2) the state of the creative arts in the region; 3) the status of academic research; and 4) specific developments in Appalachian Studies programs and curricula.

### MEMBERSHIP INVITED

All persons interested in the aims of the Appalachian Studies Conference are invited to join. The annual membership fee is \$5.00, students \$3.00. (See Membership and Conference Registration form.)



## FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The First Annual Meeting of the Appalachian Studies Conference will be held on March 10-11, 1978, at Berea College. The theme of the Conference will be "Appalachian Studies: Where Do We Go From Here?" The intention is to build upon the essays in the recently published Guide to Appalachian Studies (see enclosure) in an effort to assess the current state of Appalachian Studies and to determine what direction Appalachian Studies should take in the future. The Conference is to begin with three papers by Jim Wayne Miller, John Gaventa and Archie Green which will provide a rationale for Appalachian Studies Programs and discuss the goals or objectives around which such programs should be organized. Robert Scott, Federal Co-Chairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission, will address the Conference in the evening, and this will be followed by music by the McLain Family Band, a poetry reading by Jeff Daniel Marion and folk dancing. The following morning, Conference participants will attend a workshop related to their particular Appalachian concern. The workshops are designed as a means for people who share common Appalachian interests, to get acquainted, share experiences, and discuss ways of working together. Five workshops are currently scheduled (see program), and others will be arranged depending upon the interest of those in attendance. There will be a business meeting later in the morning to discuss the format and future of the Appalachian Studies Conference. The afternoon session will offer an opportunity for general discussion and closing remarks by Gurney Norman.

The registration fee for the Conference is \$15.00 (no charge for students). Meals are available at Berea College Food Service - \$7.14 (3 meals). Dinner only-\$4.72. Each person is responsible for his/her own lodging on Friday evening, March 10. Enclosed is a list of motels in the Berea area.

Please bring with you any course outlines or bibliographies you would like to share. There will be space available to display books, journals, etc. For information on this, contact Loyal Jones, CPO 2336, Berea, KY 40404.

The Conference is being organized by a Steering Committee consisting of those named below. We welcome any suggestions or comments which you might have. Borden Mace, executive director of the Appalachian Consortium has described this Conference as an opportunity to bring diverse "efforts into a common focus and provide directions and models for colleges, schools, centers, and cooperatives seeking to launch programs and activities that will help Appalachians to know themselves, their history, and their problems..." We hope you will join us in this endeavor.

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Joan Moser  
Box 606  
Swannanoa, NC 28778

Mike Mullins  
Hindman Settlement School  
Hindman, KY 41822

Steve Fisher  
P.O. Box BBB  
Emory, VA 24327

Charles Counts  
Rising Fawn, GA 30738

Loyal Jones, Director  
Appalachian Center  
C.P.O. Box 2336  
Berea, KY 40404

William Plumley, Director  
Appalachian Center  
Morris Harvey College  
Charleston, WV 25304

Patricia Beaver  
Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology  
Appalachian State University  
Boone, NC 28608



# *A Guide to Appalachian Studies*

Edited by STEPHEN L. FISHER  
J. W. WILLIAMSON  
and  
JUANITA LEWIS

For the first time, a truly comprehensive and practical assessment of the current state of Appalachian scholarship, writing, and teaching. This special number of the *Appalachian Journal* brings together a group of noted scholars who survey the work in Appalachian Studies done in their fields, criticize the bad and praise the good, and suggest future directions for research. *A Guide to Appalachian Studies* is an apologia for regional scholarship, a history of the development of Appalachian Studies, and a manifesto for the future. No one interested in Appalachia can afford to be without it.

For almost two years the editors of *A Guide to Appalachian Studies* have been surveying both the scholarship (in and out of the region) and the educational programs in Appalachian colleges and universities. This *Guide* contains the results of that massive effort, along with fifteen essays of outstanding merit and seven appendices of useful information for scholars and writers who intend to pursue research on Appalachia and for teachers and administrators who want to improve their offerings in Appalachian Studies.

The Appalachian scholarly "underground" will find in *A Guide to Appalachian Studies* a much larger and invigorating community of fellow laborers. *A Guide to Appalachian Studies* gives scattered scholars and teachers for the first time a text and a tool with which to fight for the recognition of their scholarship and their teaching interests. *A Guide to Appalachian Studies* is intellectually rigorous, academically solid, educationally sound. It contains the best of tough, sinewy, no-nonsense theory and practice. It is a landmark publication.



# A Guide to Appalachian Studies

## The Contents

Stephen L. Fisher, *Introduction*

### The Overview

Jim Wayne Miller, *Appalachian Education: A Critique and Suggestions for Reform*

John Gaventa, *Appalachian Studies from and for Social Change*

### The Disciplines

Thomas Plaut, *Anthropology and Appalachian Studies: Implications for the Discipline and Consequent Course Design*

Burton L. Purrington, *The Status and Future of Archeology and Native American Studies in the Southern Appalachians*

W.K. McNeil, *Appalachian Folklore Scholarship*

Edgar Bingham, *A Bibliography of Appalachian Geography*

Ronald D Eller, *Toward a New History of the Appalachian South*

Jim Wayne Miller, *Appalachian Literature*

Walt Wolfram, *On the Linguistic Study of Appalachian Speech, with A Bibliography of Appalachian English*

David Whisnant, *Thicker than Fiddlers in Hell: Issues and Resources in Appalachian Music*

## The Essayists

Steve Fisher teaches Appalachian politics at Emory & Henry College. He is a regular political affairs columnist for *The Plow*.

Jim Miller teaches Appalachian folklore and folklife at Western Kentucky State University and is one of the best-known poets of the region.

John Gaventa's *Power and Powerlessness* is forthcoming from Oxford University Press. He is a staff member at the Highlander Research Center.

Tom Plaut teaches at Mars Hill College. He has written for *Peoples' Appalachia* and was a co-editor of *Appalachia's People, Problems and Alternatives*.

Burt Purrington edited *New Perspectives on the Cherokees* (1975). He teaches anthropology at Appalachian State University.

W.K. McNeil is the folklorist at the Ozark Folk Center in Arkansas and the book review editor for the *Journal of American Folklore*.

Ed Bingham teaches geography at Emory & Henry College. His major research is focused on the impact of recreation development in the region.

Ron Eller is director of oral history at Mars Hill College. He is currently at work on a major survey of Appalachian history from 1880 to 1930.

Walt Wolfram is on the senior research staff at the Center for Applied Linguistics. He is co-author of *Appalachian Speech*.



Richard A. Couto, *Political Silence and Appalachia*

Loyal Jones, *Studying Mountain Religion*

David S. Walls & Dwight B. Billings, *The Sociology of Southern Appalachia*

Phil Obermiller, *Appalachians as an Urban Ethnic*

*Group: Romanticism, Renaissance, or Revolution? with A Brief Bibliographical Essay on Urban Appalachians*

## The Appendices

Appendix A: The Case for Appalachian Studies: A Bibliography

Appendix B: A Guide to General Resources

Appendix C: A Guide to Current Periodicals

Appendix D: Appalachian Directory

Appendix E: A Selected Bibliography of Unpublished Theses and Dissertations

Appendix F: The Register

Part I: Teachers/Scholars/Writers

Part II: Disciplines

Appendix G: Opportunities for Research

David Williams teaches Appalachian Studies in the American Studies Program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

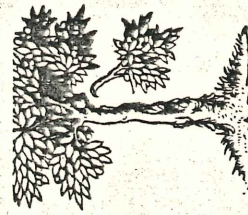
Richard Couto is co-director of the Center for Health Services at Vanderbilt University. He has published a book, *Poverty, Politics and Health Care: An Appalachian Experience*.

Loyal Jones is director of the Berea College Appalachian Center and past executive director of the Council of the Southern Mountains.

David Walls is co-editor of *Appalachia in the Sixties* and teaches in the College of Social Professions at the University of Kentucky.

Dwight Billings teaches sociology at the University of Kentucky. His book, *Planters, Capitalists and the Politics of Development in the New South*, is forthcoming from UNC Press.

Phillip Obermiller is a member of the board of the Urban Appalachian Council and co-director of an Appalachian summer institute at the University of Cincinnati.



Detach and mail today to:

The Appalachian Journal  
132 Sanford Hall  
Appalachian State University  
Boone, North Carolina 28608

*A Guide to Appalachian Studies*,

- \$5.00 per copy
- free to current subscribers to the *Appalachian Journal*
- 40% discount to bookstores

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *A Guide to Appalachian Studies* at \$5.00. Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enter/renew my subscription to the *Appalachian Journal*  
for 1 year (\$6.50) \_\_\_\_\_  
for 2 years (\$12.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
(*A Guide to Appalachian Studies* free with 2-year subscription)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



The people of Appalachia, so long the victims of various forces of exploitation and condescension, including the cultural kind, deserve what this guide has to offer—a *strong and vigorous departure, a break with old stereotypes and cliches*. The authors want to examine a region's history and traditions, its continuing social and economic and political problems, its needs and possibilities—and do so in such a way that ordinary people by the thousands are not, yet again, made the convenient scapegoats for various misguided or wrong-headed policies and programs....These essays bluntly call for a look at what has actually happened in Appalachia, and for what might happen, given various changes of direction. As an outsider who has worked in the region, and come to respect its people (their dignity, their resourcefulness, constantly tested), *I can only hope that this guide will be a prelude to a region's transformation—from a kind of servitude to freedom*.

—ROBERT COLES

The Appalachian Journal  
132 Sanford Hall  
Appalachian State University  
Boone, North Carolina 28608

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 36  
Boone, NC

# The Shape of Things to Come...

from the APPALACHIAN JOURNAL



CONFERENCE ON APPALACHIAN STUDIES  
Alumni Building  
Berea College

Friday, March 10

- 1:00 2:30 Registration
- 2:30 Welcome - President Willis D. Weatherford of Berea College
- 2:45 Introductory Remarks - Steve Fisher, Associate Professor of Political Science, Emory & Henry College, Conference Coordinator.
- 3:00 Forum: "Appalachian Studies: Where Do We Go From Here?"  
Presentations by:  
Jim Wayne Miller, Professor of German Language and Literature, Western Kentucky University  
John Gaventa, political scientist, Highlander Research and Education Center  
Archie Green, Bingham Professor of the Humanities, University of Louisville
- 6:00 Dinner  
Remarks by Robert Scott, Federal Co-Chairman, Appalachian Regional Commission  
Music by the McLain Family Band  
Poetry Reading by Jeff Daniel Marion, Carson-Newman College
- 8:00 Folk Dancing led by John Ramsay and Sibyl Clark, Berea College Recreation Extension. Music by the McLain Family Band

Saturday, March 11

9:00 11:00 Workshops

Social Science - Patricia Beaver, Convenor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Appalachian State University  
Oral History, Folklore and Ethnic Music - Joan Moser, Convenor, Brevard College and Newfound School (Asheville)  
Arts and Crafts - Charles Counts, Convenor, the Pottery Shop, Rising Fawn, Georgia  
Literature - William Plumley, Convenor, Appalachian Center, Morris Harvey College  
Natural Sciences - Donald Batch, Convenor, Department of Biology, Eastern Kentucky University  
Other workshops can be organized (i.e., Language, Religion, etc.) depending on the interests of those who attend the conference.

- 11:15 Business Meeting, Chaired by Richard B. Drake, Chairman, Department of History and Political Science, Berea College
- 12:45 Lunch
- 2:00 4:00 Report from Workshops (5 minutes each)  
General Discussion  
Closing Remarks - Gurney Norman, novelist and short story writer

BEREA MOTELS (State sales tax included)

<u>Motel</u>	<u>1 Person</u>	<u>2 Persons 1 Bed</u>	<u>2 Persons 2 Beds</u>	<u>3 Persons 2 Beds</u>	<u>4 Persons 2 Beds</u>
Wilderness Trail (986-3771) US 25 South	\$8.40	11.55	13.65	14.70	15.75
Hart's (986-8812) ** I - 75 at Ky. 21	8.40	11.55	11.55	12.60	14.70
Holiday (986-9311) ** I - 75 at Ky. 21	10.50	16.80	16.80	18.90	21.00
Mountain View (986-9316) ** I - 75 at Ky. 21	10.50	12.60	14.70	16.80	18.90
Prince Royal (986-8426) ** I - 75 at Ky. 21	10.48	14.70	14.70	16.80	18.90
Eplee's (986-3351) * Chestnut Street	8.40	8.40	13.65	13.65	13.65
Moore's (986-4511) * 306 Estill St.	8.40	8.40	10.50	12.60	12.60
Econo-Travel (986-9323) ** I - 75 at Ky. 21	8.40	12.60	14.70	14.70	14.70
Boone Tavern (986-9341) * Berea College Square	9-15	16-22	21-26	(\$3 per each additional guest)	

Walnut Meadow Travel Park (986-4951 -  
(Campers & Trailers)  
½ mile west of I - 75 on Ky. 21

\* On or near campus

\*\* About 1 mile from campus