



APPALINK

Newsletter  
of the  
Appalachian  
Studies Conference

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APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION LOOKING AHEAD  
The President's Message

The Association on the eve of its 14th Annual Conference has been at a crossroad and has already taken a path, yet appears not to know the road chosen.

The above statement is an allegory of where the Association is in 1991. This condition served as a backdrop that resulted from a charge coming out of the August 1990 Steering Committee Meeting to look at the future of the Association. Over the years, many changes have occurred within the region, its institutions and people. What may have been described at the origin of the Association as a need for a formal gathering of the Region's community activists, writers, scholars, performers, listeners, academics and interested bodies has evolved into a major impetus for research, dialogue, sharing of issues and innovations, and a loose network of individuals/groups examining and changing the shape of the region.

We have moved from a gathering to a conference; a collection of presented papers to a journal; a single annual business meeting luncheon to a luncheon and three yearly meetings of the Steering Committee; a small mailing list to a list of nearly 800 members. To some there is a longing for the old of the "good old days" and there is a place in the present for the past. For most, the Association has to stand strong into the next century on the current needs and issues confronting the region.

The Long Term Planning Committee has looked at a number of options and concludes that the Association needs to become self-sufficient in interdependent relationships rather than dependent upon any institution or individual. The large issue of self-sufficiency has been put on hold as the Association waits to see how the Appalachian Consortium will define our relationship to it. The Bylaws of the Consortium are clear. They define the relationship in terms of a co-sponsor of the conference. So as the Consortium moves to hire a new Executive Director, we are hoping it will bring clarity, thus enabling the Association to be ready for the 21st century.

Wilburn Hayden  
President

## REPORT OF THE LONG-TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE

At the December 6, 1990, meeting, the Steering Committee reached a consensus in a number of areas. (1) A number of options for revenue enhancement are being explored including seeking outside funding sources, marketing the journal, and expanding membership. (2) A brochure that highlights the Association is in the drafting phase. (3) Ways that would increase revenues from the conference without increasing registration fees are also being examined. Such ways may include benefits from selected sites, higher costs to vendors, seeking direct sponsors and applying for grant support. (4) At the conclusion of this fiscal year, an audit of the Association's fiscal records will be made and an annual audit will be made at the end of each fiscal year. If you have a reaction or suggestion, please share them with your Steering Committee members.

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### BYLAWS CHANGES

The following changes in the Bylaws of the organization have been recommended by the Steering Committee. These will be voted on at the Business Meeting/Luncheon at the Conference in Berea.

1. A motion was passed to add the following to Article III, PURPOSES, of the Bylaws:

To strengthen the involvement of Appalachian Youth in Appalachian studies through a Youth Conference integrated into the annual conference of the Appalachian Studies Association.

2. A motion was passed to add one ex-officio member to the Steering Committee. This person would be appointed by the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services of East Tennessee State University. The Journal of the Appalachian Studies Association is currently published at CASS.

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### 1991 CONFERENCE DEDICATION

At the December meeting of the Steering Committee, a resolution was passed dedicating the 1991 Appalachian Studies Conference to the memory of Harry Caudill.

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### BUXTON RESIGNS FROM APPALACHIAN CONSORTIUM

Dr. Barry Buxton has resigned his position as Executive Director of the Appalachian Consortium, effective December 31, 1990. He will be moving to Asheville, North Carolina, to become the new Executive Director of the Health Adventure. The Appalachian Studies Association expresses appreciation to Dr. Buxton for his assistance to the organization over the years, and wishes him the best in his new position. A search committee has been formed to locate a replacement. Inquiries and nominations should be sent to Woodward S. Bousquet, Environmental Studies Department, Warren Wilson College, 701 Warren Wilson Rd., Swannanoa, NC 28778.

NOMINATIONS

The Nominations Committee presents the following slate for consideration by the membership. Biographical information for each candidate is listed on the back of this ballot. Your ballot should be returned to the address listed below by March 1, 1991.

Roberta Herrin  
English Department  
East Tennessee State University  
Box 22990A  
Johnson City, Tennessee 37614

Vice President/President Elect (Select 1)

Becky Hancock  
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Program Vice Chair/Chair Elect (Select 1)

Norma Thomas  
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary (Select 1)

John Inscoe  
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer (Select 1)

Howard Dorgan  
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Steering Committee (Select 2)

Danny Miller  
 John Alexander Williams  
 Kate Black  
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Program Committee (Select 4)

Chesla Sharp  
 Ernestine Upchurch  
 Sally Maggard  
 Durwood Dunn  
 Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

John Alexander Williams holds degrees in history from Tulane and Yale and taught at the University of Notre Dame, Illinois (Chicago), and West Virginia. He has served at the National Endowment for the Humanities as Assistant Director of the Division of Research Programs, Director of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, and Consultant to the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress. In August 1989 he became Professor of History and Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies at Appalachian State University.

Ernestine E. Upchurch is the Coordinator for Student Services for Haywood County Schools in North Carolina. She has a BA in Sociology from Berea College and additional work at the University of Tennessee in Social Work. She is a charter member of the Council on Appalachian Women, Past President of the Haywood County Friends of the Library, and has served on the North Carolina State Advisory Committee for Library Services and Construction. Her interests include Appalachian literature, storytelling and local history.

Danny Miller is an Assistant Professor of Literature at Northern Kentucky University. His specialty is Regional American Literature and he teaches a course in Appalachian Literature. He received the BA from Berea College and the Phd from the University of Cincinnati where the subject of his dissertation was "Images of Women in Southern Appalachian Mountain Literature." In Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky he is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Brighton Center of Newport, Kentucky; Past President of the Appalachian Community Development Association; and member of the Research and Education Committee and Cultural Task Force of the Urban Appalachian Council.

Kate Black is the Director of the Appalachian Regional Collection of the Margaret I. King Library at the University of Kentucky.

Sally Maggard is Assistant Professor of Sociology at West Virginia University. For several years the editor of Mountain Life and Work, she is studying the relationship between gender and class in Appalachian labor struggles as well as rural poverty.

Durwood Dunn is Professor of History at Tennessee Wesleyan College and author of the book Cade's Cove.

Chesla Sharp received his B.A. from Carson Newman College, his M.A. from the University of Tennessee, and his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He is Professor of English and Assistant Chair for Graduate Studies at ETSU. He has served on the Executive Board for the Jonesborough Civic Trust and reviews books on Appalachia for The Appalachian Journal and Now and Then.

Norma Myers Thomas is the Assistant Director of Libraries for Archives and Special Collections at East Tennessee State University. She has worked in the Archives of Appalachia since 1981 and has been active in Appalachian Studies and in the archival profession. She served as President of Tennessee Archivists and on the Governing Committee of the Southern Archivists Conference. She holds a Master's Degree in history from ETSU and has a regional interest in 20th century social and economic history of the Appalachian region.

John Inscoe is Associate Professor of History at the University of Georgia and editor of the Georgia Historical Quarterly. He is the author of Mountain Masters: Slavery and the Sectional Crisis in Western North Carolina. He served as the Program Chair for the 1990 Appalachian Studies Conference in Georgia.

Rebecca Hancock teaches English at Pulaski County High School in Dublin, Virginia. She is the advisor to the APPALKIDS, whose dramatic and musical performances have been a part of the annual Appalachian Studies Conference program since 1985. She conceived, organized, and sponsored the first annual Appalachian Youth Conference. She has a Masters of Science Degree in English with an Emphasis in Appalachian literature and folklore from Radford University. She has served on the Steering Committee of the Appalachian Studies Association. She was named District M English Teacher of the Year in 1987 and Virginia English Teacher of the year in 1990.

Howard Dorgan is Professor of Communications at Appalachian State University. He is the author of two books on Appalachian religion, Giving Glory to God in Appalachia and The Old Regular Baptists of Central Appalachia. He has served as a member of the Steering Committee and the Program Committee of the Appalachian Studies Association.

## MEDIA COVERAGE OF APPALACHIA

If members of the Appalachian Studies Association wish to have the President of the Association make an official statement protesting negative media coverage of Appalachia and/or to recommend appropriate scholars for future consultation and contributions to articles or presentations, they should contact the President and, whenever possible provide a copy of the article, report, statements in question.

Dwight Billings, Steering Committee

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### NOW AND THEN

Now and Then, the Appalachian magazine published by the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services at ETSU is seeking articles, interviews, memoirs, poetry, short stories, photos (old or new), line drawings and book reviews about Appalachian life. Address all works except poetry to:

Pat Arnow, Editor  
Now and Then  
East Tennessee State University, Box 19180A  
Johnson City, Tennessee 37614

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

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### STUDENT/COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

A limited amount of money is designated each year to assist youth and community people who wish to attend the conference, but who might not have access to the necessary resources. A written request must be received no later than 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Requests should be sent to the following:

Roberta Herrin  
English Department  
East Tennessee State University  
Box 22990A  
Johnson City, Tennessee 37614

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### STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Each year a solicitation is done with the conference call for papers to locate papers on Appalachia produced by students. These are not limited to any grade level. The winner receives a \$100 stipend to assist with defraying the cost of attending the conference, consideration of the paper for inclusion in the association journal, waiver of the conference registration fee, a copy of the Journal of the Appalachian Studies Association, and the opportunity to present the paper at the annual conference.