

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

The Appalachian Studies Conference annual meeting at Blue Ridge Assembly, March 20-22, once again provided new energy to us all through dynamic exchanges among a wide range of regional scholars and practitioners (despite winter's last gasp). We owe Ann Martin and the other individuals involved with local arrangements a hearty thanks for all their efforts, and applaud the Program and Agenda Committees for a successful conference, and the officers for all of their work throughout the year.

In the previous issue of APPALINK, John Stephenson, as chairperson of the ASC, reminded us of the potential impacts of the new budget cutbacks on regional studies programs and regional service agencies. I want to reiterate John's call for greater cooperation and sharing among regional organizations, agencies, and institutions. Restating his call for joint proposals, faculty exchanges, shared responsibility for funding, better access to library holdings, and expanded student exchanges, I encourage you to use the Appalachian Studies Conference and APPALINK to develop and implement new projects. The call for greater cooperation and sharing, appropriate and necessary during fat times, is of course critical during these times of budget scarcity.

In concluding this year's conference, the session on the future of Appalachian Studies elicited a range of thoughtful suggestions which might be considered by the membership. On the one hand, refinement of theory and definition about Appalachia vis á vis the region and the rest of the society should lead us toward creating a vision of our future. On the other hand, this clearer vision and definition should lead us to greater connection with the forces of change in the region, and more active involvement in issues relating to land, work, energy, and survival in the 1980's.

In looking toward the coming year's activities and next year's conference, I invite you to send suggestions for ways in which the ASC can serve your needs and the needs of the region. The Program and Agenda Committees will be meeting over the summer, and the committees and officers invite your input.

Patricia D. Beaver
Chairperson, 1981-1982

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETS

The fourth annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Conference was held at the Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, North Carolina on March 20-22, 1981. Cliff Lovin, the Program Coordinator, was "pleased with the attendance and the high quality of the papers and panel discussions and gratified by the overall success of the meeting."

The following amendments to the by-laws were passed at the annual business meeting:

1. The past Chairperson serve as an ex-officio member of the Agenda Committee for the year following term as Chairperson.
2. The Agenda Committee will also serve as Site Selection Committee and implement a plan to select conference location for two years in advance.
3. ASC funds may be made available to officers and Program and Agenda Committee members to assist with travel expenses to committee meetings in the event that no other funds are available for such expenses. Travel requests are to be approved by the Chairperson and the Treasurer.

Officers and committee members for 1981-1982 include

Chairperson: Patricia Beaver, Center for Appalachian Studies, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608 (704) 262-2000

Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Jim Gifford, Appalachian Development Center, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351 (606) 783-4731

Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Polly Cheek, P.O. Box 502, Mars Hill, NC 28754 (704) 689-2172

Program Committee: Grace Edwards, Ron Eller, Betty Fine, Brenda Hronis, Rich Humphrey, Ann Martin, Roddy Moore, Rick Simon, Jean Speer, Tom Wagner

Agenda Committee: Loyal Jones, Helen Lewis, Charlotte Ross, John Stephenson, Jenny Watkins, David Whisnant

NEWSLETTER

APPALINK will be published three times a year. The deadline for the next issue is September 1. Send announcements of upcoming events and other items to James M. Gifford, Coordinator of Appalachian Studies, Appalachian Development Center, Morehead, KY 40351.

MEMBERSHIP

If you did not attend the recently-concluded annual meeting in Black Mountain, NC but would like to continue receiving the newsletter, please complete the following and return it to Polly Cheek, P.O. Box 502, Mars Hill, NC 28754.

NAME/AGENCY _____

ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION _____

I am enclosing dues of \$4.00 for the 1981-82 fiscal year (to March 1, 1982).

279 members have now paid their dues. If you wish to continue receiving APPALINK and have not paid, please do so,

NEWS AND NOTICES

JOB OPENING AT APPALSHOP

Appalshop, the nonprofit Appalachian media cooperative, is looking for a distribution manager for the 31 documentary films we have produced and are distributing. The films, which document the culture, history, and social issues of Appalachia, are used by colleges, schools, libraries, churches and community groups and on television nationally and abroad. The film distribution manager coordinates the work of the distribution staff in the marketing of the films. His/her specific tasks include seeking new markets; developing promotional and educational materials; preparing annual budgets and reports to the Appalshop Board of Directors; dealing with film labs; attending 5-8 conferences per year; and maintaining good customer relations. Salary range is \$10,400-13,000. Benefits include health insurance and paid vacation. As always we prefer to hire someone from the Appalachian Region or with a commitment to the region. Send resume to: Laura Schuster, Appalshop Films, Box 743, Whitesburg, KY 41858.

APPALSHOP FILMS

Appalshop Films of Whitesburg, Kentucky has just released "Hand Carved" (88 minutes, color), where Chester Cornett makes one of his eight-legged, "two-in-one" rockers and describes the bitter and sweet experiences of being a chair-maker "in the world today".

Appalshop Films is part of an independent media collective based in Eastern Kentucky. Since 1969 filmmakers from the region have been making films about their Appalachian culture, history, and social issues. "Hand Carved is their first feature-length film. It was made by Herb E. Smith and Elizabeth Barret who have been working with Appalshop since its formative years.

DAVIS & ELKINS COLLEGE AXES APPALACHIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

The Appalachian Studies Program, a Department of the Integrated Studies Division, was disbanded by an action of the College Senate last Thursday. The action follows in the wake of the recent termination of the job of the Chairman of the department, Dr. Richard Straw.

The program instituted 5 years ago, was originally designed to create an academic commitment of the college to the region in which it is located. The interdisciplinary major and minor focused on the particular physical, cultural, and political-economic associations of the Appalachian region. According to Professor Straw, "the College's credibility as an Appalachian institution as well as its credibility in the Elkins-Randolph County area" is in doubt due to the discontinuation of the Appalachian Studies Program.

Dr. Rodney Fulcher, Dean of Faculty, says that D&E "still expect(s) to meet the needs of the Appalachian region" by utilizing the College's "internal resources", such as its library collection of Appalachian materials and the continuation of the Augusta Heritage Arts Workshops during the summer. Fulcher also intends to encourage faculty to integrate Appalachian subjects into their other courses. Some courses once included in the program will be maintained by being cross-referenced into other departments, such as History and Sociology.

Dr. Straw will be joining the History Department and the Appalachian Studies Program at Radford University in Virginia this fall after attending an NEH Summer Seminar at Chapel Hill, North Carolina in June and July.

SUMMER PROGRAMS IN APPALACHIAN STUDIES AT BERE A COLLEGE

History and Culture of Appalachia (June 15-July 3) will attempt to present a comprehensive history of the region and to relate this history to the various state and national histories that are taught in public schools and colleges. State and regional historians will be invited to lecture. Attention will be given to Appalachian culture and current political and economic issues.

Literature and the Arts in Appalachia (July 6-24) will provide a thorough survey of regional literature and will briefly examine and relate music, crafts and other art forms.

The total fee to the participant will be \$125 for each three-week course. Remaining costs covering tuition, room and board and field trips, will be met by scholarships. Special arrangements may be made for a few persons who cannot

pay the basic charge. Lodging will be in college dormitories, and meals will be served in the college cafeteria.

APPALACHIAN STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS AT BERE A COLLEGE

The Appalachian Studies Fellowships are administered by the Appalachian Center and Weatherford-Hammond Mountain Collection of Berea College under a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation of New York, and are designed to encourage scholarship on Appalachian topics.

A primary purpose of these Fellowships is to make it possible for regional scholars to use the Weatherford-Hammond Mountain Collection and the resources of the Appalachian Center and Museum at Berea as well as other research collections in the region. Fellowships may also be granted for field research.

The fellowship selection committee will give priority to experienced scholars and those with plans to publish or otherwise share the results of their research.

In most cases fellowships will cover only the costs of travel, lodging, food, copying, equipment rental or typing and limited supplies.

As a part of Appalachian Studies Fellowships, Berea College will sponsor a symposium on Appalachian Research at some point during the five-year life of the program. Recipients will be invited to share results of their work.

For more information contact: Loyal Jones, Director, The Appalachian Center, Berea College, Box 2336, Berea, KY 40404 (606) 986-9341 Extension 513

THE APPALACHIAN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Field internships with organizations and agencies in Appalachia are available for undergraduate and graduate students through the Appalachian Center of the University of Kentucky. The objective of the program is to provide participants with an opportunity to combine service with learning while working with organizations that are meeting community needs in Appalachia.

The program, which receives support from the Lyndhurst Foundation, emphasizes service to three kinds of organizations: a) primary care health clinics, b) community economic development agencies, and c) public interest organizations. Prospective interns are encouraged to design projects consistent with their educational goals and the needs of field organizations. Staff at the Appalachian Center are available to assist applicants in developing projects and in placing interns with appropriate agencies.

For more information contact: Dr. David Walls, Appalachian Center, University of Kentucky, 641 S. Limestone, Lexington, KY 40506 (606) 258-4852

AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EAST TENNESSEE

An Encyclopedia of East Tennessee, edited by Jim Stokely and Jeff Johnson and published by the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge and printed by Kingsport Press, will be available on October 1. This 500-page cloth-bound volume will sell for \$19.95 and includes over 250 contributed articles on topics ranging from James Agee to Bluegrass Music to the Scopes Trial to Alvin York. In addition, 200 historical photographs will be included.

For more information contact: Jim Stokely, P.O. Box 3066, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 (615) 482-1075

APPALACHIA/AMERICA COPIES AVAILABLE

The Proceedings of the 1980 ASC meeting, entitled "Appalachia/America" and including articles by Helen Lewis, Miles Horton, George Hopkins, Gary L. Fowler, Raymond Evans, Jim Gifford, and many others are now available thanks to a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission. In April over 1,000 copies were mailed to college and university libraries throughout the Appalachian region as defined by ARC. There are still a few copies available, free of charge, to libraries and Appalachian studies centers. In addition, individuals may obtain copies at cost (\$4.00). Send your request and your check (where appropriate) to the Archives of Appalachia, The Sherrod Library, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN 37614 (checks payable to the Archives Fund, c/o the ETSU Foundation please). Hurry while the supply lasts!

THE COUNCIL OF THE SOUTHERN MOUNTAINS APPALACHIAN BOOKSTORE

Appalachian Books for Young People published by the CSM Bookstore is a 16-page catalog containing approximately 150 books set in the Southern Appalachian Mountains and written for young people. Divided into four sections, primary (toddlers through third grade), middle-elementary (fourth-sixth grade), junior high (seventh-ninth grade), and high school (tenth-twelfth grade), each annotated entry contains the date of publication of the book, the author's name, the price, and a source for a review. A special feature of the catalog is brief biographical statements about the most prolific authors of children's books set in the region. Rebecca Caudill, May Justus, William O. Steele, Betsy Byars, Alexander Key, Robert Burch, Vera and Bill Cleavor, and Elliot Wigginton all receive this special attention.

For more information on CSM publications and/or the itinerary of the Council's mobile vehicles contact: Mr. George Brosi, Appalachian Book and Record Shop, The Council of the Southern Mountains, C.P.O. 2106, Berea, KY 40404

LAND OWNERSHIP PATTERNS AND THEIR IMPACTS ON APPALACHIAN COMMUNITIES

By the Appalachian Land Ownership Task Force, 1981

This study documents land ownership patterns in the Appalachian region and analyzes their impacts on rural communities. Representing the most comprehensive such study to date, the project was initiated by residents of the region in fall 1978, to examine how land ownership patterns--especially corporate and absentee ownership--contribute to many of the policy issues that the region faces: property taxes for local services, continued economic underdevelopment, loss of farmland, inadequate housing, energy production, environmental damage.

Conducted by the Appalachian Land Ownership Task Force, a coalition of community groups, scholars and individuals, associated with the Appalachian Alliance and the ASC, the study has involved the work of some eighty people. The study covers eighty counties in parts of six states: Alabama, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, totaling over 1800 pages. The findings are presented in seven volumes, as follows:

Regional Overview* (300 pp.). Presents the findings of the study on a regional basis, for coal, agriculture and tourism counties. Includes chapters on:

- land ownership as a national and an Appalachian issue
- land and mineral ownership patterns including major owners
- property taxation patterns
- impacts of land ownership on economic development, agricultural, housing, energy developments
- recommendations for action
- methods of studying land ownership
- thirty-eight page annotated bibliography

State Reports (approx. 250 pp. each). Separate volumes for each of the six states include:

- summary of findings in each state, including listing of major landholders and analysis of land and tax issues
- in-depth case studies of land ownership issues in selected counties
- profiles of land ownership and property tax patterns for each county studied in the state

County Profiles (6 pages each). (Also included in State Reports). Consist of five pages of tables with one page summary, listing major land and mineral owners in each county, and detailing corporate, absentee, and government holdings with property taxes paid.

The study was funded in part by the Appalachian Regional Commission, and coordinated by Appalachian State University, Highlander Center, and research teams in each state.

*The University of Kentucky Press plans to issue the regional report in revised form in 1982.

MOREHEAD STATE RECEIVES GRANTS FOR APPALACHIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

The Appalachian Studies Program at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky recently received two private foundation grants for FY 1981-1982. The Metropolitan Life Foundation has provided funds for faculty travel and research specifically related to the development of an Appalachian Studies minor and the S&H Foundation Lectureship Program has granted funds to support a public lecture series entitled "Our Mountain Heritage."

THE APPALACHIAN AGENDA
A CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS, CONFERENCES, AND WORKSHOPS
JUNE-OCTOBER 1981

JUNE 5-JUNE 7

Spring Conference of the Appalachian Alliance
Camp Virgil Tate, near Charleston, West Virginia

This meeting will focus on two aspects of life in Appalachia: (1) The Reagan Administration: (a) what is its effect on us here in the mountains?; (b) how shall we respond?, and (2) Health and Safety--with special focus on (a) toxic wastes, and (b) occupational health and safety.

Contact: Dr. Stephen L. Fisher, P.O. Box BBB, Emory & Henry College,
Emory, VA 24327

JUNE 7-JUNE 13

Appalachian Family Folk Week
Hindman Settlement School

This week is designed for individuals and families who want to be involved in a week of traditional music, dance, crafts and storytelling. Staff members include; Jean Ritchie, John McCutcheon, Edna Ritchie Baker, Jim Morrison, McLain Family Band, Verna Mae Slone and others.

Contact: Mike Mullins, Director, Hindman Settlement School, Hindman,
KY 41822

JUNE 18-JUNE 19

Conference On Private Efforts In Appalachia
Berea College

This conference will look at the special place of private agencies in serving the people of Appalachia. Discussion sessions will address the following questions: (1) What are the most important basic services that can be provided by private groups? (2) What are the main unmet needs of the region? and (3) What new ideas regarding Appalachia need to be examined?

Primarily, the conference will deal with the areas of health and welfare, education and religion. Besides speakers, there will be discussion groups, entertainment and folk dancing.

Contact: Loyal Jones, Director, Appalachian Center, Berea College,
Berea, KY 40404

JUNE 21-JUNE 27

Appalachian Celebration
Morehead State University

The Appalachian Celebration, an annual event sponsored by the Appalachian Development Center, is a week of activities that focus on the past, the present, and the future of Appalachian Kentucky. Held during the last week of June, this seven-day event is a combination of workshops, courses, exhibits, concerts, dances, lectures, and discussions that pay homage to the total Appalachian Experience. This year's activities include The Heritage Arts Workshop, Economic Development Conferences, Elderhostel Workshop, Jesse Stuart Symposium, Natural Heritage Tour and Hike, Exhibits and Displays, Lectures, Concerts, and Dances.

Contact: Dr. James M. Gifford, Coordinator of Appalachian Studies,
Appalachian Development Center, Morehead State University,
Morehead, KY 40351

JULY 5-JULY 11

Appalachian Visual Arts Week
Hindman Settlement School

Two areas of the visual arts will be spotlighted, painting and photography. The beginner and the more accomplished visual artist are encouraged to attend this week. The program will include lectures, exhibits, demonstrations and individual sessions. Note: The photography sessions will emphasize photography as a form of creative expression rather than the technical aspects. Staff includes; Doug Adams, Russel May, Paul Brett Johnson, Don Anderson and Wendy Ewald.

Contact: Mr. Mike Mullins, Director, Hindman Settlement School, Hindman,
KY 41822

AUGUST 7-AUGUST 8

Appalachian South Folklife Center's
16th Annual Folk Arts, Crafts, and Music Festival
Pipestem, West Virginia

Featuring National Fiddle Champion Joe Meadows, Hedy West, and many other folk musicians.

Contact: Don West, Pipestem, West Virginia 25979

AUGUST 14

Appalachian Writing Workshop
5:00 p.m. Henderson Hall, Carson Newman College, Jefferson City, TN

Featuring Wilma Dykeman, Jeff Daniel Marion, and others.

Contact: Jim Stokely, P.O. Box 3066, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

JULY 9-SEPTEMBER 10

"Working Folks" lecture series
Children's Museum of Oak Ridge, Tennessee

A 10-session lecture series with Al Smith, David Madden, Paul Campbell, Mike Mullins, and others.

Contact: Mr. Jim Stokely, Director, Children's Museum of Oak Ridge, Inc.,
P.O. Box 3066, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830 (615) 482-1075

SEPTEMBER 10-SEPTEMBER 11

1981 Kentucky Conference on Oral History
Owensboro, Kentucky

Featuring Lynwood Montell, William Ferris, William Berge, Barbara Allen and many others.

Contact: Kim Lady, Kentucky Oral History Commission, P.O. Box H, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

SEPTEMBER 26

Mountain Heritage Day
Western Carolina University

The Seventh Annual Mountain Heritage Day will be celebrated on September 26, 1981, on the campus of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina. Last year over 12,000 visitors enjoyed and learned from almost 50 traditional musicians and craftspeople. Old-time music (ranging from

Piedmont blues to mountain fiddle tunes and ballads) and crafts (such as basketmaking, still operation and board making) were heard and seen throughout the day. A regular component of the celebration is a Christian Harmony sing in which a large number of singers from Georgia and North Carolina participate, with any number of newcomers welcome.

Contact: Blanton Owen, Mountain Heritage Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC (704) 227-7129.

SEPTEMBER 14-SEPTEMBER 19

Appalachian Heritage Week
Concord College

Contact: R. T. Hill, Coordinator of Appalachian Studies, Concord College, Athens, WV 24712 (304) 384-3115, Extension 250

SEPTEMBER 18-19

John Henry Folk Festival
Concord College

Featuring blues, gospel, country, bluegrass, and rhythm 'n blues music.

Contact: Ed Cabbell, Director, John Henry Folk Festival, P.O. Box 135, Princeton, WV 24740

OCTOBER 2-OCTOBER 3

Conference on Appalachian Geography
Pipestem State Park

Contact: R.T. Hill, Coordinator of Appalachian Studies, Concord College, Athens, WV 24712