

Spring, 2005

Volume 28, Number 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Melinda Bollar Wagner

We are looking forward to seeing you March 18-20, 2005 for the Twenty-eighth Annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference, at Radford University in Radford, Virginia alongside the New River. This year's conference theme — Vital Words and Vital Actions: Partnerships to Build a Healthy Place — will be highlighted in the Saturday morning Keynote Plenary Session representing partnerships among communities and the Appalachian Studies Association's constituents. Our speakers will celebrate symbiotic collaborations that successfully met community goals by negotiating the minefields of economic development, local government needs, cultural conservation, and environmental preservation. These include:

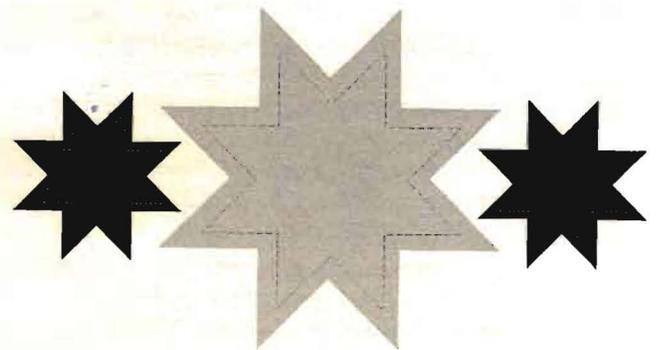
- The building of the Coal Mining Heritage Association, Memorial, and Park featuring Jimmie L. Price, Mary LaLone, and Stacie Spradlin Haynes.
- The process of revitalizing Christiansburg Institute - an African American school from 1866 to 1966 - as a community center will be described by Elaine Dowe Carter and Anna Fariello. Christiansburg Institute received the ASA's - e-Appalachia Award for an Outstanding Website last year.
- Strategies for managing rural Appalachia's rapidly changing landscape will be emphasized by Elizabeth Obenshain, Director of the New River Valley Land Trust, and Lewis "Bud" Ingles Jeffries, descendant of Mary Draper Ingles, the heroine of the Long Way Home trek from Ohio following the Ohio River, the Kanawha, and the New River back to her Radford homesite still maintained today by her kin.

A special element of the conference will be a two-part session on Appalachian Technology and Economic Development sponsored by Oak Ridge Associated Universities, with speakers from Oak Ridge, NASA, the National Energy Technology Laboratory, Penn State, NC State, and others.

Remember that the Conference Registration/ASA Membership fee includes your subscription to the Journal of Appalachian Studies and this newsletter. Upcoming issues of the Journal include special issues on the topics of Race and White Privilege, The Environment and Environmental Activism, Issues Facing Parents and Children in Appalachia, and an analysis of the 2000 census for the entire 13-state Appalachian region.

By Thanksgiving 2004, Parks Lanier, Program Chair, and his committee, Grace Toney Edwards, Mary LaLone, John Nemeth, Richard Straw and our student assistants, Ken Vaughan and Shai Cullop, had formed your good proposals into the Preliminary Program. Ricky Cox, Local Arrangements Chair, and his committee, Bernadette Altizer, Donia Eley, Gene Hyde, and Ann Moser are now well-known to Radford University's and Radford City's building administrators, caterers, motels and restaurants.

In the Spring 2005 semester, my Anthropology Practicum class is developing a documentary about the ASA Conference. So if you see students with video cameras, seek them out, smile, and chat with them. For more information on the Appalachian Studies Association Conference, see www.appalachianstudies.org for how to register and to see the program contents.



ASA OFFICER NOMINATIONS 2005

ASA Vice President/President Elect (05-06)

Chad Berry, associate professor of history at Maryville College and author of *Southern Migrants, Northern Exiles* (University of Illinois Press, 2000), has approached the study of southern Appalachia from an interdisciplinary and global context. He has worked through the ASA's meetings and publications to provoke inquiry to help members sharpen their understanding of regionalism, including a thought piece reflecting on postmodernism and by soliciting the thoughts of a scholar of Southern studies about comparisons with Appalachian studies. Berry also serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, and looks forward to working with ASA activists and scholars in continuing to explore ways of strengthening the organization by enhancing its capacity to serve.

Program Vice-Chairperson/Program Chairperson Elect (05-06)

Kathie Shiba is an associate professor of psychology at Maryville College. She has been especially interested in understanding how diverse experiences are honored in Appalachia and how they impact not only development of the individual, but also the development of communities. She has worked with students and community organizations in Appalachia on community-based education projects and is currently on the board of Just Connections, a group of community and college people in the Appalachian region working democratically to create socially just and sustainable communities.

Treasurer (05-08)

Stephanie Keener is director of the John B. Stephenson Center at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, NC. She has been teaching and organizing Appalachian Studies courses and activities since 1999. A native of eastern KY, she graduated from the University of Kentucky and then earned her MA in Appalachian Studies from Appalachian State University. A member of ASA since 1997, her scholarly interests focus mainly on the teaching of Appalachian and other regional studies in higher education. Keener is currently filling an unexpired term as ASA treasurer.

Four At-Large Members of the Steering Committee (05-07)

George Brosi has been actively involved in regional issues since he walked his first picket line at a segregated laundromat in his hometown of Oak Ridge, TN, in the summer of 1961. He subsequently did volunteer work with the Rovin' Pickets of Southeastern Kentucky and worked full-time for Save Our Cumberland Mountains, the Southern Student Organizing Committee, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and other groups. He was the only person to serve on the staff of the Council of the Southern Mountains during all three of its different recent eras, under Perley Ayer, Loyal Jones and Dan Hendrickson. His retail book business, Appalachian Mountain Books, has served regional scholars for more than twenty years. Since the 1990s he has taught college classes in Manchester, Corbin, Danville, Richmond, Mt. Vernon, Somerset, London and Lexington, KY,

and for the last two years he has served as editor of *Appalachian Heritage*, a literary magazine of the Southern Appalachian Region published by Berea College.

Don Davis has been a member of the ASA for more than a decade, participating in more than a dozen conference sessions. A native of northwest Georgia, he was among the first group of community organizers trained by the Southern Empowerment Project. Davis was a cofounder and past president of the Armuchee Alliance, a grassroots environmental alliance based in Calhoun, GA. Recently he has been working to form a Georgia chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation which is attempting to restore the tree to the southern Appalachian forests. His books include *Where There Are Mountains: An Environmental History of the Southern Appalachians* and *The Land of Ridge and Valley: A Photographic History of the Northwest Georgia Mountains*. His latest project is *Paradise Found: An Environmental History of the American South*, to be published by ABC-CLIO in 2005.

Sharon Denham lives in Appalachian Ohio and teaches nursing at Ohio University. She has nursing degrees from Shawnee State (ADN), Ohio University (BSN), Bellarmine College (MSN), and the University of Alabama (DSN). Her principal research focus has been on Appalachian family health, and many of her findings are included in the textbook, *Family Health: A Framework for Nursing*, which she published in 2003. She has been a member of ASA since the mid-1990s, has published in the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, and is an active member of the Ohio University Faculty Learning Community where she promotes teaching and learning about Appalachia.

Peg Wimmer is a graduate student in sociology at Virginia Tech with a specialization in Appalachian Studies. As a native of southern Appalachia (Check, VA), she has a deep love and appreciation for the people and culture of Appalachia which has guided her studies and research. Peg did her undergraduate studies at Radford University where she combined her major in anthropology with Appalachian Studies. She worked as a principle research assistant on multiple oral history projects including a study of Appalachian farm families and a study of culture change in an Appalachian region. She is co-editor of two books *Appalachian Farm Life* and *The Radford Arsenal: Impacts and Cultural Change in an Appalachian Region* (both Brightside Press). She also worked on a farm heritage museum interpretation project for Radford University's Farm at Selu. Currently, she is working on a project documenting the transition in medical care from country doctor to regional medical centers in Appalachia.

Program Committee, 2006 Conference, Ohio

Carol Baugh (Local Arrangements Chair) directs the Appalachian Outreach and Studies Department at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, OH. In addition to teaching courses in Appalachian studies and American history, she provides outreach services to several of Dayton's urban Appalachian communities. She also supervises the Think College program designed to increase the college-going rate among urban Appalachian youth. Baugh participates in planning the annual Mountain Days Festival in Dayton and the annual Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher

Education conference in southeast Ohio. She is a member of the Appalachian Studies Association and the Appalachian Coalition.

Rebecca Bailey (Program Committee) holds a Ph.D. in late nineteenth and early twentieth century social history and Appalachian and regional history from West Virginia University. For her dissertation, she researched the "Matewan Massacre" in Mingo County, WV, exploring the impact of the broader meaning of this "labor incident" in coal mining country and its impact on the local community. She is on the faculty of the State University of West Georgia where her specialties are oral and community history.

Theresa Burchett (Program Committee) completed an Independent Major in Appalachian Studies at Berea College. She went on to obtain an MA in Appalachian Studies at Appalachian State University. She has worked with academic museums as well as regional museums in various capacities, establishing museum policies, designing exhibitions, and planning events. She is currently a Research Assistant for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian. Her career goals include working and consulting for museums, historical

organizations, and multicultural centers throughout the Appalachian region.

Chad Montrie (Program Committee) is an assistant professor of history at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, where he specializes in US environmental, labor, and social history. Montrie has shared his expertise on surface mining in the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, the *Appalachian Journal*, the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*, and at the ASA's annual conference. His most recent book is *To Save the Land and People: A History of Opposition to Surface Coal Mining in Appalachia*, published in 2003 by the University of North Carolina Press.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fiction Competition: West Virginia New Writers Fiction Award

West Virginia author Jayne Anne Phillips, 2005 Shepherd University Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence and recipient of the Appalachian Heritage Writers Award will select the winner of the fourth annual West Virginia New Writers Fiction Competition. A \$500 prize will go to the winner, with prizes for second and third place presented at the Appalachian Heritage Festival Concert in Shepherdstown, WV, September 30, 2005.

Submissions must be mailed by May 1, 2005 to West Virginia New Writers Fiction Competition, Department of English, Shepherd University, PO Box 3210, Shepherdstown, WV 25443. For details and submission information, see Residency webpage at <http://shepherd.edu/englweb/residence.htm>.

The Appalachian Heritage Writer's Award

Sponsored by the WV Humanities Council, the Appalachian Heritage Writer's Award was established to promote and encourage a literature rich in cultural significance and tradition. Shepherd University and the WV Humanities Council are proud to honor those literary artists who have found sustenance and material from this heritage. The 2005 recipient of the award will be WV fiction writer and storyteller, Jayne Anne Phillips. The Award is presented annually to a writer whose work features or draws upon, in some respect, the Appalachian cultural heritage. The recipient of the award fulfills a brief residency each fall, enriching the campus and community with lectures, workshops, and special programs as part of the Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence Project. The award is presented as part of the Appalachian Heritage Festival, held each fall in Shepherdstown, WV, in connection with the Performing Arts Series at Shepherd University. Past recipients of the award have been Fred Chappell (2004), Robert Morgan (2003), Denise Giardina (2002), George Ella Lyon (2001), Awiakta (2000), and Sharyn McCrumb (1999). Jayne Anne Phillips will be in Shepherdstown, WV, September 26-October 1, 2005, to participate in a celebration of her work. For information check the residency website at <http://www.shepherd.edu/englweb/residence.htm>.

2005 ASA SILENT AUCTION

Dear Appalachian Studies Association Members:

The ASA Silent Auction will be held in conjunction with our spring conference at Radford, VA. For those new to the ASA scene, the annual silent auction is a way we raise money to assist individuals or groups with their expenses who without financial help would be unable to participate in an ASA program. Money raised at one year's auction is budgeted to the next year's gathering. Help us generate a generous fund to meet the demands of the 2006 conference, to be held in Dayton, OH.

Donations of auction items and services have included arts and crafts, fictional and scholarly publications, depression glass, mining artifacts, and mountain collectibles of all varieties, quilts, woven goods, macramé wall hangings, needle arts, photography, sketches, paintings, rock and gem collections, Appalachian memorabilia, old movie or concert posters, music, music, and more music, Hatfield and McCoy romance novels, carved walking canes, mountain toys, blown glass, ceramics, pottery, collectable bumper plates from Appalachia, video documentaries, lectures or performances to be presented at the bidder's institution, and free registration fees for forthcoming conferences. Use your imagination. You never know what will become the favorite bid item for an auction.

Bid item contributions can be sent to us ahead of time and we will see that they get to the conference, or they can be brought directly to Radford and delivered to the auction room preferably Thursday evening, March 17 but they can come in early Friday morning, March 26 if necessary. There is considerable labor involved in preparing the items for display and in getting our paper work organized for the financial records of the auction. Contributions dropped off at the last minute certainly will be accepted. Letting us know by phone or e-mail that an item is forthcoming, with information relative to any display difficulties, helps greatly.

Contributions can be sent to Howard Dorgan, 747 Stadium Drive, Boone, NC, 28607. I can also be reached by phone (828-264-4361) or by e-mail (dorganch@charter.net). I can help you locate others in your region who can help you get your auction items to the conference if you are not attending or attending late.

Donia Eley has agreed to direct the auction item collection efforts in the area of VA that is relatively close to Radford, contacting crafts shops and specialty stores and asking for the donation of bid items. Donia can be contacted at 746 Prospect, Pulaski, VA 24301, phone 540-980-8644. You could offer auction items or offer to help her solicit items.

During our seven year history a small group of us have already raised a little over \$18,500 for use as financial assistance to individuals and groups seeking assistance with conference costs. I hope every member of ASA will think of this silent auction project as a personal responsibility. We can be especially proud of the assistance we have given to students and community activist groups.

Howard Dorgan.

STEERING COMMITTEE

While we plan a conference to share stories of how to Build a Healthy Place, we also need to attend to building a healthy Appalachian Studies Association to carry on the work begun by our founding mothers and fathers nearly 30 years ago. Some of you will remember the early Conference at the 4-H camp in Jackson's Mill, WV in 1978, where we all fit into the small dining room for a square dance.

Your ASA Steering Committee held its annual fall meeting all day on Friday September 24 at Radford University. Committee members came from Ohio, North Carolina, and West Virginia. By mid-day of our fruitful meeting, we were glad that Radford University's Appalachian Regional Studies Center and College of Graduate and Extended Education had provided a luncheon for us. The results of a photo break are included here. We hope that you will get involved on this end of things.



Front Row: Melinda Wagner, Parks Lanier, and Ricky Cox; Second Row: Mary Thomas, John Nemeth, Grace Edwards, and Mary LaLone; Third Row: Cassie Robinson, Howard Dorgan, Carol Baugh, Marie Cirillo, Linda Spatig, and Kristin Kani; Back Row: Thomas Wagner, Thomas Plaut, Mary Graham, and Phil Obermiller.

CONFERENCE NOTES

The Radford University Teaching Resource Center in Peters Hall will be open for three workshops featuring free information for teachers.

If you come a little early (and sign-up on the Registration form in the Preliminary Program) you could join a Friday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **tour of Radford University's 375 acre Selu Nature Conservancy** and C. E. Richardson Appalachian Heritage Education Park on the Little River, a tributary of the New River.

2003 WEATHERFORD AWARD NOMINATIONS - NON-FICTION

Geoffrey L. Buckley, *Extracting Appalachia: Images from the Consolidation Coal Company, 1910-1945*

Thomas Burton, *The Serpent and the Spirit*

William M. Drennen, Jr. and Kojo (William T.) Jones, *Red, White, Black, and Blue: A Dual Memoir of Race and Class in Appalachia*

Al Fritsch and Kristin Johannsen, *Ecotourism in Appalachia*

Anthony Harkins, *Hillbilly: A Cultural History of an American Icon*

Warren R. Hofstra, *The Planting of New Virginia*

N. Brent Kennedy and Joseph M. Scolnick, Jr., *From Anatolia to Appalachia: A Turkish-American Dialogue*

Gordon B. McKinney, *Zeb Vance*

Michael Montgomery, *The Dictionary of Smoky Mountain English*

John B. Rehder, *Appalachian Folkways*

Edited by Richard A. Straw and H. Tyler Blethen, *High Mountains Rising*

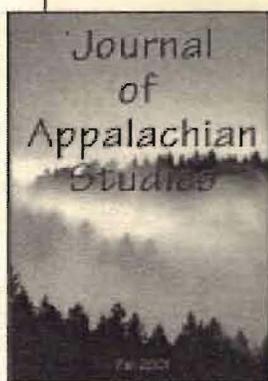
David Van Dommelen, Allen Eaton: *Dean of American Crafts*

Thomas E. Wagner and Phillip J. Obermiller, *African American Miners and Migrants*

Don West and edited by Jeff Biggers and George Brosi, *No Lonesome Road*

Wayne Winkler, *Walking Toward the Sunset: The Melungeons of Appalachia*

SUBMIT YOUR PAPER



SUBMIT YOUR PAPER for consideration for the "Selected Papers from the ASA Conference" section of the *Journal of Appalachian Studies* (Fall 2005 issue).

Please bring your paper to the registration table.

INCLUDE NAME, ADDRESS, E-MAIL, AND PHONE NUMBER OF ALL PRESENTERS.

Deadline for Post-Conference Submission is: APRIL 22, 2005.

Faces of Appalachia: Studies in Ethnicity and Gender

A Challenge Grant of the National Endowment for the Humanities

Support a Permanent Endowment for the ASA

ASA needs your help to ensure funding for a half-time staff person at the regional office. Your contribution to the NEH Challenge Grant will help endow the salary of a part-time coordinator of research and dissemination who will be responsible for coordinating two of the programs funded by the endowment. These programs include:

- ♦ A Summer Conference on Diversity in Appalachia for K-12 Teachers
- ♦ Three Annual Summer Post-doc Fellowships for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia

The summer conference will rotate among ASA affiliated institutions and each of the post-doc fellows may choose to carry-out their research at any institution affiliated with ASA.

How does an endowment at Marshall University support the ASA?

Twenty percent of the endowment earnings, through an agreement between Marshall and the ASA, are dedicated to funding this position—even if the ASA decides to leave Marshall University. In that event, Marshall will pay twenty percent of the annual earnings to the ASA to support the salary and benefits of the coordinator.

How can I help support ASA through this endowment?

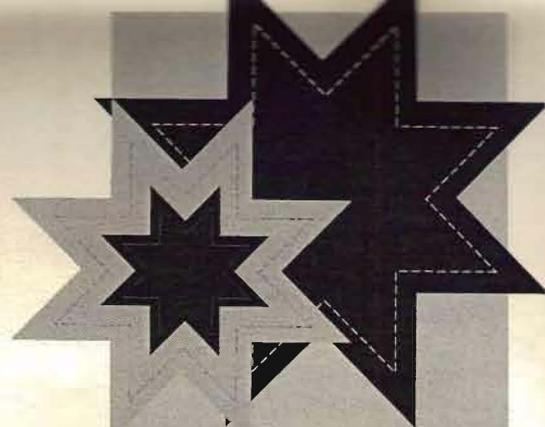
- ♦ Honor a Colleague Through ASA's "Honoring Connection:"
For a minimum of \$10—let someone know you appreciate their contribution to Appalachian Studies. Each individual so honored will receive a ribbon and gold star to display on their 2005 Radford Conference nametag. Use the conference registration form, forthcoming, to honor friends and colleagues at the next conference. Your contribution is matched 3:1 by NEH.
- ♦ Make a Matching Contribution:
All contributions are matched 3:1 by NEH and are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to the MUGC Foundation, Inc. and send to the Office of Development, MU, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755. Note Faces of Appalachia in the memo.

We need your help to fully fund this endowment!

This year is critical for the Faces of Appalachia Challenge Grant. As many of you already know, only \$9,475.20 of the \$450,000 needed for year two's match was raised by the deadline. Fortunately, NEH has granted us a one year extension to raise the remainder. This grant is important to the ASA, in terms of the endowed staff position as well as the scholarship the grant will support in perpetuity—research featuring the contributions of women and ethnic minorities in Appalachia.

Questions?

Contact Edwina Pendarvis at (304)696-2855 or pendarvi@marshall.edu.



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PROPOSED ASA BYLAW CHANGES

HISTORIAN

Rationale. The steering committee has formally created the office of association historian which needs to be acknowledged and defined in the bylaws.

Recommended changes:

Article IV. Retitle as "Archives and History." At the front of the archives statement add: "Section 1." Then add: "Section 2. The history of the association shall be maintained by an association member appointed by the president."

Article IX, Section 1b. Add: "(5) Ex-officio Historian"

Article IX, Section 3b. Add: "(5) Historian (five year, renewable)"

Article X, Add: "Section 12. Historian. The historian shall be a non-voting member of the steering committee nominated by the nominating committee and appointed by the president. The historian shall be responsible for maintaining the association's timeline; cooperating with the archivist in gathering relevant materials and information; and communicating the history of the association to the membership at the association's annual conference, on its website, and in its newsletter and journal."

OFFICE LOCATION

Rationale. From time to time the association may see fit to change the location of its office. By deleting mention of a specific location, the association avoids having to amend its bylaws in advance of each move.

Recommended changes:

Article V, Section 2. Delete: "with support from the Regional Research Institute at West Virginia University"

Article X, Section 4. Delete: "of the association located at the Regional Research Institute"

Article X, Section 8. Delete: "and shall be located at the Regional Research Institute"

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Rationale. Providing access to association membership and conferences through scholarships is a key part of the association's history and philosophy of inclusiveness. Raising scholarship funds and allocating them has become a significant part of the association's conference planning, volunteer efforts, and its budgeting and reporting. These responsibilities should be delegated to a standing committee.

Recommended changes:

Article IX, Section 1a. Add: "(8) Scholarship Chairperson"

Article IX, Section 3a. Add: "(8) Scholarship Chairperson - three years"

Article X, Section 2. Delete: "and the scholarship committee"

Article X. Add: "Section 12. **Scholarship Committee Chairperson.** The scholarship committee chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining the scholarship committee and leading it in decision-making about scholarship funding and allocations,

and regularly communicating the results of the committee's work to the steering committee."

Article XI. Add "Section 5. **Scholarship Committee.** a). Membership. The scholarship committee shall consist of the chairperson and from three to six regular members appointed by the ASA president to rotating terms. The ASA Office Manager, Silent Auction organizer, and the vice president/president elect will also serve as *ex officio*, nonvoting members of the scholarship committee. b) Duties. The scholarship committee shall receive all suggestions from ASA members, assist with fund raising for scholarships, devise and implement a mechanism for allocating funds raised for scholarships, and cooperate with the Treasurer and Office Manager in accounting for all scholarship funds dispersed. Decisions of the Scholarship Committee shall be communicated to the steering committee for its approval."

Article XII, Section 3. Delete: "Such funds shall be allocated by a subcommittee created by the president from members of the Steering Committee and chaired by the vice-president." Then add: "Such funds shall be allocated by the Scholarship Committee subject to approval by the Steering Committee."

IRS

Rationale. A clear statement of responsibility for the timely and accurate reporting to the Internal Revenue Service may prevent fines from being levied and help protect the association's 501c3 status.

Recommended changes:

Article X, Section 4. Delete: "The treasurer will examine the books, provide reports to the steering committee, and maintain IRS documents with the assistance of the administrative office." Then add: "The treasurer will examine the books and provide regular reports to the steering committee. The treasurer, working with the association's office manager and CPA, shall take particular care to file all forms required by the Internal Revenue Service in a timely and accurate fashion."

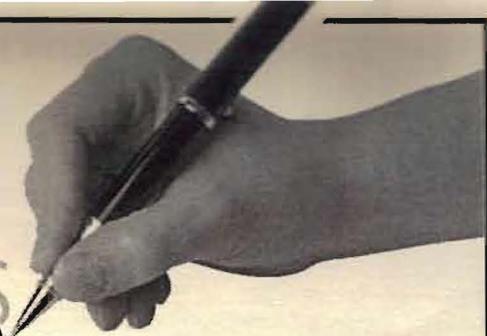
Appalink

Appalink is published twice a year. We welcome submissions for announcements and news. Subjects may include upcoming conferences, lectures, meetings, fellowships, award nominations, or other events of interest to the membership of the ASA. Submissions should be sent by e-mail or regular mail to Mary Thomas at asa@marshall.edu. Space is limited and all submissions are subject to editing. Paid advertisements will be considered for inclusion. Contact the managing editor for rates. Deadline for the fall 2005 edition is 7/31/05.

*Editor - Mary Jo Graham

*Managing Editor - Mary Thomas

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS
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**TWENTY-EIGHTH APPALACHIAN
STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

MARCH 18-20, 2005

*Vital Words and Vital Actions:
Partnerships to Build a Healthy Place*

Radford University
Radford, VA

Melinda Wagner, President
Parks Lanier, Program Chair

**TWENTY-NINTH APPALACHIAN
STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

MARCH 17-19, 2006

Both Ends of the Road

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