

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Institute for Appalachian Affairs • Box 19180A • Johnson City, Tennessee 37614-0002 • (615) 929-5348, 4498

VOL. #11 No. 1

JUNE 1986

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Richard Blaustein

The theme of our latest Appalachian Studies Conference, "In Search Of A Useable Past," takes on a deeper note of seriousness and urgency in the aftermath of the Challenger disaster and the nuclear catastrophe at Chernobyl in the Ukraine. As the radioactive cloud carried around the world sharply reminds us, there is no place to hide from the consequences of our attempts to bend nature to our designs and desires. Once again we are compelled to ask ourselves what kind of future we are creating for ourselves and our descendents. What price are we paying for our efforts to transcend the limits of space, time and matter?

Obviously these are questions of global and not merely regional import, but they very rapidly take on immediate and concrete significance when we consider situations like the toxic waste dump at Bumpass Cove in upper East Tennessee; the cyanide gas emission incident at the Union Carbide plant at Enterprise, West Virginia, which brought the horror of Bhopal periously close to home; the stripped mountainsides and denuded forests, the befouled streams and the grit-clogged lungs, which are all part of the price Appalachia has paid to play its part in the saga of industrial progress.

If many of us in the Appalachian Studies movement have tended to retreat into the symbolic security of an Edenic pre-industrial past, the larger society for its part has still to free itself from its infatuation with the Enlightenment vision of a utopian future in which the powers of human reason and intellect have totally shaped and channeled the primeval forces of nature. Because these basic assumptions are grounded in emotion and not reason, it is exceedingly difficult for us to detach ourselves from, let alone abandon, those cherished myths which give meaning, purpose and direction to our lives. Yet without the possibility of a viable future, the concept of a useable past becomes meaningless. To survive, we may well have to jettison these myths, along with other cultural baggage which prevents us from coming to terms with the complex, ambiguous realities of modern life. Not all traditions are worthy of preservation; myths can blind as well as nurture us; our roots can tie us down as well as support us; the ties that bind can hang us up as well as keep us together. Certainly, there is a place for communal celebration, but not at the expense of self-examination and adaptive innovation.

Again, these are obviously questions of global and not merely regional import, and these questions are obviously easier to articulate than to answer. Pastoral romantics cannot resurrect the past; utopian futurists cannot wish away Challenger and Chernobyl. If there is any answer at all, it is that there are no easy answers. Unless we can accept and act upon that knowledge, the long night will come not only to the Cumberlands, as Harry Caudill feared, but also to the rest of our beautiful, ravaged planet. Let's hope it's not too late -- and let's do more than hope.

Crockett Bicentennial Celebration

A public symposium entitled "Crockett at Two Hundred: New Perspectives on the Man and Myth," will be held at the D.P. Culp University Center on the East Tennessee State University campus in Johnson City, Tennessee, on August 15, 1986. The symposium will introduce fans of the famous frontiersman to the academic interest in his life, legend, and legacy. The program will begin at 9:00 a.m. with six presentations and a luncheon also held in the center. "Crockett at Two Hundred" is sponsored by the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, the ETSU Department of History, and the Tennessee Department of Conservation, and is funded by a grant from Tennessee Humanities Council; the directors of the symposium are Dr. Richard Blaustein, who is the director of the Center for Appalachian Studies at ETSU, and Dr. Emmett Essin of the ETSU Department of History. The program will be moderated by Dr. Michael A. Lofaro of the University of Tennessee, who will also present a paper. Other participants are Dr. Richard B. Hauck, Dr. Dan Kilgore, Dr. Michael Montgomery, Dr. John Seelye, and Dr. Charles K. Wolfe. Call (615) 929-5348 for details.

80th Birthday Anniversary Celebration

To commemorate the accomplishments of Jesse Stuart and to pay tribute to his homestead, a year long celebration is planned. The agenda will include Stuart activities, programs on campuses across Kentucky, tours, videotapes, etc. For a detailed calendar of events, write or call: The Jesse Stuart Foundation, P O Box 391, Ashland, Kentucky 41114 (606) 329-5232 or 5233.

Teacher Training Institute

The University of Kentucky will hold a Teacher Training Institute on literacy and locality June 30 - July 25. It is sponsored by the Appalachian Center through an NEH Grant. Contact Dr. Alice Brown, 641 S. Lime, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0333 (606) 257-1787.

Augusta Workshop Summer Session

The workshop is presented by the Augusta Heritage Workshop of David & Elkins College and will be held July 13 through August 18 on the campus of David & Elkins College. It will feature a variety of workshops. George Brosi will lead a week-long workshop in Appalachian literature, with Alan Jabbour heading "Storytelling and Collecting." Also centered on the storytelling experience will be a class in "Storytelling and Performance" led by Tom Bledsoe, Anndrena Belcher, and Rich Kirby. Marion Harless will conduct a workshop in traditional herb uses and "Woodlore and Herbs" will be led by Doug Elliott. There will also be a workshop in identifying useful wild plants, and edible mushrooms. There will be a highly personalized exploration of West Virginia traditional culture by Jim Costa. In addition there will be a concentrated class in "Audio Production of Oral History" taught by David Mould. Housing and meals will be available. For further information contact the Augusta Heritage Center, Davis & Elkins College, Elkins, WV 26241.

Ninth Annual
Appalachian Writers Workshop and Colony

The workshop will be held August 3 - 9 at the Hindman Settlement School in Hindman Kentucky. This workshop is dedicated to promoting writers and writings of the Appalachian region. Seminars, individual conferences, and readings will be a part along with the major benefit of sharing between the participants and staff. Seminars will be held on novel, short story, poetry, non-fiction, dramatic writings, and Appalachian literature. The majority of the staff are from the Appalachian region, have roots in the region, or have writings, that deal with this region. A writers colony will be held the week preceding the writers workshop (July 28 - August 1). A quiet place to write, room and board. For additional information contact Mike Mullins, Executive Director, Hindman Settlement School, P O Box 844, Hindman, KY 41822 (606) 785-5475.

New Video Tapes
Available from APSO

"Clincho: Story of a Mining Town," a video tape of Susie Baker's slide show on Clincho, a southwestern Virginia coal mining town. Traces the history of the town and the mining industry's rise and fall. Gives a good overview of life and conditions in Central Appalachia. (30 min.)

"Helping Strangers" is a 15 minute video done by groups hosting workcamps. It tells of attitudes and services most helpful in volunteers coming into the region.

"Appalachia: No Man's Land" is a 30 minute Maryknoll presentation which talks of land ownership and land use in Appalachia as the basic issue for such problems as employment, stripmining, economic justice, taxation, and the right to determine one's own way of life. To borrow any of these videos or any APSO films, write or call the APSO office.

New Data Bank Reports

The Appalachian Data Bank is currently gathering material for three new reports, to be released this winter and spring, on the topics of aging, health care, and poverty in Appalachia. These new reports will follow two from last year, Dropout and Functional Illiteracy Rates in Central Appalachia and Education and Financial Resources in Appalachian Kentucky. Inquiries regarding any of these reports should be addressed to Cecil Tickamyer, Coordinator, Appalachian Data Bank, Appalachian Center, 641 S. Limestone, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0333 (606) 257-8264.

In the News

Dr. Charlotte Ross; Appalachian Affairs ETSU, presented a paper entitled "Appalachian Women's Tales: Two Perspectives" at the Appalachian Studies Conference in Boone, NC. Ross also participated in a panel discussion, "Old Furniture New Rooms: The Poetics of Space in Appalachian Literature." She also addressed the Hamblen County Historical Society on "Play and Games in Early Appalachia." The program was sponsored by the Tennessee Committee for the Humanities. In addition Ross served as a consultant and dialect coach for a one-woman play based on the lives of six generations of a Georgia mountain family.

Cratis D. Williams Scholarship

The Center for Appalachian Studies awarded the first Cratis D. Williams Appalachian Studies Scholarship. Ms. Wilma Gay Hodges a native of Watauga County, 1981 graduate of Watauga High School, and 1985 Graduate of Appalachian State University's Industrial Arts Department, received the Appalachian Scholarship award for 1986 at a ceremony on May 1, 1986. Joyce V. Lawrence (Grad. School) welcomed those present; Carl A. Ross (Appa. Studies) made introductions and presented the award to Ms. Hodges; Rogers V. Whitener (Eng.) presented the address entitled "Cratis Williams Scholarship." A reception was held immediately following the award ceremony.

Fellowship Deadlines

The University of Kentucky's Appalachian Center College Program is happy to announce a five-year grant received last fall from the Mabel Myrin Trust to provide development opportunities for professors of mathematics and science.

Under the grant, mathematics and science faculty at 27 private four-year colleges in the Appalachian region of Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia will be selected for fellowships to study and do research on the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington.

The PEW grant will also fund an annual award to an outstanding college teacher in science or mathematics.

The Mabel Pew Myrin Trust is one of seven PEW family trusts administered by the Glenmede Trust Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Faculty of colleges participating in the Appalachian College Program will be considered for fellowships in 1987 if they apply before January 7, 1987. Address all inquiries to Dr. Alice Brown, Director, Appalachian College Program, 641 S. Lime, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0333 (606) 257-8269.

In the News

Dr. Margaret Ripley Wolfe; History ETSU, was the keynote speaker for Women's History Week at Western Kentucky University. She spoke on "Reflections of an Appalachian Historian." Wolfe also presented an address, "Feminizing Dixie," at Eastern Kentucky University.

APPALACHIAN AGENDA

June Calendar

- June Kingsport Fine Arts Center Gallery--Throughout the month of June the Bays Mountain Embroiders' Guild of America will be on display.
- June 1 - July 3 MFA Exhibits--These exhibits will be at the Slocumb Gallery in Johnson City, TN.
- June 1 - August 15 Arrowmont School of Arts and Craft--Gatlinburg, TN will feature "Arrowmont Summer Faculty and Staff Exhibiton" in the main gallery. It will display work of 59 visiting faculty and work of the schools' permanent staff.
- June 2 - July 12 Jonesborough-Washington County History Museum--"Then and Now" photographs of Jonesborough in the 1920's and modern pictures of the same scenes will give a whole new way of looking at the past and the present.
- June 9 - 27 Appalachian Literature: A course in Appalachian Literature, Resource Materials, and Music--Taught by Wilman Dykeman, Gerald F. Roberts, and Jean Ritchie. Contact Appalachian Center, Box 2336, Berea College, Berea, KY 40404.
- June 17 - July 31 Oak Ridge: 20th Century Pioneers--A rare collection of photographs, memorabilia, and furniture that depicts early days of Oak Ridge from 1943 to present. It will take place at the Children's Museum in Oak Ridge, TN.
- June 19 - August 1 Pencil Drawing Exhibit--Drawings by Willard Gayheart of Galax, Virginia will be on display at the Appalachian Center Mini Gallery in Lexington, KY.
- June 22 - 28 June Dance Week--The John C. Campbell Folk School will sponsor this event featuring English American & Vintage dance as well as Callers, Bruce Hamilton, Richard Powers, Andy Barrand, and Susan Murphy. (704) 837-2775.
- June 23 - 27 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--Gatlinburg, TN will hold workshops featuring: Francoise Grossen (individual/artistic development), Rachel Nash Law (split basketmaking), Baldwin Lee (basic photography), Rude Osoinik (creative woodturning), Jude Scholtzhauer (glassfusing, slumping, and enameling), Mayer Shacter (exploring inner space in a porcelain vessel), David Tisdale (anodizing aluminum for jewelry), and J. Fred Woell (35mm slide presentation). For more information and a brochure write: Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, P. O. Box 567, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, or call (615) 436-5860.
- June 23 - July 4 Appalachian Regional School for Church Leaders (ARSCL)--Meaningful courses, great fellowship, relaxing time away--a change for a new perspective. To register contact West Virginia University: WVU Conference Office, Room 68-Towers, Morgantown, WV 26506.

July Calendar

- July "The Wataugans"--Throughout the month of July an outdoor drama depicting the early settlement of Upper East Tennessee will be presented at the Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Write: 1651 West Elk Ave., Elizabethton, TN 37643, (615) 543-5805.
- July Regional Quilts--Throughout the month of July regional quilts will be on display at the Carroll Reece Museum in Johnson City, TN.
- July 1 Time in the Mountains: Photographs by Earl Palmer--This Christiansburg photographer has been recording mountain people and their culture for more than fifty years. This current exhibit is representative of the more than 200 photographs recently donated to Virginia Tech. The Reynolds Homestead Continuing Education Center in Critz, VA will house this exhibit. Call (703) 694-7181.
- July 4 - 5 Fifteenth Annual Fiddlers' Jamboree and Crafts Festival--On the square in downtown Smithville, TN. There will be a continuous jam session, competition in 21 categories, over 200 exhibitors, and cash prizes and awards. Call (615) 597-4163.
- July 5 Roan Mountain State Parks' Fireworks Jamboree--Featuring The Dixie Dew Drops, The Cloudland Elementary Cloggers, and old time pig picking. The climax will be fireworks at dark. It all begins at 7PM at Roan Mountain State Park.
- July 6 - July 19 Summer Crafts--The John C. Campbell Folk School is the host of this event featuring basketry, blacksmithing, woodcarving, woodworking, pottery, weaving, and paper making. For further information contact the school at (704) 837-2775.
- July 7 - August 8 International Mail Art Exhibit: Celebration Mother Earth II--This will be presented at the Slocumb Gallery in Johnson City, TN.
- July 10 - August 3 Mountain Sweet Talk--Presented by the Folklores at the Folk Art Center Theater on Blue Ridge Parkway in Asheville, NC. (714) 358-1113.
- July 14 - 18 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--Gatlinburg, TN will sponsor workshops featuring: Bruce Bobick (watercolor painting), Leo Doyle (woodturning and design). William Hunt (becoming more professional with clay), Terrie Mangat (quilts-breaking out with mixed techniques), Robert Olkham (hand letterpress printing and the making of books), Beverly Plummer (paper as surface/paper as image), and Sister Remy Revor(textile design-silkscreen). For more information write the school at P. O. Box 567, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, or call (615) 436-5860.
- July 14 - August 31 "Civil War in Upper East Tennessee"--The Jonesborough-Washington County History Museum brings this temporary exhibit to show how the war was fought and who fought it in this area.

- July 17 - 20 39th Annual Guild Fair--The Guild Fair celebrates the heritage of the Appalachian mountain region through craft demonstrations, crafts sales, special exhibits, and programs of folk contemporary entertainment. For further information write P. O. Box 9545, Asheville, NC 28815 (704) 298-7928.
- July 18 The U.S. Air Force Band--Featuring the big band sound of the Glen Miller era will be at Roan Mountain State Park begining at 7PM.
- July 19 All Day Miller Homestead Celebration--Featuring the traditional music of In the Wood, old time games, tales, and much more at the Dave Miller Homestead on Strawberry Mountain.
- July 19 Smithfield Plantation Days--Historic Smithfield Plantation, adjacent to the Virginia Tech campus will celebrate its colonial heritage in two days of music, theater, craft demonstrations, and sales. (703) 694-7181.
- July 21 - August 1 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--in Gatlinburg, TN will hold workshops featuring: James Bassler (weaving), Ed Deren (copper electroforming/plating for enamel), Richard Helzer(3-dimensional techniques for the artist/jeweler), Ken Holder(watercolor), Tom Lundenberg(color, design, and embroidery), Jeff Oestreich (functional stoneware), and Jason Pollen (textile design-paper to fabric). For more information write to the school at P. O. Box 567, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, or call (615) 436-5860.
- July 20 - 26 Multi-Media--The John C. Campbell Folk School will sponsor this event. It will feature Jill Gulash (basketry), Neil Garrison (lost wax casting), Jeanne Garrison (enameling), David Bout (woodworking), Fred Caylor (blacksmithing), Lee Davis (pottery), and Linda Huneycutt-Legrande (glass fusion). For more information call (704) 837-2775.
- July 25 Old Time Bluegrass Concert--Featuring Buddy Pendleton and The Highlanders. An evening of the best in bluegrass music, with a special appearance of Mickey Benton on piano. It begins at 7:30 PM and is sponsored by the Reynolds Homestead Continuing Education Center. Call (703) 694-7181.
- July 25 - August 4 Kingsport Funfest Art Show--A week-long festival featuring the art show will be held at the Kingsport Fine Arts Center in Kingsport, TN.
- July 26 Folklife Festival--This festival will feature craft exhibits and demonstrations, music, dance, and storytelling. This festival will take place at Warriors' Path State Park in Kingsport, TN.

August Calendar

- August Kingsport Fine Arts Center Gallery--Throughout the month of August this gallery will feature the work of Marylou Hightower from South Carolina and Kathy Hawk of Kingsport.

August Oldtime Country Radio Reunion--This will include exhibits, performances, and recreation of the live radio show. It will take place throughout the month of August at the Jonesborough Visitors Center in Jonesborough, TN.

August 3 - 16 Mountain Traditions--The John C. Campbell Folk School will sponsor this event. It will include pattern weaving, enameling, woodcarving, pottery, stonecarving, dulcimer building, spinning, and dulcimer playing. For more information call (704) 837-2775.

August 4 Pieces of Virginia--Quilters from Virginia's quilting guilds were challenged to create variations on three traditional patterns--"Log Cabin", "Drunkard's Path", and "Feathered Star." This show includes over 30 squares and a full-sized sample quilt. The show is on loan from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. It is sponsored by the Reynolds Homestead Continuing Education Center. Call (703) 694-7181.

August 4 - 8 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--in Gatlinburg, TN will hold workshops featuring: David Ellsworth (woodturning-hollow vessels), Harold B. Helwig (enameling), Thomas Hoadley (colored porcelain), David LaPlantz (cold connections for jewelry), Sharon Lumsden (woven wearables), and Connie and Tom McCollery (split oak basketry). For more information write the school at P. O. Box 567, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, or call (615) 436-5860.

August 8 Mountain Music Concert--featuring Homer Ledford, playing Appalachian folk instruments. It begins at 8 PM and is sponsored by the John C. Campbell Folk School. Call (704) 837-2775.

August 9 Roan Mountain State Parks' Clogging Exhibition--It will feature The Kingsport Country Cloggers and The Red Oak Cloggers. It will take place at the park beginning at 7 PM.

August 9 Annual Auction--handmade crafts of exceptional quality. The John C. Campbell Folk School call (704) 837-2775.

August 10 - September 25 55th Birthday Celebration of Carroll Reece Museum--The celebration will of course be held at the Carroll Reece Museum in Johnson City, TN.

August 11 - 15 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--in Gatlinburg, TN will hold workshops featuring: Charles Brill (introduction to photodocumentation and environmental portaiture), Glen Gardner (weathervanes-design and construction), Shereen LaPlantz (plaited basketry), Sharon Lumsden (woven wearables), Giny Marsh (form and technique-handbuilding), Tom Marsh (form and technique-wheel throwing), and Hap Sakwa (practical woodturning). For more information write the school at P. O. Box 567, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, or call (615) 436-5860.

August 15 - 17 David Crockett Days--The 200th birthday celebration of David Crockett at the David Crockett State Park in Lawrenceburg, TN

August 15 - 17 15th Annual Folk Festival of the Smokies--There will be workshops in building folk instruments, folk dances, and evening concerts. It will take place at the Folk Life Center of the Smokies in Cosby, TN.

August 17 - 23 Native American Week--It will feature Eva Bigwitch (basketry), Bill Crowe (woodcarving), Myrtle Youngblood (finger weaving), Jim and Peggy Duke (medicinal plants), and a session will also be held on pottery. It is sponsored by the John C. Campbell Folk School. Call (704) 837-2775.

August 19 - October 18 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--in Gatlinburg, TN will feature "Dublin Print and Drawing Exhibition". The exhibition will consist of 50 two-dimensional pieces from the Dublin Gallery of Arts permanent collection. The exhibition will be on display in the main gallery of the school. (615) 436-5860.

August 19 - November 1 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts--"Gloves" by fiber artist Glen Kaufman will be on display in the Atrium Gallery of the school. This will include 25 gloves and 5 drawings by Kaufman. Call (615) 436-5860.

August 30 - September 1 David Crockett Arts & Crafts Show--Over 100 exhibitors will be at the David Crockett State Park in Lawrenceburg, TN.

August 31 Traditional & Folk Music Concert--Vocal and instrumental music by Lotus Dickey, folk song composer/collector, and Pete Sutherland and Karen Billings. Contact The John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC 28902 or call (704) 837-2775.

September Calendar

September 6 - October 19 Making Do: Black Folk Arts in Tennessee--Hunter Museum of Art in Chattanooga, TN. It is an exhibit reflecting the customs of the Tennessee black community.

September 13 All day 6th Annual Roan Mountain State Parks Fall Folklife Festival--At Roan Mountain State Park (615) 772-3303.

September 7 - 20 Fall Crafts--It will feature sandcasting, enameling, weaving, wood jewelry, pottery: speed throwing and glazing techniques, woodcarving, and others. Contact John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC (704) 837-2775.

October Calendar

October 2 - November 23 Tennessee Celebrates--Carroll Reece Museum in Johnson City, TN will host a collection of Tennessee history, celebrations, and other events.

October 3 John C. Campbell Folk School--Presents Jean Ritchie in Concert, 8 PM. It will be a collection of Appalachian music, vocal, and instrumental. (704) 837-2775.

October 4 - 5 Fall Festival--A whole weekend of craft demonstrations, craft sales, Barbeque dinners, music and dance, and beautiful mountain scenery. For further information contact John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC 28902 (704) 837-2775.

October 5 Black Folklife Festival--Twenty black artisans, music, and performance by Fisk Jubilee Singers. Exhibit from the Fisk Collection. Fisk University Library, 17th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37203-4501 (615) 329-8730.