

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

More Observations on the Organization

by Alice Brown

My first reaction to the call for another message was, "I told you everything in the first one." Never at a loss for words, however, I do have an update on the activities of the Steering Committee and one observation related to our survey.

First, the Steering Committee met in early June and efforts are underway to rename the Appalachian Studies Conference and incorporate the Appalachian Studies Association so that we can pursue the tax-exempt status that will allow us to apply for grants and solicit gifts.

Second, Ron Lewis is working to convince West Virginia University to provide an administrative home for the Association. He is, I hope, about to convince the people there that housing the ASA could be a privilege--a privilege that would reflect the University's strong commitment to serving the region.

Third, the 1994 meeting at VPI is taking shape under the very capable direction of Betty Fine and her Program Committee. The call for papers is being distributed and the committee is exploring some new elements (such as a celebrity auction) and negotiating carefully to keep attendance up and costs down.

Finally, I'll add one thought related to the Association and its membership: A quick look at the figures from our survey of members reported in the last newsletter reveals that we need to promote the Association to new audiences if we wish to sustain the momentum of the past. Approximately 70 per cent of those who attended our last meeting were 40 years of age. Our youth conference is working on cultivating an interest in the next generations of college researchers and community leaders, but in the meantime, many of the current college students and young faculty and other community leaders are ignoring us and being ignored by us. We stand a good chance of facing a number of years when little study or attention is focused on the region.

Several people have commented to me that they worry about the emphasis Berea College will be able to sustain on Appalachia once John Stephenson and Loyal Jones have retired--along with Richard Drake. If we cannot be sure about the commitment to the region of Berea College, on whom can we depend? Fortunately, we still have people like Grace Edwards and Ken Sullivan and Jean Speer and Steve Fisher; we have those who create at Appalshop, and those who report at Now and Then; but there is still a gap between most of those in the Association and those participating in the Youth Conference--a gap that needs attention before we awaken in another decade and, like the Presbyterian Church, discover we have lost one-third of those who care about the region.

When you think about the next conference, think about bringing a college student, a young colleague, local leader, or simply a good friend with you. We need more good members.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Appalachian Studies Association

The nominating committee of the Appalachian Studies Association calls for nominations for the following officers and committee members:

- (1) Vice President ('95) / President-Elect ('96)
- (2) Treasurer (3 year term)
- (3) Conference Program Vice Chair ('95) / Chair-Elect ('96)
- (4) Youth Conference Vice Chair ('95) / Chair-Elect ('96)
- (4) Three Steering Committee members (2 year term)
- (5) Four Program Committee members (1 year term)

The Nominating Committee Chair is Ron Lewis (West Virginia University). To make a nomination, send the nominee's name, address and phone number, statement indicating the nominee's willingness to serve, and a short biographical sketch of the nominee by **November 15** to Ron Lewis, ASA Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Department of History, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506.

Nominees should be current members of the Association. For information on the duties of the officers, committees, and terms of office, refer to the Association by-laws (published in the Fall 1992 issue of *Appalink*).

Images of the South

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Papers & Presentations for 1994 ASA Conference March 11-13, 1994 at Virginia Tech

A call is extended for individual papers, roundtable or group discussions, panels, performances, poster or full sessions, which explore some aspect of Appalachia and the Politics of Culture. Cultural politics, or the politics of culture, refers to the social and political forces that influence what elements of a culture are featured or suppressed, promoted or ignored, sanctioned or censored. Historical and contemporary perspectives in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences on the theme are encouraged. Papers related to the theme will be given preference, but other papers will be considered. Proposals must include (1) name, institutional affiliation (where appropriate), address, telephone number; (2) a one-page (250 word) typed abstract of the paper or description of presentation (including title for either); (3) a one-paragraph biographical profile of the presenter(s) for introduction; (4) a description of all audiovisual equipment required or special facility needs. Abstracts for consideration by the Program Committee should be submitted no later than September 30, 1993, to the program chair: Elizabeth Fine, Department of Communication Studies, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0311, FAX: 703-231-7417.

Guidelines

Because of the growing numbers of proposals, individuals may be restricted to one presentation. **Individual presentations must not exceed fifteen minutes.** Appalachian Studies Association policy requires that abstracts of all presentations at the Conference be available for possible Journal publication. **Papers for publication consideration must be presented in ten or fewer typewritten (double-spaced) pages including notes and bibliography. All documentation must be as defined in The Chicago Manual of Style.** The Journal of the Appalachian Studies Association will accept manuscripts on 3.5" or 5.25" disks in most Macintosh and MS-DOS formats.

A limited number of scholarships are available for community and youth participants. For information or applications, contact: Ken Sullivan, Goldenseal Magazine, Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawah Blvd., Charleston, WV 25305, Phone: 304-558-0220.

Student Paper Competition

The Carl A. Ross Appalachian Studies Association Student Paper Competition is open to students in two categories: middle and high school; undergraduate and graduate. Student papers must adhere to the same guidelines and subject matter as defined above, and will be considered for Journal publication. The deadline for submission of completed papers is January 15, 1994. Mail to Elizabeth Fine at the above address.

The author of the winning paper will receive a \$100 cash award and the opportunity to present the paper as part of a Conference session. Costs of attending the Conference are the winner's responsibility.

-- For more information call 703-231-5327 --

The Seventh Annual Appalachian Youth Conference Appalachia and the Politics of Culture An Invitation to Present

For the past six years, teachers and students have had the opportunity to participate in a valuable learning experience at the Appalachian Youth Conference. Past participants have met and exchanged ideas with others from the region and showcased their own projects. An invitation is extended for student projects, performances, panels, and teacher presentations which explore some aspect of Appalachia and the Politics of Culture. Sessions are encouraged to examine issues relating to Appalachian culture, religion, politics, education, economy, health, arts, and environment. Proposals should be submitted in the form of a one-page typewritten abstract. Include name, institutional affiliation, address, telephone number, and title and type of presentation. Please describe fully any audiovisual equipment needs. Abstracts should be submitted no later than September 30, 1993, to the Youth Conference Chair: Jim Minick, Radford University, Box 6935, Radford, Virginia 24142.

A limited number of scholarships are available for community and youth participants. For information or applications, contact Ken Sullivan, Goldenseal Magazine, Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawah Blvd., Kanawah Blvd., Charleston, West Virginia 25305.

The Youth Conference will be held in conjunction with the
Appalachian Studies Conference
at Virginia Tech.

-- For more information call 703-831-6153 or 5614 --

Conference on Appalachian Issues

Grassroots organizers and others interested in positive social change are invited to attend the Appalachian Community Fund's first regional conference **Sept. 10-12 in Abingdon, VA**. Entitled "The Moment for Change, the Changing Moment: An Action Agenda for Appalachia in the '90,'s" the conference will bring together activists concerned over a number of issues in central Appalachia.

Participants will examine and develop action strategies on such issues as economic and racial justice, labor, housing and homelessness, education, the environment, and health care. The weekend will include a celebration of Appalachian culture.

ACF is a community-based funder of grassroots organizations working for social change in West Virginia and the Appalachian regions of Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee. For more info on the conference, contact:

Appalachian Community Fund
517 Union Avenue Suite 206
Knoxville, TN 38902
615 / 523-5783.

Appalachian Teachers' Network Third Annual Conference in Southwest Virginia

Attend this year's Appalachian Teachers' Network Conference on **Sept. 18, 1993, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Radford University** and learn how to incorporate Appalachian Studies into your classroom.

The conference involves teachers from all levels in sessions on Storytelling/Dramatization of a Folktale with Lime Kiln Theater, Appalachian Literature with George Brosi, plus Local History, Music, Coal Camps, Flea Markets, and more.

Pre-registration is required. For more details, contact

Jim Minick
Box 6935
English Department
Radford University
Radford, VA 24142
703 / 831-6153.

1993 Folk Arts Festival

The Appalachian Events Committee of **Radford University** is sponsoring the Folk Arts Festival on campus on **Saturday, November 4, 1993**. The day-long festival features talented artists who demonstrate traditional Appalachian crafts such as basket-weaving, instrument-making, quilting, and candlewicking. The festival is also the place to hear good old time and bluegrass music, listen to and even take part in entertaining stories, and to see cloggers and Highland Dancers kick up their heels.

Symposium Honoring Loyal Jones

Plan to attend the Appalachian Symposium sponsored by Hutchins Library, Berea College, Berea, KY 40404 on **November 12-13, 1993 (Friday-Saturday)** in honor of Loyal Jones as he retires from the Directorship of the Appalachian Center of Berea College.

Appalachian Heritage Announces Prize Awards

Along with celebrating twenty years of publishing some of the best regional writers, *Appalachian Heritage* is happy to announce the establishment of the Denny C. Plattner *Appalachian Heritage* Awards to honor excellence in writing. Kenneth and Elissa May Plattner have donated funds for these awards to be given each year in memory of their son, who had a deep appreciation of writers and writing. The three awards will be given each year for the best short story, article, or essay, and collection of poetry published in *Appalachian Heritage* during the preceding year. The award in each category will be two hundred dollars.

The Assembly on the Literature and Culture of Appalachia (ALCA), an affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English, invites new members to join by sending a \$10 check, payable to ALCA, and the completed form below to Ricky L. Cox, Box 6935, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142.

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ INSTITUTION/SYSTEM _____

Date _____ New Member _____ Renewal _____

Festival Honors George Ella Lyon

Emory and Henry College announces the George Ella Lyon Literary Festival to be held on March 10-11, 1994. Speakers will include Roberta Herrin, Ann Kilkelly, and Jim Wayne Miller; a public interview conducted by Jeff Daniel Marion; and a reading by George Ella on Thursday evening, March 10.

All the events will conclude by 5:00 p.m. so those in attendance can drive on up I-81 to Blacksburg for the ASA meeting. The festival will also include a performance of George Ella's play Braids on Wednesday evening, March 9.

Attention Writers and Artists

Now and Then invites submissions of articles, interviews, memoirs, poetry, short stories, photographs, line drawings and book reviews for its upcoming issue on Politics in Appalachia. Deadline for submissions: Nov. 1, 1993. Address submissions to Pat Arnow, Editor, *Now and Then*, East Tennessee State University, Box 70556, Johnson City, TN 37614.

Exhibit Links Quilts and Writers

You are cordially invited to visit the exhibit "Quilts and Their Voices," in the Appalachian Center at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, TN. The exhibit opens September 20 and can be viewed M-F, 9-12, 1-4 p.m. For additional information, call Jeff Daniel Marion, 615 /471-3596.

An Evening with Wilma Dykeman

Carson-Newman College's Center for Educational Service to Appalachia invites you to attend "An Evening with Wilma Dykeman" in Gentry Auditorium, Henderson Humanities on November 16 at 7:00 p.m. For ticket information call 615-471-4000.

The reading will be followed by an 8:00 p.m. reception and book-signing in the Main Hall of the Student Center and at 9:00 p.m. an open house at the Appalachian Center.

Ohio Appalachian Conference

The Ohio State University Extension is sponsoring the second Ohio Appalachian Conference to be held November 14-16, 1993 at Canter's Cave 4-H Camp near Jackson, Ohio. "Reclaiming Appalachia...Through Understanding, Education and Work" will include presentations by Dr. Ron Eller and Dr. Jim Wayne Miller. Other presenters will focus on topics and issues directly relating to Ohion Appalachia. Registration information can be obtained from Deanna L. Tribe, District Specialist, Home Economics, Ohio State University Extension, South District, 17 Standpipe Road, P.O. Box 958, Jackson, Ohio 45640.

Thanks to those of you who know that I need news to make a newsletter. The next issue of *Appalink* will appear early in February. If you know of events you would like to announce, please send your news, announcements, notices, pronouncements, and/or ads by December 15, 1993--at the very latest by Jan. 1, 1994.

Address information for *Appalink* to:

Sandy Ballard, *Appalink* Editor
Department of English
Carson-Newman College
Jefferson City, TN 37760
(615) 471-3282.

**Nomination for
The Cratis D. Williams Service Award
of the
Appalachian Studies Association
1994**

This award will be given to an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia and/or the Appalachian Studies Association. In most cases, the recipient is likely to be a member of the Association; however, in the event of a significant contribution by an individual outside the Association, the Steering Committee reserves the right to present the award to that individual.

The award winner will be selected by the Service Award Committee (appointed by the President) from nominations submitted by the membership with the presentation to be made at the annual conference. The committee reserves the right not to present the award if no suitable nomination is made.

The nomination should be submitted no later than December 1, 1993.

Nominee's Name _____

Address _____

Affiliation _____

ASA member? Yes No If yes, specify length and type of involvement in the Association:

Please complete a narrative which includes the nominee's field of endeavor; specific examples of his/her contribution(s); the number of individuals affected by the contribution and/or the geographic area served; and any other relevant information. In addition, please submit at least two supporting letters from other individuals acquainted with the nominee's work.

Nominated by _____

Address _____

Phone Home: () _____ Work: () _____

Affiliation _____

Please send this form, the narrative, and supporting letters to the ASA President at her new address:

**Alice Brown
Appalachian College Association
P.O. Box 335
Berea, KY 40403**

Sandy Ballard
Department of English
Carson-Newman College
Jefferson City, TN 37760