

Spring 5-1-2003

Appalink

Appalachian Studies Association

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APPALINK

The Newsletter for the

APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Spring, 2003

Volume 26, Number 2

President's Message

Protest of CBS Reality Series: "Real Beverly Hillbillies"

February 4, 2003

Mr. Leslie Moonves
CBS Television City
7800 W. Beverly Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Dear Mr. Moonves:

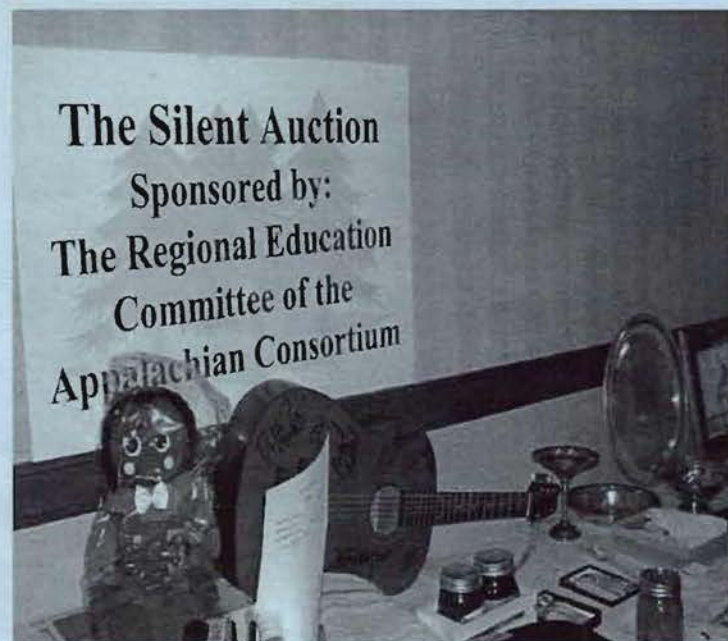
I am writing on behalf of the ASA to protest your network's decision to air a new reality series entitled the "Real Beverly Hillbillies." The ASA is an organization of 100 institutions and 600 scholars, students, and activists that seeks to understand the social, economic, cultural, and historical developments in the upland region of the southern and eastern states of the United States. We have found that one of the major barriers to improvement in the lives of the millions of people in the region is the pernicious effect of the hillbilly stereotype.

We ask that CBS and its advertisers reconsider the decision to air the "Real Beverly Hillbillies." The premise of the show is fatally flawed. Rather than offering an opportunity to view the superficiality of "Hollywood" that was the staple of the original series, CBS and the new program's producers have set out to exploit the so-called social inadequacies of a rural family. While this family selected for the program will receive substantial financial rewards, many other rural and mountain families will be humiliated. This will be especially true for our young people who already have a difficult time establishing a positive identity for themselves.

We will be meeting at our annual conference in March at Eastern Kentucky University. We would welcome the chance to start a dialogue with CBS about the show at that time. I would be willing to set up an open meeting during the conference that would facilitate that discussion. Please contact me at your convenience if you or any member of your staff would be interested in joining this conversation.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and professional courtesy.

Sincerely,
Gordon B. McKinney



2002 Silent Auction

Nominees ASA Offices 2003

ASA Vice President/President Elect 2003-2004

Melinda Bollar Wagner received her PhD in anthropology from the University of Michigan and her bachelor's in sociology from Purdue University. She is a professor of anthropology and associate chair of the Appalachian Studies Program at Radford University. She and her students have participated in ASA Conferences since 1978. Since the mid 1990s they have undertaken ethnographic study of cultural attachment to land in five counties. She received grants from the Radford University Foundation to support student/faculty collaborations in field research, analysis, and writing. Her work on religion in America includes ethnographies based on participant observation, and has been supported by the NSF and the Lilly Endowment/Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals.

ASA Historian 2003-2008

Howard Dorgan - For 32 years, Howard Dorgan has studied Appalachian religious traditions and theologies, having published four books in this subject area. He is the editor for the Religion Section of the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. Prior to beginning his publishing career in Appalachian religious studies, Dorgan (in collaboration with Cal Logue of the University of GA) published two books on Southern rhetoric and public address. In 1998, Dorgan was president of ASA, and in 2000 he received the Cratis Williams/James Brown ASA Service Award. Since 1998, he has directed the ASA Silent Auction program.

At-Large Steering Committee 2003-2005

1. **Tyler Blethen**, Creighton Sossomon Professor of History and director of the Mountain Heritage Center at Western Carolina University, is co-editor of *Ulster to North America* (University of Alabama Press, reprint 2001) and co-editing with Richard Straw a collection of essays on Appalachian history and culture for the University of Illinois Press. He served as program chair of the Fifteenth Annual ASA Conference in Asheville, NC, 1992.

2. **Marie Cirillo**, found her way to Appalachia in the 1950's when people were moving out. Her work started from a commitment to rural community life. With Clairfield as the host community, her work

moved into 12 contiguous hollow and former mining camp communities in the Clearfork Valley. With no agenda other than to work with the people while searching for answers to the rural dilemma, Marie worked on agendas of local choice. Marie considers her most significant contribution to the empowerment of the Clearfork Valley to be the Community Land Trust. She hopes closer ties among college/community partnerships will allow for a better understanding of how it takes land and people to shape and sustain a rural community.

3. **Kathryn Newfont**, assistant professor of history and faculty coordinator for the Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies at Mars Hill College, joined the Mars Hill faculty last year after completing her doctoral studies at UNC-Chapel Hill, where she worked with the Southern Oral History Program. Her interests include environmental history and women's history as well as Appalachian and oral history. Her doctoral work focused on forest politics and common culture in western North Carolina, and she is currently researching the economic and cultural significance of the American Chestnut in the Appalachians.

Program Committee 2004 Cherokee, NC

1. **Program Committee Co-chair - Carol Boggess**, associate professor of English at Mars Hill College, specializes in Southern and Appalachian literature. She is past director of the Regional Studies Program at the college and served on the program committee for the 2002 ASA conference. With support from Mars Hill and the Appalachian College Association, she is researching and writing the biography of James Still.

2. **Tom Hatley**, Western Carolina University.

3. **Fred Hay** (W.L. Eury Appalachian Collection/Center for Appalachian Studies, Appalachian State University) author "Goin' Back to Sweet Memphis": *Conversations with the Blues* (Georgia, 2001) is currently editing a special issue of *Black Music Research Journal* devoted to the African American music of the Appalachian region.

4. **Sandra Hayslette** (Warren Wilson College) was born and raised in Collierstown, VA. She earned her PhD in history from UNC-Chapel Hill, and her research there focused upon Berea College's early 20th century mission and how students there understood that mission. She currently teaches Appalachian studies and geography at Warren Wilson College, near Swannanoa, NC, and enjoys her 1-year-old daughter.

5. **Dan Pierce**, assistant professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

ASA Ballot 2003

Vice President /President Elect (2003-04):

- ☐ Melinda Bollar Wagner
☐ Write in Candidate: _____

ASA Historian (2003-08)

- ☐ Howard Dorgan
☐ Write in Candidate: _____

At-Large Steering Committee (2003-05)

Vote for Three Candidates

- ☐ Tyler Blethen ☐ Marie Cirillo
☐ Kathryn Newfont
☐ Write in Candidate: _____

Program Committee (2004 Conference)

Vote for Five Candidates

- ☐ Carol Boggess ☐ Tom Hatley
☐ Fred Hay ☐ Sandra Hayslette
☐ Dan Pierce
☐ Write in Candidate: _____

Please mail or fax completed ballot to:

Mary Thomas, ASA, One John Marshall Drive,
 Huntington, WV 25755, Fax: 304-696-6221

Ballot must be received by 3-25-03

- | | | | | |
|---------|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| ByLaw 1 | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ByLaw 2 | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ByLaw 3 | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |

PROPOSED ASA BYLAW CHANGES

In 2001 at Snowshoe, WV, the ASA membership voted to approve the steering committee's recommendation to move the association's headquarters from West Virginia University to Marshall University. At the 2002 annual meeting, the members of ASA voted to change the ASA Bylaws to reflect the association's new headquarters at Marshall University. Three new changes to the bylaws were proposed at the Sept. 2002 steering committee meeting.

1. The duties of the vice president mention the formation of a nominating committee that is not described along with the other committees under Article XI. Accordingly, the steering committee proposed adding the following section: Article XI, section 6, Nominating Committee. *The vice president shall form and chair a committee to nominate individuals to all vacant elected and appointed offices of the ASA. The nominating committee shall solicit nominations from the ASA membership by issuing a call for nominations in the fall edition of the ASA newsletter, Appalink. The committee shall report its slate of nominees to the steering committee at its fall meeting and to the ASA membership through a ballot in the spring edition of Appalink. The committee shall be comprised of the vice president and up to four other members of ASA appointed by either the vice president or the president as needed.*

2. Under Article VII, section 1, the bylaws state that the ASA membership "shall be open to any individual with an interest in the Appalachian region and shall be available without regard to race, color, creed, sex, age, or national origin." The steering committee proposed to amend this passage by adding "sexual orientation" and "disability."

3. The steering committee created a new appointed office of ASA historian. While the ASA president and steering committee already have the authority to create such a position, adding the historian to the bylaws ensures perpetuation of the office. Accordingly, the steering committee proposed adding the historian to the list of appointed officers (Article IX, section 1, subsection b, number 5; and Article IX, section 3, subsection b, number 5). Under Article X, the historian will be added as section 12: *The ASA historian shall be a nonvoting member of the steering committee with a five-year term, nominated by the nominating committee and appointed by the president. The ASA historian shall maintain the ASA timeline; cooperate with the ASA archivist in gathering relevant materials; and communicate the history of the ASA to the membership via the annual meeting, website, journal, and newsletter.*

Members can discuss the changes by logging into the bulletin board at the ASA website (www.appalachianstudies.org) or emailing Linda Spatig (spatig@marshall.edu).

2003 SILENT AUCTION CALL FOR BID ITEMS

Greetings! It is that time of the year again, when I customarily send out an initial call for ASA Silent Auction bid item and explain the purpose of the event. If you have been with us since 1998, when all of this started, you probably know that in the last five years we have raised approximately \$14,000 that goes to individuals or groups who have been accepted to participate in an ASA conference but who could not attend without some assistance in meeting the cost of travel, registration, and/or lodging. You may also recall that by '98 it had become clear that our annual conference expenses would continue to rise, given our growth and the rapidly rising costs of space, food, printing, entertainment, and many other budget line items.

This disturbed us since we were trying to keep these expenses in line with financial situations faced by students, elementary and secondary teachers, community activists, and other members not blessed with stipends for professional travel. Each year the ASA president and program chairperson appoints a committee that administers the awarding of the scholarship funds that were generated by the previous year's auction. So the monies raised by the 2002 auction, plus any revenue remaining from a previous year, will be available for needy individuals or groups attending the 2003 conference. Applicants for this assistance must submit a "Scholarship Request Form," found at the end of the recently mailed "Preliminary Conference Program," which also contains registration information for the conference.

Our immediate need is to start collecting 2003 auction bid items. The Silent Auction Committee urges all members of the ASA and the Appalachian Consortium to involve themselves in this task. **Don't delay in meeting this obligation. We are essentially one month away from the March 28 through March 30 conference, and much work must be done between now and then.** This project is a worthy one and will help in maintaining the rich diversity that ASA conferences have enjoyed to this point. We have always said, for example, that we are particularly pleased with the involvements of local activist groups. Silent auction money significantly helps in this regard. The funds are also helpful in involving young people in conference activities. In addition, this year's program will include the contributions of quite a number of secondary teachers who may need some financial assistance. Finally, we must remember all of the minorities we try to attract.

Bid Items: In addition to the usual craft items, artistic creations, and collectibles of all sorts (wood carvings, white oak baskets, quilts, original paintings, mining artifacts, coal carvings, depression glass, mountain toys, blown glass, ceramics, pottery, photography, rock and gem collections, woven goods, divining rods, carved walking canes, crocheted items, and you name it); we also have received valuable collections of items important to research and traditional Appalachian classroom instruction (books, collected journals, video documentaries, recorded music, published Appalachian fiction, old movie or concert posters, map collections, and the like). Likewise, novelty items form an

important part of our bid item displays (political cartoons of regional personalities or mountain issues, Hatfield and McCoy romance novels, framed instructions on still construction, and a wide range of objects that always surprise me). Of late, services or privileges offered for bid have generated particularly strong attention (perhaps a lecture or performance that you agree to deliver for free, registrations for upcoming conferences, any consulting that you might offer for bid, and a multitude of possibilities in which you market yourself or the services of an organization you might control). In the past we have only asked that an item be valued at approximately \$10.00 or more. As I was composing this call for bid items, I answered the Dorgan home phone and found Patricia Kilby on the line. Her father is once again contributing a collection of hand carved walking canes for the auction. If in the past you have been out-bid for one of Charles Kilby's wonderful creations, you'll have another chance this year. Charles' canes usually bring in about \$50.00 each.

A special plea to Appalachian writers: In the past I have tried to put together a special mailing to all of you published Appalachian writers, but those lists have always been very incomplete, because of the problem of not knowing about some of you and then not having addresses. Autographed copies of your works are always greatly appreciated. **Obviously, this is one area in which our regional presses can also be of great assistance.**

A special note to regional craft persons and artisans: We need you to help us and we want to help you. If we are able to display one of your creations as a bid item, along with a brochure or any other informative material telling about you and your craft, we can help with your publicity.

How do you get your bid item(s) to the auction site? Two general ways: First, you can bring the object(s) directly to the conference, but it helps to have the bid items there early Friday morning or—better yet—even Thursday evening. Since the auction officially begins Friday at 1:00 PM, we try to have a crew in the exhibit area Thursday evening and again early Friday AM, accepting the items and filling out the requisite bid sheets. Second, you can send the item(s) to me or to one of the several "point persons" who have agreed to receive and transport auction donations:

Howard Dorgan, 747 Stadium Dr., Boone, NC 28607, Phone: 828-264-4361, E-mail: dorganch@appstate.edu

Janet Bertinuson or Jane DeMarchi, Mining Safety and Health Academy, 1301 Airport Road, Beckly, WV 25813, E-mail: Bertinuson-Janet@msha.gov

Ginny Daley, Southern Highland Craft Guild, P.O. Box 9545, Asheville, NC, Phone: 828-298-2514, Ext. 327, E-mail: shcgarchives@att.net

Donna Sue Groves, Ohio Arts Council, P.O. Box 30, West Union, OH 45693, Phone: 937-549-3156, E-mail: dsgroves@bright.net

Katie Hoffman Doman, 1770 Justice Road, Afto, TN 37616, E-mail: mdoman@washington.xtn.net

Carol Baugh, Dayton, OH, E-mail: dlb.csb@worldnet.att.net

Phyllis Honeycutt, E-mail: honeycuttph@ncfb.com

Roberta Herrin, E-mail: herrinr@etsu.edu

Pat Beaver, Center for Appalachian Studies, ASU, Boone, NC 28608, E-mail: beaverpd@appstate.edu

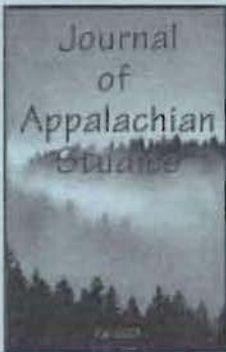
Thanks for all your help!

Howard Dorgan

2002 Weatherford Award Nominations

Mary K. Anglin, *Women, Power, and Dissent in the Hills of Carolina*
Robert Armstead as told to S.L. Gardner, *Black Days, Black Dust*
Margaret Bender, *Signs of Cherokee Culture*
Chris Bolgiano, *Living in the Appalachian Forest*
Jim Clark (Ed.), *Fable in the Blood*
Lenore McComas Coberly, *The Handywoman Stories*
Tina Collins, *The Soup Bean War*
Laura DeNooyer-Moore, *All That Is Hidden*
David C. Duke, *Writers and Miners*
Paula Hathaway Anderson-Green, *A Hot-Bed of Musicians*
Lila Hopkins, *Weave Me a Song*
Benita J. Howell, *Culture, Environment, and Conservation in the Appalachian South*
Bill C. Malone, *Don't Get Above Your Raisin'*
Jeff Daniel Marion, *Ebbing & Flowing Springs*
Felicia Mitchell, *Her Words*
Linda Hager Pack, *A is for Appalachia!*
Jess Stoddart, *Challenge and Change in Appalachia: The Story of Hindman Settlement School*
John Alexander Williams, *Appalachia*
Isabel Zuber, *Salt*

**Submit your paper for
consideration for the "Selected
Papers from the ASA
Conference" section
of the *Journal of
Appalachian Studies*
(Fall 2004 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 23, 2003.**

The Mountains Have Numbers

*they tell me in Logan.
When the sun rises
or sets behind those hills,
you don't think Blair Mountain
you think six or 26.*

*And that if you grew up in a mining camp,
you learned those numbers
like breathing,
along with the days of the week
and how to tell time.*

*They tell me that even now,
though most of the mines are boarded up,
directions are still given in numbers
not mountains:
"You go past Holden 22.*

*If you pass Hewitt Creek,
you've gone too far."*

Laura Treacy Bentley
Huntington, WV

NEH GRANT AND ASA ENDOWMENT



Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia

Marshall University, in collaboration with the Appalachian Studies Association (ASA), has been awarded a \$500,000 challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to advance the study of ethnicity and gender in Appalachia. Marshall University has committed to raising the \$1.5 million match in order to build a \$2 million endowment to support this program in perpetuity.

The NEH Challenge Grant award is an honor for Marshall University, one of only four universities to receive such an award this year. This grant builds upon the Rockefeller Foundation for the Humanities Scholar-in-Residence award, twice granted to Marshall's Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia.

The challenge from NEH is a priority in Marshall University's "Campaign for National Prominence." ASA has also agreed to assist Marshall University with fundraising. This challenge requires that the wider community recognize and support this effort to increase understanding of the complexity of Appalachia's people. Sustainable development in Appalachia is only possible if there is full awareness of every citizen's potential—women, ethnic minorities and religious minorities.

The grant will sustain multiple levels of work—from scholarly research and graduate level teaching, to support of young Appalachian Ph.D.s, to continuing education of public school teachers. The challenge is to raise \$1.5 million to match the NEH contribution of \$500,000. **The first \$150,000 must be raised by July 31, 2003.** Successfully reaching this challenge will endow four program components.

THANK YOU

*ASA Member - Ernestine Upchurch -
For making the First Contribution to Matching
Funds!*

*Please use the enclosed envelope and join
Ernestine in supporting the ASA through this
important project.*



Distinguished Chair \$1 Million Endowment - Need to raise \$750,000 to match NEH \$250,000

The endowed distinguished chair will be a new position located in the College of Liberal Arts at Marshall University and appointments will be made on a rotating basis. Appointments will be from one semester to one year in order to pursue original research on ethnicity and/or gender in Appalachia. A fully endowed chair will provide \$50,000 annually.

The presence of such a chair will support the College of Liberal Arts' mission to ensure multicultural awareness and growing recognition of our Appalachian heritage. The chair will attract well-known scholars to Marshall, presenting humanities work in Appalachian studies in innovative and critical ways.



Post-Doctoral Fellowships \$300,000 Endowment - Need to raise \$225,000 to match NEH \$75,000

These fellowships will provide opportunities for three individuals to pursue Appalachian ethnicity and gender scholarship at any **ASA-affiliated institution**. Summer fellows will be able to take advantage of the particular strengths of archives, collections and fieldwork throughout the region. Each fully endowed fellowship will provide \$5,000 annually.

Newer scholars will be able to take advantage of the expertise of senior scholars whose work overlaps their own areas of interest. For example, a scholar from a community college in Northern Appalachia could spend a summer at East Tennessee State University working in their Appalachian archives, and work as well with Dr. Marie Tedesco in her studies of women's historical roles in a community in Eastern Tennessee. Or a scholar from a small college in Appalachian Alabama might choose to study with Dr. Dwight Billings at the University of Kentucky, carrying out research on the negative stereotypes of Appalachian black women.



**Summer Conference on Diversity
in Appalachia
\$300,000 Endowment - Need
to raise \$225,000 to match
NEH \$75,000**

An annual summer conference on Diversity in Appalachia will help disseminate studies generated by the distinguished chair and the summer research fellows, as well as by other regional scholars, to K-12 humanities teachers. The conference, coordinated by the ASA office, will rotate among member institutions of the ASA interested in hosting the conference.

Participating teachers will receive a stipend toward expenses and receive credit toward professional requirements for diversity training. The target audiences will be teachers in such areas as social studies, history, language (both English and foreign), sociology, geography and other humanities-related fields. Each fully endowed scholarship will provide \$500.00 annually.



**ASA Regional Office
\$400,000 Endowment - Need to
raise \$300,000 to match NEH
\$100,000**

A fully funded endowment would support the regional ASA office, now located in the College of Education and Human Services at Marshall University. It would provide \$20,000 annually for the salary and benefits of a half-time coordinator of research and dissemination. Each fully endowed scholarship will provide \$500.00 annually.

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 2004 edition is 7/31/03.

- *Editor - Linda Spatig
- *Managing Editor - Mary Thomas
- *Production Editor - Roxane Dufrene
- *Graduate Assistant - Maura Conway

Marshall University NEH Challenge Grant - *Give a Boost to the Humanities!*

I (we) would like to make a gift of _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 Other \$ _____

I would like to pledge _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 Other \$ _____

to be paid _____ quarterly _____ semi-annually _____ annually over _____ (1-3 years); beginning _____ (date of 1st pymt).

Please send pledge reminders beginning _____.

A check for the _____ first installment _____ Full amount (made payable to: *The Marshall University*

Foundation, Inc.: NEH Challenge Grant is enclosed:

Or, charge my gift to _____ MasterCard _____ Visa

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Name (s) _____

Area code and phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please send to Office of Development, Marshall University, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755-6300

Note: If your company has a matching gift program, you can increase your support by obtaining a matching gift form from your personnel office and mailing the completed gift form with your contribution.

Employer _____ Business Phone _____

Spouse's Employer _____

Mark Your Calendars:

TWENTY-SEVENTH APPALACHIAN STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 26-28, 2004

***BUILDING A HEALTHY REGION:
FROM HISTORICAL TRAUMA TO
HOPE AND HEALING***

CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

**THOMAS PLAUT, PRESIDENT
CARMALETA MONTEITH &
CAROL BOGGESS,
PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS**

TWENTY-SIXTH APPALACHIAN STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 28-30, 2003

***BUILDING A HEALTHY REGION:
ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE,
COMMUNITY***

**EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
RICHMOND, KENTUCKY**

**GORDON MCKINNEY, PRESIDENT
ALAN BANKS, PROGRAM CHAIR**

APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION



Appalachian Studies Association

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