

Spring 5-1-2004

## Appalink

Appalachian Studies Association

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Spring, 2004

Volume 27, Number 2

## President's Message Thomas Plaut

The *Appalachian Journal's* recently published history of the Appalachian Studies Association merits careful reading by members concerned about its mission and future direction. Particularly relevant to the upcoming conference in Cherokee is a statement Ron Eller made in 2000 about the early design of the ASA.

We wanted to keep it open and keep it flexible. Communities speak different languages than academics do. Communities present and process information in different ways than academics do, and our early intent was to create a conference that bridged what was going on in the community, among activists and others, and to bring the academic community together.

This year's conference illustrates that the original vision of the association remains central. The conference will be located in a small mountain community, and the community will be in the conference. A variety of voices using different languages will tell how we are building a healthier region. Woven through the knowledge and experiences related in the 106 sessions will be the central theme of "historic trauma" and the story of how Appalachian communities are meeting consequent challenges. In addition to hearing from scholars and students of the region, participants will learn about ways of defining issues and moving into action from organizations such as the Center for Participatory Change, the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project, and Healthy Carolinians. The Appalachian Teaching Project and the Adventure of the American Mind program will provide examples for teachers and students of regional studies. The conference will also present the voices of artists through film, photography, drama and poetry.

The conference, while following in a strong tradition, will plow new ground. For the first time, the ASA will meet in a high school, and its students will learn about their own history and region while guiding participants through their school and community. For the first time, a Native American community is a conference sponsor, inviting participants to listen to their words, stories and song. The Eastern Band of the Cherokee will welcome us in a special ceremony on Friday evening.

The goal of this conference, like that of the association, is to build bridges joining the past to the future, historic trauma to present hope, the academy to the community, ideas to actions. While in Cherokee, participants can learn about this mountain place and return home with tools and ideas they can apply to their home communities.





## ASA OFFICER NOMINATIONS 2004



### **ASA Vice President/President Elect (04-05)**

**Phil Obermiller** is a member of the Urban Appalachian Council's Research Committee and the JAS board of editors. He has participated in the Association's conferences, served as an at-large member of its steering committee, and most recently chaired its website committee.

### **Program Vice-Chairperson/Program Chairperson Elect (04-05)**

**Thomas E. Wagner** is a University Professor Emeritus at the University of Cincinnati, has family roots in Kentucky and is a long-time member of the ASA. He has previously served as a member of the program committee and has been an active participant in the Association's conferences. He is a member of the Urban Appalachian Council, and has published articles in the *Journal of Appalachian Studies* and in the *Appalachian Journal*.

### **Secretary/Appalink Editor (04-06)**

**Mary Jo Graham** grew up on a farm in Michigan and went to Michigan State University where she majored in Child Development and Teaching. She joined the Peace Corps, taught in kindergarten and trained teachers in Tadjerouine, Tunisia. When she returned to the US, Dr. Graham went to Kent State University where she studied child development. She moved to Huntington, WV in 1975 where she supervised childcare centers and started a resource and referral project. Dr. Graham is an advisor for the Early Education Center, Program Coordinator for Family and Consumer Sciences, and is on the Board of Directors for the Child Development Academy at Marshall University.

### **Treasurer (04-05; remainder of term)**

**Stephanie Keener** is the 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 Kentucky, she graduated from the University of Kentucky and then earned her M.A. in Appalachian Studies from Appalachian State University. A member of the ASA since 1997, her scholarly interests focus mainly on the teaching of Appalachian and other regional studies in higher education.

### **Three At-Large Members of the Steering Committee (04-06)**

**Donna Sue Groves** is a native of WV who now lives in Appalachian Ohio. Donna Sue works out of the Ohio Arts Council's Southern Ohio Field Office in Adams County where she has particular responsibility for the council's Appalachian Arts Initiative. She is a member of ASA and has attended many of its conferences. The daughter and granddaughter of quilters, Donna Sue has spent most of her life as a community advocate, working previously in VISTA and now with artists, arts organizations and arts groups, and communities across northern Appalachia.

**Carol Baugh** is an urban Appalachian woman who lives in Dayton, OH and is a faculty member at Sinclair Community College. She has been instrumental in introducing many Appalachian high school students to the possibility of attending college through an Appalachian Outreach Program. Carol is responsible for creating Sinclair's on-campus Appalachian Studies academic area of emphasis, as well as its community-based learning programs featuring Appalachian history, culture, and literature.

**Kristin Kant** has been a member of the ASA for four years and has participated in its conferences. Her research focuses on tourism in Southern Appalachia and its impact on art production. Kristin grew up in East Tennessee and received a BA in political science and international studies from Maryville College. She then moved to Philadelphia where she received an MA from Temple University in anthropology. Currently, Kristin is carrying out doctoral studies in anthropology at the University of Kentucky. Kristin's long term plans include teaching and researching within the Southern Appalachian region.

### **Program Committee, 2005 Conference, Virginia**

**Ricky Cox** (Local Arrangements Chair) teaches freshman composition, American literature, and Appalachian folklore at Radford University. He is an associate in Radford University's Appalachian Regional Studies Center. He has been a member of ASA since 1985.

**Grace Toney Edwards** directs the Appalachian Regional Studies Center, chairs the interdisciplinary Appalachian Studies Program, and is Dalton Distinguished Professor of Appalachian Studies and English at Radford University in Radford, VA. Extensively published in books and periodicals, she also directs the annual Highland Summer Conference, and oversees the Appalachian Arts and Studies in the Schools Program. She is currently serving as senior editor of the *Handbook to Appalachia* and of the literature section of the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*.

**Mary LaLone** is a Professor of Anthropology at Radford University. She has been studying family survival strategies from the 1930s to the present in Appalachian VA, focusing on coal mining families, family farming, and change under economic development. Her articles include "Economic Survival Strategies in Appalachia's Coal Camps" (*Journal of Appalachian Studies*) and "Putting Anthropology to Work to Preserve Appalachian Heritage" (*Practicing Anthropology*). Her books include *Appalachian Coal Mining Memories* (1997), *Appalachian Farming Life* (2003), and *The Radford Arsenal: Impacts and Cultural Change in an Appalachian Region* (2003).

**John C. Nemeth** is Vice President for Partnership Development at Oak Ridge Associated Universities, a consortium of 89 colleges and universities that manages and operates Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy. He directs programs to promote and create collaborative research and education partnerships, provides leadership in the pursuit of new initiatives and cooperative programs that add value to the efforts of ORAU's consortium membership, and facilitates interactions among universities, federal laboratories, and industry to advance science, education, and technology.



## ASA Ballot 2004

### Vice President /President Elect (2004-2005):

- ☐ Phil Obermiller  
☐ Write in Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### Program Vice-Chairperson/Program (2004-2005):

- ☐ Thomas Wagner  
☐ Write in Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### Secretary/Appalink Editor (2004-2006):

- ☐ Mary Jo Graham  
☐ 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 3-23-04 or you may drop them in the ballot box in Cherokee.*

### Treasurer (2004-2005); remainder of term:

- ☐ Stephanie Keener  
☐ Write in Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### At Large Steering Committee (2004-06)

#### Vote for Three Candidates

- ☐ Carol Baugh      ☐ Donna Sue Groves  
☐ Kristen Kant  
☐ Write in Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### Program Committee (2005 Conference)

#### Vote for Five Candidates

- ☐ Ricky Cox      ☐ John C. Nemeth  
☐ Grace Toney Edwards      ☐ Mary LaLone  
☐ Write in Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### “Regional Study and the Liberal Arts: Appalachia Up Close”

From June 3-29, Ferrum College will host its second National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for College and University Teachers. For four weeks, professors from all across the country will discuss “Regional Study and the Liberal Arts: Appalachia Up Close.”

Among the guest speakers are novelists Lee Smith and Robert Morgan, as well as acclaimed scholars of the region Crandall Shifflett, Altina Waller, Stephen Fisher, and Anita Puckett. Writings of these six form the core reading list for the institute. In addition to discussing on the Ferrum campus the importance of regional material to liberal arts learning, using Appalachia as an exemplar, the institute will spend a week doing field work with Big Creek People in Action in Caretta, West Virginia.

More information as well as application materials are available at [www.ferrum.edu/neh04](http://www.ferrum.edu/neh04). Deadline for applications is March 1.

### *In Their Own Country*

Send 14 wonderful West Virginia writers to somebody's house (maybe yours): CD set of national award-winning West Virginia Public Radio series featuring West Virginia writers. Mary Lee Settle, Cynthia Rylant, Denise Giardina, Richard Currey, ten others. <http://librarycommission.lib.wv.us/itoc/index.html>. Set is a thank-you gift for a donation to the West Virginia library system.



## MORE ON THE 2004 ASA SILENT AUCTION

Dear Appalachian Studies Association Members:

The busy weeks of the Christmas/New Year season are over, and we must once again turn our attention to March 26-28, the 2004 Appalachian Studies Conference, and our annual Silent Auction. For those new to the scene, the latter is a way we raise money to assist individuals or groups with the expenses of the conference, persons who without such financial help would be unable to participate in the ASA program. Money raised at one year's auction is budgeted to the above needs of the next year's gathering. Help us generate a generous fund to meet the demands of the 2005 conference.

In my Fall, 2003, *Appalink* note to the membership I called for donations of auction items and services. Some categories into which bid objects have fallen in the past include the following: art and craft creations; fictional and scholarly publications; depression glass, mining artifacts, and mountain collectibles of all varieties; quilts, woven goods, macramé wall hangings, and crocheted items; photography, sketches, and paintings; rock and gem collections; Appalachian memorabilia; old movie or concert posters; music, music, and more music; Hatfield and McCoy romance novels and similar oddity items; carved walking canes, and mountain toys; blown glass, ceramics, and 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. I never know what will become the favorite bid item for an auction. This will be our seventh such annual event, and every year some contribution has really surprised me in terms of its popularity.

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 Cherokee and delivered to the auction room early Friday morning, March 26. However, it works best for the committee if we can have the items before we set up on Thursday evening, March 25. 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

our sense of security as we move into the last couple of weeks before the auction. Even letting us know by phone or e-mail that an item is forthcoming, with information relative to any display difficulties, helps with this latter concern.

To whom can you send your contributions? I still receive a significant number of the items, so feel free to continue that routine: Howard Dorgan, 747 Stadium Drive, Boone, North Carolina, 28607. I can also be reached by telephone (828-264-4361) or by e-mail ([dorganch@charter.net](mailto:dorganch@charter.net)). I am finally breaking away from the ASU e-mail system; although a message to the old address will still reach me.

Here are the names and telephone numbers or e-mail addresses for several members of our auction committee who have agreed to be contact persons for auction item collecting: (1) Jerry Crouch, [Jerry-Crouch@mindspring.com](mailto:Jerry-Crouch@mindspring.com); (2) Katie Hoffman Doman, 1770 Justice Road, Afton, TN, 37616, [mdoman@washington.xtn.net](mailto:mdoman@washington.xtn.net); (3) Carol Baugh, [dib.csb@worldnet.att.net](mailto:dib.csb@worldnet.att.net); (4) Phyllis Honeycutt, [honeycuttph@ncfb.com](mailto:honeycuttph@ncfb.com); (5) Roberta Herrin, Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU, Johnson City, TN, [herrinr@etsu.edu](mailto:herrinr@etsu.edu); (6) Pat Beaver, Center for Appalachian Studies, ASU, Boone, NC, [beaverpd@appstate.edu](mailto:beaverpd@appstate.edu). If you will not be able to attend the 2004 ASA conference, but would like to contribute an item to the auction, contact one of these individuals to see what arrangements can be made to get the item to Cherokee. Also, these individuals could advise you relative to the appropriateness of the item, or answer any other question you might have.

Work with us on this wonderful project. You will discover that we have lots of fun with this venture.

Thanks for all your help!

Howard Dorgan





**Pre-conference Tour**  
**Update: Cherokee Excursions**  
**Thursday, March 25, 2004**

A day long guided tour of Cherokee history and culture experienced in a variety of ways (by train, by walking tour, and by shuttle bus)

**Schedule:**

9:00 am -- meet your Cherokee guide at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian for an hour long tour then the guide will take you over to the Council House site of current tribal government and Veteran's Memorial, then to other key attractions in Cherokee.

1:00 --leave Cherokee and ride with the guide to Dillsboro, NC (12 miles) for\* picnic lunch at Great Smokey Mountain Railroad depot

2:00 leave on great Smokey Mountain Railroad train with guide through ancient Cherokee townships

3:30- leave depot at Bryson City, NC with guide, stop at Kituwah Mound, Mother town of the Cherokee

Drive to Cherokee for last stop at the Cherokee Casino Hotel and tour ancient art forms mixed with contemporary Native American art with guide

5:00 pm End tour at Museum

**Cost is \$89.00 per person. Includes transportation, all admissions, food and guide service.**

**Call 1-877-884-1885 for Cherokee Getaways and ask for the Cherokee Excursion, or visit [www.cherokee-nc.com](http://www.cherokee-nc.com), then click on the Cherokee Getaways starbursts.**

**\*Lunch at the train depot has choices of turkey, ham or roast beef sandwich with cheese, chips, apple, cookie and beverage. Child: peanut butter & jelly sandwich, fruit, chips, cookie and beverage.**

## 2003 Weatherford Award Nominations - Non-fiction

Phillis Alvic, *Weavers of the Southern Highland*

Sandra L. Ballard and Patricia M. Hudson, *Listen Here: Women Writing in Appalachia*

Tim Barnwell, *The Face of Appalachia*

Anthony Cavender, *Folk Medicine in Southern Appalachia*

Linda Scott DeRosier, *Songs of Life and Grace*

Wilma Dunaway, *Slavery in the American Mountain South and The African-American Family in Slavery and Emancipation*

Edited by Dale Jacobs, *The Myles Horton Reader*

Helen M. Lewis and Monica Appleby, *Mountain Sisters: From Convent to Community in Appalachia*

Deborah Vansau McCauley and Laura E. Porter, *Mountain Holiness*

Chad Montrie, *to save the land and people*

Tom Rusher, *until he is dead*

Timothy Silver, *Mount Mitchell & the Black Mountains*

## 2003 Weatherford Award Nominations - Fiction and Poetry

Billy C. Clark, *Miss America Kissed Caleb*

Pamela Duncan, *Plant Life*

Richard Hague, *Alive in Hard Country Poems*

Terry Kay, *The Valley of Light*

Gretchen Moran Laskas, *The Midwife's Tale*

Lee Maynard, *Screaming with the Cannibals*

Sharyn McCrumb, *Ghost Riders*

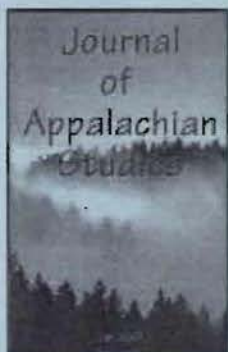
Robert Morgan, *Brave Enemies*

Charles F. Price, *Where the Water-Dogs Laughed*

Vivian Shipley, *Gleanings*

Bob Sloan, *Bearskin to Holly Fork*

**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, 2004.**

### *Morning's Talkers*

*Morning's talkers are praising, warning  
and fending off harms. The cicadas do  
a rhythm of sevens under bird calls and runs;  
the bird-songs count the colors of leaf-light,  
or beckon and seek, climb and fall, short airs.  
The language of birds has something to do  
with words; the piercing ordinary calls  
of crows and finches gush from spigots  
in hillsides and trees, a free-for-all.  
Even the brown constellations of starlings,  
which burst from beech trees like cartoon stars - signs  
of surprise, fear or awe - gossip, yearn, and warn.  
The highest notes pierce and ache in places  
under your ears like lemons' sweet-sour  
juice. They make audible the luminous.*

*Mary Moore  
Huntington, WV*



## Faces of Appalachia: Studies in Ethnicity and Gender



*Faces of Appalachia* is a cooperative effort between Marshall University and the ASA to make a strong contribution to a unique area of diversity scholarship and education. The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded Marshall and ASA a \$500,000 Challenge Grant that requires a \$1.5 million match in order to build an endowment. This endowment will support four major areas:

- \* Distinguished Chair in Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia
- \* Post-Doctoral Fellowships in Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia
- \* Annual Summer Conference on Diversity in Appalachia for K-12 Teachers
- \* Funding for a half-time coordinator in the ASA Regional Office.

The project is under the direction of Dr. Linda Spatig, Professor of Educational Leadership, and Dr. Kathie Williams, Assistant Professor in History, with assistance from Ms. Mary Thomas, Managing Editor of the Journal of Appalachian Studies and ASA office manager, as well as Melanie S. Jones, a graduate student and intern. The planning committee has successfully raised the first year's match of \$150,000 and is currently working on the second year's match of \$450,000. **Even the smallest donation will contribute to the success of this effort and will have an impact on understanding the contributions of women and ethnic and religious minorities to the complex culture and history of Appalachia.**

### "Honoring Connection"

The ASA is trying something new this year called the HONORING CONNECTION. The purpose is to give each of us a chance to recognize the contributions of individuals to the Appalachian Studies movement and to raise money to help fund the half-time coordinator and research position for the ASA. This half-time position is instrumental in the continued organization, research, and administration of the *Faces of Appalachia* project. On the ASA Conference Registration form, simply list one or more people you would like to honor in this way.

A minimum contribution of \$5.00 for each individual you honor will go towards the matching funds for the NEH Challenge Grant, *Faces of Appalachia*. Those individuals, so honored, will receive a ribbon and emblem to be attached to their registration name tag, along with a card that either lists the person who gave the honor or communicates an "anonymous" recognition. We hope this program will be rewarding to both honorers and honorees.

Please send your contribution today!!

**For further information regarding FACES OF APPALACHIA,  
or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please contact:  
Linda Spatig: (304)696-2875 or spatig@marshall.edu**

### Advisory Board

- Fred Barkey
- Ancella Bickley
- Alice Brown
- James Casto
- Chuck Daugherty
- Sarah Denman
- William Drennen, Jr.
- Lynda Ann Ewen
- Alan Gould
- Tom Hargis
- Herbert Henderson
- Barbara Howe
- Helen Lewis
- Gordon McKinney
- Carmaleta Monteith
- Christina Murphy
- David Reynolds
- Betty Siegel
- Barbara Ellen Smith
- Vicky Smith
- Diana Sole
- Tony Williams



# Cherokee Excursions Pre-Conference Tour Thursday March 25, 2004

A day long guided tour of Cherokee history and culture experienced in a variety of ways (by train, by walking tour, and by shuttle bus).

## Schedule:

**9:00 am** – meet your Cherokee guide at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian for an hour long tour, then the guide will take you over to the Council House site of current tribal government and Veteran's Memorial, then to other key attractions in Cherokee.

**1:00 pm** - leave Cherokee and ride with the guide to Dillsboro, NC (12 miles) for\* picnic lunch at Great Smokey Mountain Railroad depot.

**2:00 pm** - leave on great Smokey Mountain Railroad train with guide through ancient Cherokee townships.

**3:30 pm** - leave depot at Bryson City, NC with guide, stop at Kituwah Mound, Mother town of the Cherokee.

Drive to Cherokee for last stop at the Cherokee Casino Hotel and tour ancient art forms mixed with contemporary Native American art with guide.

**5:00 pm** - End tour at Museum.

## 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](mailto: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 7/31/04.

\*Editor - Linda Spatig

\*Managing Editor - Mary Thomas

\*Production Editor - Roxane Dufrene

## THANK YOU!!

### Heartfelt Thanks to:

\* **Melanie S. Jones**, Marshall University graduate assistant and intern, for outstanding work on the *Faces of Appalachia* project this semester.

\* **Jian Yu**, Marshall University graduate student, for her outstanding work for the Appalachian Studies Association the past two semesters.



## 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, NC

Thomas Plaut, President  
Carmaleta Monteith,  
Carol Boggess,  
Program Co-Chairs

### TWENTY-EIGHTH APPALACHIAN STUDIES ANNUAL CONVERENCE

March 18-20, 2005

or

April 1-3, 2005

depending on the NASCAR Bristol race

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

Abingdon, VA

Melinda Wagner, President  
Parks Lanier, Program Chair

# APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

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