

Spring 5-1-2006

Appalink

Appalachian Studies Association

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Spring, 2006

Volume 29, Number 2

Urban Appalachian Hospitality!

Friday morning field trip to 3 East Dayton community centers, Breakfast Included!

Are you ready?

Dr. Bill Turner, Harlan County native and VP at UK, gives the keynote address at the Friday banquet.

Interactive art!

Help create a cut-paper Affrilachian quilt at the Ebonia Gallery with Tess Little and Bing Davis.

Look it up!

An Appalachian encyclopedia and an Appalachian handbook introduced during the conference.

Picture it.

"The Many Faces of Dayton" involves 5,000 photographic portraits while "My Self, My World" is the work of 90 youth from two of Cincinnati's lowest-income neighborhoods.

APPALINK

Say What?

Preconference round table on language in Appalachia led by Michael Montgomery and Beverly Flanigan.

Check it out.

Over 40 exhibitors will offer books, CDs, DVDs, crafts, original art work, and information about Appalachia.

Feeling lucky?

Place a bid in the Howard Dorgan Silent Auction, or buy raffle tickets for a quilt to assist the ASA scholarship fund. Decisions, decisions. Select from 297 presentations in over 76 sessions, including 7 film screenings and 5 poetry readings.

A gospel goodbye.

The conference ends with a hot brunch, a bit of gospel music, and the drawing for a fine quilt!

Lend an ear.

Enjoy Andrew McKnight, the Mountain Dulcimer Society of Dayton, the Mad River Fiddle Club, Greg & Emily Beasley and the Dixie Ryders, or bring an instrument and join a jam session Saturday night.

Art everywhere!

Appalachian art works featured at the Hypotenuse and Triangle Galleries on the Sinclair Campus, and at the Dayton Visual Arts Center in downtown Dayton.

E pluribus...

Many of the panels, speakers, artists, and exhibits remind us of the region's gender, ethnic and racial diversity.

Network.

Meet old friends and make new ones at the ice cream social Friday evening, or attend a mentoring session Saturday morning for teaching tips, career advice, and research insights.

2006 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction

This will be our ninth annual Silent Auction. Please help to make this our best auction by bringing items for the auction to the conference or sending items to Carol Baugh, Sinclair Community College, Appalachian Outreach and Studies, 444 W. Third St. Dayton, OH 45402. ASA scholarship recipients who benefit from the auction will greatly appreciate your efforts.

Some of the items that have already been donated:

- Guitar signed by Patty Loveless
- Swedish Weaving Designed Coverlet
- Swedish Weaving Designed Hand Towels
- Framed Stained Glass Wall Hanging
- Pottery
- One registration to the 2006 Women of Appalachia Conference
- Two registrations to the 2006 Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education Conference.

Items that are still needed for the auction include: quality craft items, books (preferably with author's signature), CDs, paintings and prints, regional photographs, small antiques, jewelry, and gift certificates to national chains.

This year in order to generate as many scholarship dollars as we can, most items being auctioned will have a starting minimum bid.

Auction

Quilt Raffle for Scholarship Funds

A handmade quilt has been donated to the auction, and raffle tickets (one for \$1 and six for \$5) will be sold throughout the conference. The drawing for this quilt will be held at the final brunch/gospel music event on Sunday, March 19. If your name is drawn, you (or someone you designate as your representative) will need to be present to win this quilt.

The quilt will be on display in the Silent Auction room.

Faces of Appalachia:

Studies in Ethnicity and Gender

Faces of Appalachia, a Challenge Grant of the National Endowment for the Humanities, did not meet its match during the second year of the project and the requested extension was not granted. Faces will not be able to achieve the full 1.5 million dollar match that the challenge grant established as a maximum for the five year grant. However, it is still possible to earn almost 1.4 million.

The mission of ASA will benefit from this grant. It will fund the salary of a part-time coordinator of research and dissemination responsible for coordinating two of the programs funded by the endowment—a summer conference on Diversity in Appalachia for K-12 Teachers and three Annual Summer Post-doctoral Fellowships for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia. The summer conference will rotate among ASA affiliated institutions and each of the post-doctoral fellows may choose to carry out their research at any institution affiliated with ASA.

During the past year the most successful fundraising strategy was a letter that Phil Obermiller, President of ASA, sent out to the ASA membership. To date, the letter has generated more than \$14,000 in funds. ASA members can be proud of their offerings.

Major gifts have been elusive. Faces of Appalachia co-directors, Edwina Pendarvis and Katharine Rodier continue to seek funding from different sources and foundations. In addition they have submitted a grant to receive funding for a "Faces of Appalachia sampler" that would provide snapshots of programs that the NEH endowment will provide when fully funded. The samplers include an electronic conference on Appalachian Youth and a week-long visiting distinguished professorship,

The Faces of Appalachia Advisory Board will meet during the Dayton conference in March.

Honor a Colleague

For a minimum of \$10 let someone know you appreciate their contributions to Appalachian Studies. Each individual so honored will receive a ribbon and gold star to display on their 2006 Dayton conference nametag. This can be completed on your registration form. NEH will match your donation 3:1 or contact Mary Thomas at mthomas@marshall.edu.

Inside ASA • Phil Obermiller, President

The past year has been a productive time for ASA due to an engaged and insightful Steering Committee complemented by excellent support from Mary Jo Graham, Eddy Pendarvis, Linda Spatig, and Mary Kay Thomas at Marshall University. Much of what we have accomplished recently is also based on the momentum provided by past presidents, most recently Melinda Wagner and Tom Plaut. The following is a brief overview of what's been happening in the Association.

Conferences. Conference registrations have averaged about 570 over the past five years, and we anticipate the same attendance in 2006.

Tom Wagner's program committee has organized 297 presentations for the 2006 conference, and Carol Baugh's local arrangements committee has come up with several creative innovations for the 2006 conference. (Please see the front page for more on the Dayton conference.) President-elect Chad Berry has planning well under way for the 2007 conference at Maryville College in Tennessee.

The Steering Committee approved a new honor, the Jack Spadaro Media Arts Award. It will be given for the first time at the 2006 conference in recognition of the best representation of Appalachia or its people in film, video, radio, TV, or other media.

NEH Challenge Grant. Thank you for your generous response to the letter asking that you support this difficult but important endeavor. ASA members contributed over \$14,000 for the Faces of Appalachia campaign. Although we missed this year's goal, Faces co-directors Eddy Pendarvis and Katharine Rodier remain optimistic. They have noted that Stephen Kopp, the new president of Marshall University, will give the support of his office to the Faces effort during the coming year.

Journal. Kate Black, JAS book review editor since 2000, and Dwight Billings, JAS editor since 2001, are moving on to other interests. Their individual contributions to publishing a high-quality, refereed journal are obvious to everyone who has seen a recent copy of the Journal of Appalachian Studies. Their service to ASA is deeply appreciated.

Sandra Hayslette, the new editor of JAS, plans to maintain the high scholarly standards set by previous editors. She will also be working with the Board of Editors to select a new book review editor, cast a budget for the Journal, and examine the effects of electronic publishing on the future of JAS.

We have already taken a few tentative steps in a digital direction. Associate editor Linda Spatig has worked to place JAS on the ERIC index, and provided full-text access to the journal through Academic Search, a utility available in many libraries.

Website and Newsletter. As you can see, *Appalink*, edited by Mary Jo Graham, continues to be an effective means of communication among ASA's 750 members. We've recently grown our mailing list for calls for participation and preliminary programs to about 3,000 folks, most of whom have attended an Appalachian-themed conference (not necessarily ours) in the past three years. Roy Silver's website committee recently updated our site with the help of web manager Boyd Shearer. Both the look and feel of the revised site are terrific.

Scholarships. The chair of the scholarship committee, Cassie Robinson, has worked closely with Mary Kay Thomas and recent presidents to ensure that people with low and marginal incomes continue to have a voice in our Association. Through their efforts over the past two years, about one in five ASA conference participants has received scholarship assistance.

The annual silent auction, founded and run by Howard Dorgan, has raised over \$21,000 for scholarships since its inception in 1998. To honor Howard for his dedication as our silent auctioneer, the Steering Committee has formally changed the auction's name to the Howard Dorgan Silent Auction. Local arrangements chair Carol Baugh is organizing the auction at the 2006 conference.

Finances. ASA ended its fiscal year in June with expenses of \$94,817 against an income of \$104,973. Despite careful stewardship, our costs continue to increase across the board. The Steering Committee will ask the membership to incorporate a finance committee into the bylaws at the next business meeting. This committee's purpose will be to assist our treasurer, Stephanie Keener, in monitoring ASA finances and in preparing budget forecasts for the Steering Committee's guidance.

Future Directions. ASA is a stable organization that has maintained its founding principles for nearly three decades. Our annual conference continues to serve its scholarly, cultural, and collegial purposes. Our journal is received by some 900 subscribers, and will soon be available to many more on the Internet. Our website continues to attract users from across the region and the nation, as well as from other countries.

The Association is currently experiencing a generational change, but is fortunate in having many fresh, capable prospects for leadership roles. Now is an appropriate time for the Appalachian Studies Association to turn its attention to the future by implementing a planned approach to budgeting, by strengthening its organizational structure, and by developing its vision for the years ahead.

2006 ASA Officer Nominations

Vice President/President Elect (2006-2007)

Shaunna Scott (Pres Elect/VP) is an associate professor of sociology at the University of Kentucky, where she also serves as the Director of Appalachian Studies. A native of eastern Kentucky, Dr. Scott has written on the labor movement, gender, and environmental disasters in central Appalachia. She has served as co-program chair of the ASA, chair of the Carl Ross Student Paper Award Committee, and has been a member of the ASA Steering Committee.

Program Vice Chairperson/Chairperson Elect (2006-2007)

Chris Green teaches Appalachian Literature at Marshall University, where he is helping to establish the Faces of Appalachia endowment to support the Center for the Study of Gender and Ethnicity in Appalachia and the ASA. 1999-2003, Chris edited Wind Magazine and is currently co-editing Radicalism in the South since Reconstruction (due out from Palgrave later in 2006). his great love is poetry, so his scholarship currently focuses on Don West, James Still, Muriel Rukeyser, Louise McNeill, and Jesse Stuart; the tentative title of his book (which does not yet have a publisher), is "The Social Life of Poetry: American Pluralism and Appalachia, 1934-1946." Chris received his Ph.D. in English from the University of Kentucky in 2004, his M.F.A. from Indiana University in 1996, and his M.A. from Appalachian State in 1993.

Secretary/Appalink Editor (2006-2008)

Mary Jo Graham is a family and consumer sciences professor focusing on early childhood education at Marshall University. She is Program Coordinator for the Early Education Center, Marshall's laboratory preschool. Over the past five years research interests have focused on appropriate early childhood curriculum in the Appalachian context. This research was partially supported by the Rahall Appalachian Transportation Institute. She is currently serving as secretary for ASA.

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 Fall 2006 edition is 7/31/06.

Editor - Mary Jo Graham

Managing Editor- Mary Thomas

Production Editors - Roxane Dufrene, Amanda Nagy

Candidates for the Steering Committee (2006-2008)

A native of Appalachian Ohio, associate professor Deanna Tribe has been with Ohio State University Extension for 30 years, starting as a county agent and having served in her present community development specialist role since 1995. She was co-founder of the Ohio Appalachian Conference, which was held for 12 consecutive years, concluding in 2003. Her teaching and research have focused on understanding Appalachian people and communities; building creative economies through sustainable tourism development; folklore and heritage as community builder; and developmental facilitation through vision to action strategic planning with communities and organizations. Tribe has twice chaired Ohio's Appalachian Task Force, currently chairs Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area Board, and is past chair of the Rural Action, a regional sustainable development nonprofit organization.

Anthony (Tony) Harkins is an assistant professor of History at Western Kentucky University where he teaches courses in United States History and American Studies. He previously taught in the Princeton University writing program, Iowa State University, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he earned his doctorate in 1999. Harkins has devoted his scholarship to the meanings and influences of American popular culture, primarily in the years since World War II. He is the author of numerous articles on images of Appalachia in the mass media and is the co-editor (with Douglas Reichert Powell and Katherine Ledford) of the "Media" section of the forthcoming Encyclopedia of Appalachia. He is also the author of *Hillbilly: A Culture History of an American Icon* (Oxford University Press, 2004) that was nominated for the ASA Weatherford Award and has been awarded the 2005 Susanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Scholarship. His current research focuses on the evolution and significance of the broader idea of "flyover country" and the consequences of envisioning the great center of the nation as "the middle of nowhere" from the perspectives of both coastal commentators and self-defined "Flyover People."

Renee Scott is an administrative program manager for the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Exceptional Children Services. Her responsibilities include supervising professional staff and serving as co-coordinator for the Kentucky State Improvement Grant. Ms. Scott also serves as the staff liaison for the State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children, the National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems, and the Monarch Project (a national initiative that assists Historically Black Colleges and Universities in developing and enhancing Special Education teacher preparation programs). She is a social justice activist and currently serves on the Board of Directors for two social justice nonprofit organizations: Appalachian Community Fund (Knoxville, Tenn.) and the Human Economic Appalachian Development Corporation (Berea, Ky.).

2005 WEATHERFORD AWARD NOMINATIONS • NON-FICTION

- Edited by Michael E. Birdwell and W. Calvin Dickinson, *Rural Life and Culture in Upper Cumberland*
- Thomas Rain Crowe, *Zoro's Field*
- Ouida Dickey and Doyle Mathis *Berry College*
- Davison Douglas, *Jim Crow Moves North*
- Edited by Ellen Eslinger, *Running Mad for Kentucky: Frontier Travel Accounts*
- Elizabeth Fox-Genovese and Eugene D. Genovese, *The Mind of the Master Class*
- Edited by Wade Hall, *The Kentucky Anthology*
- Sharon Hatfield, *Never Seen the Moon*
- Tom Lee, *The Tennessee-Virginia Tri-Cities*
- Jeff Mann, *Loving Mountains, Loving Men*
- Edited by Danny L. Miller, Sharon Hatfield and Gurney Norman, *An American Vein: Critical Readings in Appalachian Literature*
- Jim Minick, *Finding a Clear Path*
- Elder John Sparks, *Raccoon John Smith: Frontier Kentucky's Most Famous Preacher*
- Richard D. Starnes, *Creating the Land of the Sky: Tourism and Society in Western North Carolina*
- Charles K. Wolfe and Ted Olson, *The Bristol Sessions: Writings About the Big Bang of Country Music*

Four Program Committee Candidates (2006-2007)

Susan Ambler (Local Arrangements Chair), associate professor of sociology at Maryville College, has integrated teaching about Appalachian culture with community-based research and learning. She is a founding member of Just Connections, an organization committed to collaboration among grassroots community people, students, and faculty to learn from each other about the issues they face in their communities. Collaborating with grassroots people, she has developed projects to encourage student engagement in their communities as well as ultimately result in a more socially just society.

Nina Gregg (Program Committee) is an independent consultant working with community-based and social justice organizations on a range of organization development issues, including governance, strategic planning, and evaluation. Nina lives in Blount County, Tennessee, where she is active in anti-racism organizing and advocating for sustainable development. Before becoming a full-time consultant, Nina was on the faculties of McDaniel College and the University of Pittsburgh. She has degrees from Princeton University (B.A.) and McGill University (M.A. and Ph.D.).

Jennifer Brooks (Program Committee) is currently an associate professor of history and department chair at Tusculum College in Greeneville, Tennessee. In 2004, UNC Press published her book, *Defining the Peace: World War II Veterans, Race, and the Remaking of Southern Political*

Tradition. Currently, she is working on a community study of labor conflict and political change in post-World War II Appalachia, specifically in East Tennessee. She has worked with Habitat for Humanity as well as Rural Resources, which focuses on community sustainability. She is not only a scholar-teacher committed to educating students in local, regional, and global history, but also a native Tennessean with a life-long devotion to critical inquiry regarding Appalachia's place in the South, nation, and world.

Paula McGhee (Program Committee), an admissions and diversity counselor and lecturer at Maryville College, is in the final stage of completing her dissertation for a doctorate in history at Vanderbilt University. Her research analyzes the formation of communities and workforces in Alcoa, Tennessee. She has done work on lynching in Appalachia as well as other elements of Appalachian race relations. She is faculty advisor for the Maryville College Student Literacy Corps and is president of H.O.M.E., Inc., an Appalachian community empowerment organization. She is also a member of African Americans of Appalachia and Blount County (AAABC) and has served as a consultant to the Blount County Historical Museum. She strives to continue unraveling the history and cultural experiences of those like herself, ones she fondly refers to as "black hillbillies," and seeks to work as an advocate for empowerment for those who have been silenced by institutional oppression.

By-Law Proposed Changes

Article V, Section 2. Journal.

The *Journal of Appalachian Studies* (JAS) shall be edited and published by the Appalachian Studies Association. Members of the association shall receive a subscription to the journal as part of their membership. One issue each year will contain a representative selection of the best papers delivered at the annual conference. Financial support provided by the association for the publication of the journal will be in accordance with the proposal accepted by the membership at the annual business meeting held on March 12, 1994. The terms of this agreement are open to review and renegotiation by (delete: either the elected representatives of the association or the Regional Research Institute.)

(add: ***the JAS Board of Editors and the elected representatives of the Association.***)

Rationale: This change reflects the current location and governance of the Association.

Article VIII, Section 2. Site Considerations. c. Financial Sponsorship:

Host organizations that will make a financial commitment to the conference should be sought. When possible, sites should be chosen where there is a willingness to underwrite costs of meeting space, registration, exhibit space, and audio-visual presentations. The (add: ***Vice-President/President Elect and***) Program Vice-Chairperson/Program Chairperson Elect shall negotiate for conference support from future sponsors in an effort to defray conference costs.

Rationale: Recent practice has meant that the President Elect has been doing the lion's share of fundraising for the meeting, since the Program Chair has many other duties to fulfill.

Article IX, Section 1. Officers.

The Website Chairperson and Scholarship Chairperson would be moved from "a. Elected Officers" to " b. Appointed Officers". Rationale: This change brings the chairs of these two important committees more in line with other committee chairs.

Article IX, Section 1. Officers.

Add

A Finance Committee Chairperson to
b. Appointed Officers".

Rationale: In an effort to be more intentional about the financial affairs of the Association, this new committee chair is proposed.

Article IX, Section 3. Term of Office. a. Elected Officers.
(3) Secretary/Appalink Editor ***-three years.***

Rationale: The preparation of the Appalink requires training by the office manager. The longer period of service is more efficient use of office time. Add to Article XI. committees:

Article IX, Section 3. Term of Office. b. Appointed Officers.

Delete: previous terms, ex-officio status, and non-voting status from all appointed positions. Add: ***All Appointed Officers shall serve a term of three years renewable as voting members of the Steering Committee.***

Rationale: This change recognizes the importance of developing the knowledge of the role each appointed officer serves and also recognizes the importance of the appointed officers' participation in the Steering Committee activities and decisions. It is proposed that the only position nonvoting is the Office Manager; all other positions should be voting.

Article X, DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Section 4. **Treasurer.** The administrative office shall have custody of all the funds of the association; shall keep full and accurate account of receipts and expenditures; and shall make (delete: disbursements of \$500 or more with the advice and consent of the treasurer.) (add: ***no disbursements not included on or exceeding the line item in the relevant fiscal year's budget without the advice and consent of the treasurer.***)

Rationale: This change will make it easier for the Office Manager to administer the daily affairs of the Association.

Add to Article X, DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

Section 14. Finance Committee Chairperson.

The finance committee chairperson, appointed by the president, shall be responsible for maintaining the finance committee, leading it in producing budget forecasts and fundraising strategies, and regularly communicating the results of the committee's work to the steering committee. Rationale: Again, this change establishes the Finance Committee as a permanent committee of the Association.

Add to **Article XI**. COMMITTEES: Section 8. Finance Committee.

a). Membership. The finance committee shall consist of the chairperson and from three to six regular members appointed by the ASA president to rotating terms. The ASA treasurer, scholarship committee chairperson, and Liaison Officer shall serve as members of the committee; the office manager shall serve as a nonvoting member.

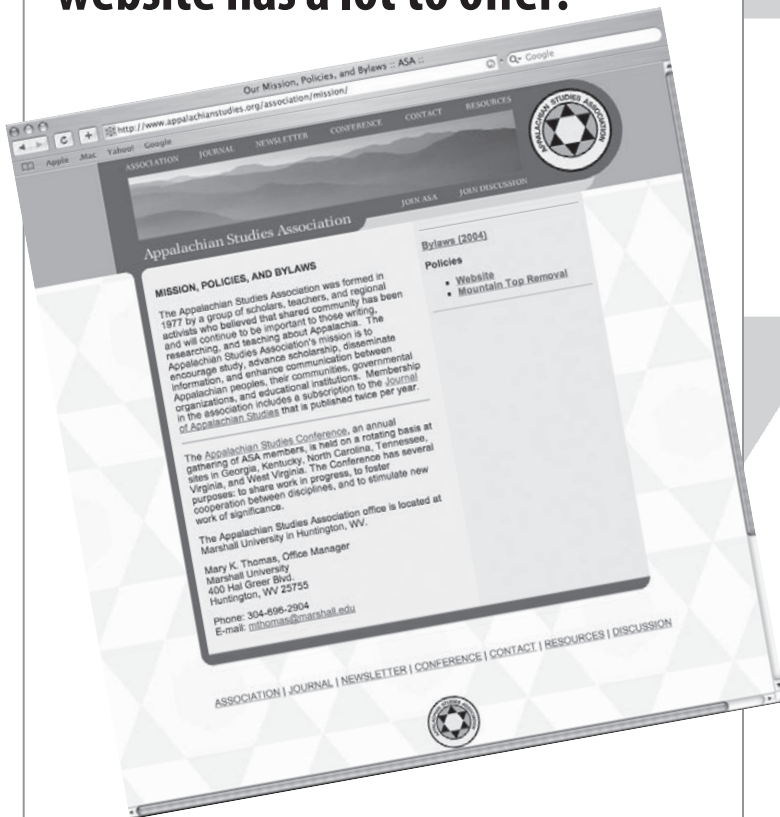
b). Duties. In conjunction with the treasurer and office manager, the finance committee shall develop three-year projected budgets for both the annual conference and the overall association, recommend and assist in the implementation of fundraising and development strategies, and respond to special requests from the Steering Committee. Recommendations of the finance committee shall be communicated to the Steering Committee for its approval.

Rationale: This change is to regularize the Finance Committee membership similar to other ASA committees.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DAYTON • MARCH 17-19, 2006

For those ASA members who bring family or friends with them to Dayton, in addition to NCAA activities, the Dayton Art Institute hosts an exhibit about Princess Diana; the Dayton Philharmonic performs Bartok, Schubert, and Ginastera on Friday, March 17 at 10 a.m. (ASA Conference attendees will receive a 10% discount on tickets); and the Kettering Seventh Day Adventist Church provides a free concert by the Junior Strings Orchestra. These are just a few of the activities happening around town during the conference that your family and friends might want to explore. For additional information about Dayton attractions and current events, please visit the Dayton/Montgomery County Convention and Visitors Bureau table that will be located next to the Registration Table at the conference.

The Appalachian Studies website has a lot to offer!



- 2006 preliminary conference program now available
- 2006 conference registration form available for downloading
- Apply for a scholarship to attend 2006 conference, download the scholarship form online
- The deadline for early registration for the 2006 conference in Dayton is Feb. 21; onsite registration will also be available.

www.Appalachianstudies.org

2005 Weatherford Award Nominations

Fiction & Poetry

Darnell Arnoult,
What Travels With Us

Doris Davenport,
Madness Like Morning Glories

Kenn Grimes,
Camptown: one hundred and fifty years of stories from Camptown, Kentucky

Jane Hicks,
Blood & Bone Remember: Poems From Appalachia

John Foster West,
Going Home to Zion

Vivian Shipley,
Hardboot

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**TWENTY-NINTH APPALACHIAN
STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MARCH 17-19, 2006**

Both Ends of the Road: Making the
Appalachian Connection

Sinclair Community College
Dayton, OH

Phil Obermiller, President
Tom Wagner, Program Chair
Carol Baugh, Local Arrangements Chair

**THIRTIETH APPALACHIAN
STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MARCH 23-25, 2007**

Piecing the Appalachian Experience :
Celebrating an Organization and Region

Maryville College
Maryville, TN

Chad Berry, President Elect
Kathie Shiba, Program Chair Elect
Susan Ambler, Local Arrangements Chair

A P P A L A C H I A N S T U D I E S A S S O C I A T I O N



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