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Appalachian Studies Association

Spring 5-1-2008

## Appalink

Appalachian Studies Association

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Appalachian Studies Association, "Appalink" (2008). Appalink. Paper 59.  $http://mds.marshall.edu/asa\_newsletter/59$ 

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Spring 2008

Volume 31, Number 2

## Ask What ASA Can Do for You-AND Ask What you Can Do for ASA!

In his 1961 inaugural address, John F. Kennedy instructed us "ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country." Thus, Kennedy set the tone for his administration. As I prepare to leave office at the end of our 31st Annual Conference which will be held at Marshall University on March 28-30, 2008, I leave you with a variation on Kennedy's theme:

"Ask what you can do for ASA and ask what ASA can do for you!" Let's get started.

Here is how you can help ASA do more for you: First, when the ASA asks your opinion, answer! This issue of Appalink includes a survey concerning the newsletter. Please complete and return the survey. Also, do not forget to fill out the conference evaluation survey before leaving the conference.

In coming months, ASA is likely to ask more questions. For example, we want to learn from non-academic members how ASA can better serve your needs and the needs of the region. Watch for that conversation.

Communication is a big issue for us. We must communicate more effectively amongst ourselves and with the public. You can help by reading this newsletter to learn more about the organization and its needs.

As President, I will appoint an Ad Hoc Communication Committee to coordinate internal and external communication and develop policy for our proposed new e-mail list. The Committee will be composed of the Newsletter editor, the Website Chair, and a person in charge of public relations and press releases. Could that person be you? This, of course, leads to the second important thing you can do for ASA.

Volunteer! In this issue, you will find a description of volunteering opportunities and a form to indicate how you can help. Read up, check off, and return that form with your registration. In the future, we will be engaged in additional efforts to improve the ASA. New committees and teams will be formed, and decisions will be made. We need your participation.

ASA structure and governance, in particular, require creative thought and sustained action. As our organization currently structures its work, it is difficult for anyone but a full-time academic (preferably tenured) to lead ASA. If we want community people and practitioners to play a more central role, we may need to redistribute the work and consider hiring additional staff. We may also wish to consider forming an Executive Committee of the Steering Committee to handle routine matters.

Third, contribute to the ASA endowment! For the first time ever, there is a check-off box on the registration form for members to help build a "rainy day" savings fund for our organization. If we want ASA to survive in the future, we need to take this fiscally responsible step.

Finally, come to the conference and attend the "Town Hall" plenary session on Friday, March 28, at 3:30, to hear about the Long Range Report and Plan and become more actively involved in ASA. The "Town Hall" Meeting will also serve as our Annual Business Meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference at Marshall University, where we will be looking ahead to our next thirty years. As we do so, just remember to: "Ask what ASA can do for you and ask what you can do for ASA, too!"

Shaunna Scott, President

2008 ANNUAL CONFERENCE • MARCH 28-30 MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

# **Update**

## from the Long Range Planning Committee

The 2008 ASA Conference theme is a perfect complement to the task of the LRPC: The Road Ahead: The Next Thirty Years of ASA.

Because the Committee has been traveling this road for a mere 15 months, we have looked to the Association's documents, history, membership, and leaders to inform our work. We have asked the Association what it values and what it wants to become. We have also looked outside ASA at comparable organizations to identify good models and operational best practices.

Throughout our work, one message has come through clearly: ASA has reached a critical juncture in its history that demands planning, strong leadership, and an engaged, fully-invested membership. With conference attendance exceeding 700 and an annual budget exceeding \$100,000, the Association has made the road ahead its priority. Articulating a vision and carrying out the recommendations of the LRPC will take dedication, hard work, and a willingness to accept change, and these commitments will sustain the organization and will engage the membership for years to come.

This fall, the work of the LRPC has shifted to an intense new phase. Using the information collected from ASA documents

APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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 2008 edition is 8/1/08.

Editor—Mary Jo Graham Managing Editor—Mary Thomas

and archives, the Steering Committee, ASA membership, and other associations, the LRPC met in September to draft goals, strategies, action steps, and indicators of success. The

Committee co-chairs (Roberta Herrin and Deanna

Tribe) are compiling a draft Long Range Report, which the full committee reviewed in December 2007. In February, the LRPC will submit the Plan and Report to the Steering Committee for its consideration. After the Steering Committee reviews the Plan, it will be posted on the ASA website.

Any long-range plan is just that—a plan, a place to start, a first step. The exciting work

lies ahead when the Association adopts and implements the Plan to carry the organization forward on The Road Ahead. The LRPC will introduce the Long-Range Plan and unveil a summary brochure at a special ASA Conference plenary session on March 28, 2008.

#### Contact any member of the LRPC:

Carol Baugh carol.baugh@sinclair.edu chad\_berry@berea.edu **Chad Berry** Marie Cirillo marie@jellico.net **Ashley Cochrane** ashley\_cochrane@berea.edu Slfisher44@embargmail.net Stephen L. Fisher Wilburn Hayden haydenmsw@alumni.unc.edu Sandra Hayslette hayslettes@wlu.edu Phil Obermiller solotso@aol.com Shaunna Scott soc247@uky.edu

Erik Tuttle erik.tuttle@gmail.com

#### LRPC CO-CHAIRS:

Roberta Herrin herrinr@etsu.edu

Deanna Tribe tribe.1@osu.edu

#### LRPC FACILITATOR:

Nina Gregg ngregg@att.net

## From Shaunna L. Scott, ASA President, Here is what you can do for ASA:

\*Complete the volunteer form and Appalink survey on the insert in this issue of Appalink!!

Ad Hoc Communication Committee: This committee's purpose is to facilitate communication between leadership and membership, amongst membership, and between ASA and the public.

The committee will propose to the Steering Committee a policy for management and access to the membership email as well as analyze the Appalink survey and develop plans to improve the newsletter.

The Communication Committee consists of the Website Committee Chair; the newsletter editor; a person specializing in press and public relations; and a chair to coordinate the communication committees and functions of ASA.

We need **two volunteers** to serve on this committee: a PR person and a facilitator. I plan to propose to the incoming ASA President that this committee be made a standing committee of the ASA in the coming year.

Conference Evaluation Team: Coordinated by Rebecca Bailey this team will focus on devising, administering, and analyzing conference evaluation questionnaires. It will also conduct an in-depth study of the 06, 07, and 08 conferences, in which the Presidents and Program Chairs will be interviewed and all documents pertaining to the conferences will be collected. This will become the basis of a report to be delivered to the Steering Committee in March 2009. Two volunteers would be helpful for this effort.

Governance Research Team: To be led by a Steering Committee member to be named, this group will reconsider the current structure of the Steering Committee, composition, number of meetings, and other matters pertaining to structure and governance of the ASA. Using information collected during the long range planning process, this committee will prepare a report outlining the pros and cons of two or three governance models for the Steering Committee's consideration. Two volunteers are needed for this initiative.

Scholarship Committee: Currently chaired by Cassie Robinson, the Scholarship Committee suggests policy related to Scholarship and allocates scholarship moneys to those who might not otherwise be able to attend our conference. We are in need of **three volunteers** to serve on the committee, one of whom should serve as an apprentice to the chair in preparation of assuming leadership of this committee.

#### Faces of Appalachia Post Doc Research Grant Committee:

This committee will likely be formed some time in 2008. It will oversee a post-doctoral research grant competition, funded by a matching grant provided by NEH and ASA. Administrative support for the award will be provided by ASA Executive Director, Mary K. Thomas. Because this is a new initiative, policies and procedures have not been determined. It would be reasonable to predict that we will require at least three volunteers for this initiative.

Ad Hoc Awards Committee: This committee, chaired by Billy Schumann, is comprised of all awards chairs. It will meet for its first time at the conference in March 2008. It is charged with proposing to the Steering Committee a policy for the creation and maintenance of awards, contributing to our organizational sustainability and engagement of members and new constituencies.

This committee will also work with the Communication and Membership committees to solicit award nominations and publicize awards; it will propose ways to improve the awards process to the Steering Committee; and it will regularly monitor and assess the awards practices and policies of the ASA. I will suggest to future leadership that this also become a standing committee of the ASA.

continued on next page

### **CORRECTIONS/UPDATES**

Correction: Lawrence Dukes is the Program Chair for the 2009 conference. His last name was incorrect in the fall, 2007 issue of Appalink. We regret the error.

Dr. William Schumann, chair of the Carl A. Ross Student Paper Competition, has a new email address: wschumann@atu.edu.

### **GOOD NEWS!**

The National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant, Faces of Appalachia, has been extended for one year. Any donations received before July 31, 2008, will be matched by the NEH. This is the last chance to have funds matched. Please help in this final effort to fund research in ethnicity and gender in Appalachia. Make the gift payable to the MU Foundation, Inc., note "Faces of Appalachia" in the check memo, and send it to Lynne Mayer, Office of Development, Marshall University, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755-6002.

## CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING...

A number of our awards chairs have been in their positions for a long period of time and are in need of "relief." Therefore, please consider offering your services to this important area of ASA.

Membership Committee: Chaired by Ann Rathbun, this committee collects information about our membership composition and trends, reports this information to the Steering Committee, and develops initiatives to enhance membership engagement as well as ASA services to the membership. It is likely that this committee will be conducting a study of non-academic membership of ASA in the near future. This initiative will require volunteer researchers as well as the participation of our non-academic members.

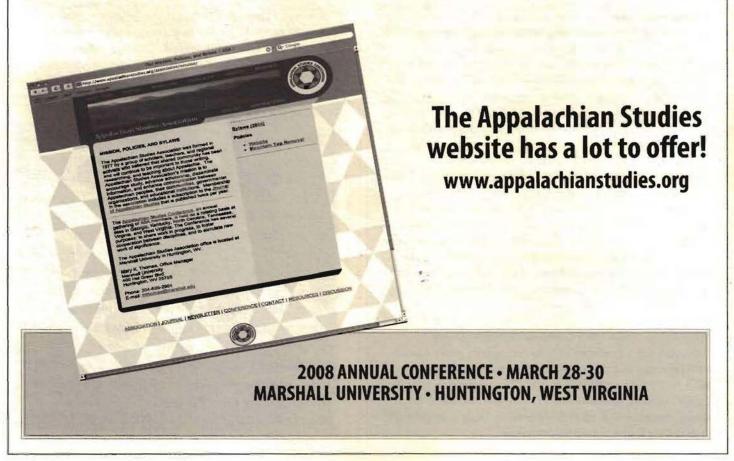
Nomination Committee: This committee is chaired by the President Elect and is responsible for identifying members who wish to serve as leaders or volunteers for the ASA. The Nomination Committee also oversees ASA elections.

Finance and Development Committee: Chaired by Kristin Kant, this committee works closely with the ASA Treasurer to

develop, oversee, and project budgets for ASA. The committee also oversees the ASA endowment drive, fund-raising and investments of the organization. This committee plays an important role in sustaining our organization by seeing that we are fiscally responsible while simultaneously conforming to values of democracy and social justice. If you wish to be involved in this key area of ASA, please volunteer.

Website Committee: Chaired by Gene Hyde, this committee focuses on managing a dynamic website, proposing policy related to the website, and the e-Appalachia Award. With the creation of the Ad Hoc Communication and Awards Committees, the Website Committee will also be expected to collaborate with those groups in order to enhance and facilitate ASA communication and awards.

ASA-Black Belt Committee: Chaired by Sokoya Finch of the emergent Black Belt Community Studies and Service group, this committee facilitates communication and collaboration between our two organizations. If you are interested in the emergent Black Belt initiative, please make that interest known in the enclosed volunteer form.





Check the ways you would be willing to serve the Appalachian Studies Association.

Scholarship Committee Membership Committee
Nomination Committee
Finance and Development Committee
Awards Committee (circle one):
Lewis Service Award
Brown/Williams Award
Ross Student Paper Competition
Spadaro Documentary Film Award
e-Appalachia Award
Local Arrangements Committee for the Conference Faces of Appalachia Post Doc Research Grant Committee
ASA-Black Belt Committee
Conference Evaluation Team
Journal of Appalachian Studies editorial board
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# Nominations

NOMINATIONS for OFFICERS Vice President/President Elect (2009-2011)



Alice Sampson is the founding director of the Appalachian Studies Center at North Georgia College & State University. An associate professor

in teacher education, she received her Ph.D. in Middle Grades Education from the University of Georgia. Her research interests are in civic engagement, school-community relationships, and place-based learning.

Program Vice-Chairperson/Program
Chairperson Elect (2009-2011)
Cassie Robinson is the new assistant director of Pine Mountain Settlement School. Before assuming the assistant director's position at Pine Mountain, she was employed as the Regional Studies Center coordinator at Mars Hill College. Cassie has also served as the ASA Scholarship Chair for the past five years.

Secretary/Appalink Editor (2008-2011) Kevin Barksdale is a history professor at Marshall University. He has spent the better part of 12 years studying Appalachia and has a particular interest in the preindustrial period. He has published articles on the Whiskey Rebellion in northwestern Virginia and has a forthcoming article on the Spanish Conspiracy in eastern Tennessee.

#### Treasurer (2008-2011)

Stephanie Keener has served as Treasurer for the ASA for the past four years, including an interim year. She is the former director of the Stephenson Center for Appalachian Studies and the New Opportunity School for Women at Lees-McRae College. She is now working for the Chamber of Commerce in Blowing Rock, NC coordinating arts events and working on behalf of small businesses in the community. She also serves on various boards in her community.

Candidates for the Steering Committee (2008-2010)



Roseanna Sneed Belt, Director of the Cherokee Center for Western Carolina University is an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. She has a BA in History from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a master's degree in Counseling and Consulting Psychology from Harvard University-Graduate School of Education.

Kathy Queen Hayes teaches Appalachian Studies part-time at Sinclair Community College and the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. She is completing her master's thesis at Wright State University about the role families play in traditional mountain music. Her undergraduate degree is from Berea College in Berea, Kentucky. She is a member of the musical Queen Family from western North Carolina.



William Turner is the current NEH Chair of Appalachian Studies at Berea College's Appalachian Center. Bill was most recently Vice President for University Engagement and Associate Provost

for Multicultural and Academic Affairs at the University of Kentucky.

Four Program Committee Candidates (2008-2009)

Richard Greenlee is the Associate Provost for Appalachian Access and Enrichment at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio.

Donna Sue Groves is the Southern Ohio Field Representative of the Ohio Arts Council in Columbus, Ohio.

Deanna Tribe is retired from the Extension Office, Ohio State University, Southeast Ohio and is the co-chair of the Appalachian Studies Association Long Range Planning Committee.

Lee Knisley Sanders is the Senior Associate Dean at Miami University in Hamilton, Ohio.

Local Afrangements for the 2009 Conference at Shawnee State University located in Portsmouth, Ohio is being handled by University Outreach Services and the Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education staff.



Vice President/President Elect 2008 – 2011	
Alice Sampson	
Write in Candidate:	
Program Vice Chairperson/Chairperson Elect (2008 – 2011)  Cassie Robinson  Write in Candidate:	
Secretary/Appalink Editor (2008 – 2011) Kevin BarksdaleWrite in Candidate:	
Treasurer (2008 – 2011)  Stephanie Keener  Write in Candidate:	
At large Steering Committee (2008 – 2010)  Vote for three:  Roseanna Sneed Belt  Kathy Queen Hayes  William Turner  Write in Candidate:	
Program Committee Members (2009 Conference)  Vote for four:  Richard Greenlee Donna Sue Groves Deanna Tribe Lee Knisley Sanders Write in Candidate	

PLEASE MAIL BALLOT TO MARY THOMAS, NO LATER THAN MARCH 16 OR PLACE IN BALLOT BOX AT CONFERENCE.

SEND BALLOT TO: APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

ONE JOHN MARSHALL DRIVE HUNTINGTON, WV 25755

## 2008 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction

The 2008 ASA Silent Auction will be held in conjunction with our spring conference at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. Our annual silent auction is a way to raise money to assist individuals or groups with their expenses who without financial help would be unable to participate in the conference. The money raised at one year's auction is budgeted to the next year's gathering—so, help us generate a generous fund to meet the demands of the 2009 conference to be held at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Donations of auction items and services have included arts and crafts, fictional and scholarly publications, depression glass, mining artifacts, mountain collectibles of all varieties, quilts, woven goods, needle arts, photography, sketches, paintings, Appalachian memorabilia, old movie or concert posters, CDs and DVDs, carved walking canes, ceramics and pottery, jewelry, and even antique furniture. Items can be sent to me ahead of time and I can see that they get to the conference, or they can be brought directly to Marshall University and delivered to the silent auction room preferably Thursday evening, March 27, or Friday morning, March 28. There is considerable labor involved in preparing the items for display and in getting our paper work organized.

Since 1998, the Howard Dorgan Silent Auction has raised approximately \$27,200 for scholarships – one in four conference attendees last year received scholarship support. Please consider donating an item to the silent auction and come prepared to have a lot of fun bidding.

Carol Baugh
Sinclair Community College
Appalachian Outreach and Studies Department
444 W. Third Street – Room 13-402
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 512-2126
Carol.baugh@sinclair.edu

2008 ASA Howard Dorgan Silent Auction Committee: Philis Alvic, Carol Baugh, Donna Sue Groves, and Deanna Tribe.

### **Poetry Prize**

The Logan Topographies by Alena Hairston, won
Persea Books 2006 Lexi Rudnitsky Poetry Prize and was
published earlier this year. Comprised of four startling lyric
sequences, the book tells the story of three generations of
the multi-ethnic coal mining community of Logan County,
West Virginia. Hairston, who also writes and performs as
elen gebreab, grew up in Logan County. She is an English
professor at Solano Community College in Fairfield, California.

#### **Call for Submissions**

The Artist as Activist in Appalachia University Press of North Georgia

The University Press of North Georgia seeks submissions for a collection entitled The Artist as Activist in Appalachia to be published in 2008.

This collection will include both creative and scholarly works that address social and environmental justice in Appalachia.

Creative genres might include, but are not limited to: creative nonfiction, drama, fiction, folklore, music, painting, photography, and poetry. Scholarly topics might include, but are not limited to: environmental justice, labor issues, political figures, or political movements.

Please e-mail your double-spaced manuscript, or an electronic image of your creative work, to the editors:

Dr. Joyce E. Stavick (JEStavick@ngcsu.edu)
Dr. Amy A. Childers (achilders@ngcsu.edu).

The deadline for submission is February 15, 2008.

### THANK YOU!

To the College of Education and Human Services, Marshall Libraries, and Marshall University for their support of the Appalachian Studies Association.

Marshall University is hosting the 2008 Appalachian Studies
Annual Conference March 28-30!

### **Proposed ASA By-Law Revisions**

Below is a list of the proposed by-law changes that must be voted on by the membership during the annual business meeting at the ASA conference. Please read them and be prepared to ask questions and vote in March.

In the following sections of the ASA by-laws the words "office manager" need to be changed to "Executive Director."

Article IX -- Officers

Section 1 -- b) Appointed Officers -- # 3

Section 3 -- b) Appointed Officers -- # 3

Article X -- Duties of Officers

Section 4

Section 9

Article XI -- Committees

Section 4 -- item a

Section 7 -- items a and b

Section 8 -- items a and b

Rationale: In May 2006, the ASA Steering Committee voted to change the office manager's title to Executive Director. Those changes, however, were not reflected in the by-laws.

Add "Membership Chairperson" to Article IX Officers, Section 1 Officers, item b Appointed Officers; and Section 3 Term of Office, item b Appointed Officers.

Add a Section 15 to Article X Duties of Officers
Section 15. Membership Committee Chairperson. The
membership committee chairperson shall be responsible for
devising strategies to ensure that the membership base remains
sustainable, engaged, and diverse.

#### Add a Section 9 to Article XI Committees Section 9. Membership Committee.

a) Membership. The Membership Committee shall consist of the chairperson and at least two regular members appointed by the ASA president to three year rotating terms. The committee will include at least one scholar (with survey, statistical or research methods training) and at least one community/ activist representative. The ASA Executive Director and the Scholarship Committee chairperson shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members of the committee.

b) Duties. The committee will collect information about ASA members and devise strategies to ensure that the membership base remains sustainable, engaged, and diverse. The Membership Committee will report information to

#### **WE ARE SADDENED...**

to learn of the passing of one our members, **Teresa H.** "**Terry**" **Kessinger**, in early October. Terry was an active member of ASA, serving on both the Scholarship Committee and the Finance and Development Committee. She will be sadly missed by the Appalachian Studies Association.

And we are saddened, to learn of the passing of Wilma Dykeman, a major contributor to Appalachian literature, who will be missed by many.

the Steering Committee and will collaborate with the ASA Executive Director and office staff in the collection of information regarding ASA membership matters.

Rationale: In order to maintain current membership and identify/recruit the next generation of members, this new appointed committee is proposed.

Proposed Change: Under Article VIII, Meetings, add Sections 4 and 5.

#### Art VIII, section 4.

In addition to the Annual Business meeting and Steering Committee meetings, business of the association may be conducted through teleconference and electronic means.

#### Art VIII, section 5.

Election of officers and other voting or balloting necessary for the organization may take place electronically, through teleconferencing or by written ballot.

Change the text of item c. under Article IX -- Section 4.
Nominations and Elections

c. Electronic and / or paper ballots will be counted by the Chairperson of the Nomination Committee.

Rationale: The SC finds it necessary to conduct business through conference call and electronically, so we need to get that reflected in our by-laws! It is possible that we may go to electronic voting for officers as well, in the future.

# 2007 Weatherford Award Nominations Non-Fiction

John Benhart, Jr., Appalachian Aspirations

Fred Brown, Jr. and Juanita Blair, Days of Anger, Days of Tears

Shirley Stewart Burns, Bringing Down the Mountains

Jo Carson, Teller Tales

Casey Clabough, The Warrior's Path

Peter Crow, Do, Die, or Get Along

Claude Lafie Crum, River of Words: James Still's Literary Legacy

Sidney Saylor Farr, My Appalachia

Al Fritsch and Paul Gallimore, Healing Appalachia

Penny Loeb, Moving Mountains

C. Brenden Martin, Tourism in the Mountain South

Ora E. Anderson, Out of the Woods

Rand Dotson, Roanoke, Virginia, 1882-1912 Magic City of the New South

Ken Fones-Wolf, Glass Towns

James J. Lorence, A Hard Journey: The Life of Don West

Gerald C. Milnes, Signs, Cures, & Witchery

Jacob J. Podber, The Electronic Front Porch

Anne Shelby,
The Adventures of Moli

The Adventures of Molly Whuppie

Roni Stoneman, Pressing On

# 2007 Weatherford Award Nominations Fiction and Poetry

Michael Chitwood, From Whence

Billy C. Clark, To Find A Birdsong

Lenore McComas Coberly, Sarah's Girls

Holly Farris, Lockjaw

Nikki Giovanni, Acolytes

Alena Hairston, The Logan Topographies

Maurice Manning, Bucolics

Sharyn McCrumb, Once Around the Track

Ron Rash, Chemistry and Other Stories

Kevin C. Stewart, The Way Things Always Happen Here

Wayne Caldwell, Cataloochee

Pamela Duncan, The Big Beautiful

Rick Mulkey, Toward Any Darkness

Ann Pancake, Strange as the Weather Has Been

Winners will be announced at the 2008 Appalachian Studies Conference at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, March 28-30.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

# Thirty-First Annual Appalachian Studies Conference

March 28 - 30, 2008

The Road Ahead: The Next Thirty Years of ASA

Marshall University Huntington, West Virginia

Shaunna Scott, President Chris Green, Program Chair Dan Holbrook, Local Arrangements Chair

## Thirty-Second Annual Appalachian Studies Conference

March 27 – 29, 2009
Connecting Appalachia and the
World Through Traditional and Contemporary
Arts, Crafts, and Music

Shawnee State University Portsmouth, Ohio

Carol Baugh, President
Lawrence Dukes, Program Chair
Local Arrangements:
Shawnee State University Outreach Services and
Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education

#### APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION



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