Appalink

Appalachian Studies Association

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Find the Need and Endeavor to Meet It!

Last spring Immediate Past President, Shaunna Scott, challenged us to: “Ask what you can do for ASA and ask what ASA can do for you!” Many of our members took up this challenge and provided the Steering Committee with their thoughts and ideas for moving the Association forward. WE LISTENED and several of your thoughts and ideas are being pursued through the ASA Long Range Plan. (Please read more about the Long Range Plan inside this newsletter.)

As president of the Association this year, I am asking you to “Find the Need and Endeavor to Meet It!” Actually, this is the goal of Sinclair Community College located in Dayton, Ohio, but it also applies to the current state of the Appalachian Studies Association. Some of the NEEDS that members highlighted in conversations and surveys last March were that of financial sustainability and membership engagement. In an ENDEAVOR to MEET these NEEDS, ASA is 1) kicking off an Endowment Campaign this year and 2) creating some wonderful networking opportunities for members. Therefore, I challenge you to do what you can for ASA — contribute to the Endowment and consider becoming involved by joining a committee or running for an office. By the way, we are still seeking a Communication Committee chairperson. We also want to express our appreciation to Gene Hyde, our website chair. Gene’s term will be up in March and he is willing to mentor the new chair so we need to find a replacement ASAP.

While the emphasis of my presidency is to begin implementation of the Long Range Plan, there are many other issues that, as an Association, we need to address. One of those issues is that of member engagement. As most of you already know, ASA has only one full-time and one part-time paid staff. The remainder of the work done for the Association is performed entirely by a few volunteers. These volunteers put in countless hours of free labor and many times the cost of their travel to meetings comes directly out of their own pocket. For example, in July, the Steering Committee held a retreat at Marshall University in Huntington. There were fourteen Steering Committee members present. Four of those members live in Huntington. The remaining ten members drove, on average, six hours and traveled approximately 5,450 miles round trip to attend a two day retreat. Once again, please refer to the Long Range Plan (LRP) article for suggestions about membership engagement and the restructuring of the role of the ASA president. Another concern, which most of us share, is that of rising costs and slumping income. This concern is especially being felt as planning for the 2009 conference shifts into full speed. Since the cost of food, printing, postage, etc. are all rising and since we provide an extremely affordable conference fee and want to preserve that tradition, I have asked that conference registration fees remain affordable for all our members and only be increased slightly.

In March 2009, the Appalachian Studies Association’s thirty-second conference will experience two firsts. This is the first time that the conference will be held in Ohio Appalachia and it will be the first time the conference has focused on the theme of arts, crafts, and music. The theme for 2009 is “Connecting Appalachia and the World Through Traditional and Contemporary Arts, Crafts, and Music.” The conference will be held at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio from March 27-29, 2009. Program Chair for the conference is Deanna Tribe and the Program Committee consists of Bob Gordon, Rich Greenlee, Donna Sue Groves, and Lee Sanders. Local arrangements are being handled by Ginnie Moore from Shawnee State University. All of these people are working hard to insure that conference attendees have a positive experience while visiting Ohio Appalachia. Former executive director of Handmade in America, Rebecca Anderson, will make the keynote speech and there are several other general sessions planned. Ohio Appalachia has many talented people who are excited about our visit — so come, enjoy, and be prepared to hear and see some outstanding conference sessions and wonderful performances. I look forward to seeing you at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio, where southern hospitality begins.

Carol Baugh, President
Appalachian Studies Association Endowment Campaign

In the spirit of ASA President Carol Baugh’s message, “Find the Need and Endeavor to Meet It!”, the Finance and Development Committee has endeavored to meet the need of ASA’s financial sustainability. While our organization steadily grows in membership, our financial standing is not keeping pace with our expanding expenses. With rising conference budgets, journal costs, and needs on the horizon to expand the ASA staff, we must turn to long-term solutions. Charged by the Steering Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee to investigate ways to achieve financial sustainability, the Finance Committee, composed of ten ASA members, spent approximately 100 hours researching, discussing, deciding, and recommending financial actions for the Steering Committee to consider. With the Steering Committee’s approval, the Finance Committee is excited to announce and kick off the Appalachian Studies Association Endowment Campaign. This campaign enables members to participate in the future of ASA—one that needs to be financially secure if our organization plans to continue to promote, engage, discuss, research, express, educate, and appreciate Appalachian experiences in upcoming generations. Giving to ASA’s endowment fund is another way to create a legacy in the Appalachian Region beyond scholarship and activism. The Endowment Campaign gives each one of us the opportunity to give a monetary contribution in whatever amount is comfortable. The Finance Committee challenges ASA members to give $5,000 by July 2009—less than a year from now! (That’s just $10 per person.) The Steering Committee has challenged itself to 100% participation, and ASA Past President Shauna Scott makes an endowment challenge to all former ASA Presidents. Forms of giving include cash gifts, pledges, matching gifts, memorial gifts, securities or stocks, bequests, simple gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, or lead trusts. More information about these kinds of gifts is available on the ASA website. All monies may be sent to the ASA Office in the care of ASA Executive Director, Mary Kay Thomas. Look on your 2009 ASA Conference registration form for a reminder to give to the Appalachian Studies Association Endowment Campaign.

2009 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction

The Howard Dorgan Silent Auction has become a regular part of the Appalachian Studies Conference over the years. Howard Dorgan from Appalachian State University started the auction and ran it for many years with a dedicated cadre of volunteers. The success of the auction depends, first on people donating items and then on people bidding on them. At the 2008 conference at Marshall University in Huntington, WV, we raised $2,646, just beating our total from the previous year. Our conference is unique in many ways because we strive to reflect the region that we celebrate and study. So, besides academics, we encourage artists, college students, activists, community organizers, writers, public school teachers, environmentalists, independent scholars, and anyone with an interest in the delights and problems of Appalachia to attend our yearly gathering. To back up our hospitality we offer scholarships that can cover the cost of registration.

Over the years conference exhibitors, publishers, social service agencies, and area businesses have generously donated items to the auction. We have also had groups that are promoting a cause use the auction to help them get their message out. However, the major portion of donations come from conference participants, who contribute gently used items, pass along no longer needed books or other resources, or make original crafts. So, please think of recycling things you no longer use or gifts that do not fit your lifestyle or sharing your personal creativity. You will be helping someone else attend the conference.

If you know of a business or institution in your area that would like to make a contribution to the auction, I can supply them with a receipt so that they can take the deduction on their taxes. We will be happy to hand out business cards or post a sign acknowledging the donation. Although I feel people give more readily if someone they know asks, I would be happy to contact a potential donor if you send me information on how to reach them.
UPDATE: Long Range Planning Implementation

ASA is now in the implementation stage of its Long Range Plan (LRP). The planning and learning stage of the LRP, which was initiated by Phil Obermiller (ASA President, 2006) and Chad Berry (ASA President, 2007), took place from September 2006 until March 2008. The hard-working members of the LRPC also include: Carol Baugh, Marie Cirillo, Ashley Cochrane, Stephen L. Fisher, Wilburn Hayden, Sandra Hayslette, Shaunna Scott, Erik Tuttle, Roberta Herrin, Deanna Tribe, and Nina Gregg. Full text of this five year plan, The Road Ahead: ASA’s Plan for Action, 2008-2013, can be found on the front page at www.appalachianstudies.org.

It was decided at the 2008 conference that ASA Steering Committee members would hold a retreat during the summer in order to identify goals, strategies, and actions from the LRP that could be accomplished during year one. This retreat was held at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, on Friday, July 25, and Saturday, July 26. Fourteen ASA steering committee members attended the retreat. During the two days of meetings, the following goals, which are not listed in priority order, were identified:

Goal: ASA will function effectively…
Strategy: Evaluate the structure and operations of the Steering Committee (officers, terms, composition, meetings) to address continuity, reflect the needs of the organization, and represent the ASA membership.
Actions: The Steering Committee recommends that 1) terms of at-large Steering Committee members be changed from two years to three years; 2) the Vice President become a member of the Finance and Development Committee; 3) a Conference Committee be created with a chair who is not President; 4) the Steering Committee meet four times each year instead of two (these meetings could be in-person or via conference call); 5) handbooks and procedure manuals will be created for the various offices and committees; and 6) Executive Director attend non-profit training.

Goal: ASA operations will be supported by adequate infrastructure…
Strategy: Develop plans to secure essential records and resources in the event of fire, theft, or system failure.
Actions: The Steering Committee recommends that office files be backed up at an off-site location.

Goal: ASA operates with sound financial practices…
Strategy: Manage existing resources wisely…
Actions: The Steering Committee recommends that 1) an Endowment Campaign be initiated; 2) the Vice President prepare updated conference budgets for each meeting of the Steering Committee; and 3) other committees who have fiscal needs prepare budget requests to the Steering Committee on a regular basis.

Goal: ASA uses reliable communication…
Strategy: Use electronic communication more efficiently and effectively and improve communication in general.
Actions: Steering Committee recommends that 1) additional electronic resources such as blogs, YouTube, Facebook, etc. be used; 2) teleconferencing for meetings be explored; and 3) create a Communications Committee.

Goal: Diverse membership is fully engaged…
Strategy: Identify roles and opportunities for membership to engage with and serve ASA.
Actions: Steering Committee recommends that 1) new members or first time conference attendees have an identifying mark placed on their conference name tag; and 2) a reception or meeting be held at the conference for new members.

If you are interested in hearing more about implementation of the Long Range Plan, please attend the Long Range Plan session at the 2009 conference.

2008 AWARD WINNERS


2007 Helen M. Lewis Community Service Award: Silas House.


2007 Jack Spadaro e-Appalachian Award for Outstanding Website: ILoveMountains.org.

2007 Jack Spadaro Media Arts Award: Ann Lewis for the documentary Morristown.


2007 Weatherford Award for Fiction and Poetry: Ann Pancake for Strange as this Weather Has Been.
The Journal of Appalachian Studies is pleased to announce the selection of two assistant editors. Dr. Martha Billips is an associate professor of writing, rhetoric, and communication at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky, where she also directs the Foundations for the Liberal Arts Program. She has written extensively about the works of Harriette Arnow and Lee Smith and about teaching writing and literature. Dr. Chad Montrie is an associate professor of history at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. His research and writing has focused upon the nexus of work and environmental consciousness, including a body of work on opposition to surface mining. These additions to our editorial staff promise great improvements, not only in our efficiency but in our outreach within ASA and beyond.

The Journal staff plans to release a double-issue volume 13 (Fall/Spring 2007) later this year. We invite readers to examine our newly-designed page on the Appalachian Studies Association website www.appalachianstudies.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Submissions

Shepherd University and the West Virginia Center for the Book are requesting submissions for the new Anthology of Appalachian Writers, an annual collection of fiction, poetry, and memoir. This year features the work of Adriana Trigiani, the Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence at Shepherd University and recipient of the 2008 Appalachian Heritage Writer’s Award.

See the Anthology website at http://www.shepherd.edu/ahwirweb/anthology/ for submission details or email Dr. S. Bailey Shurbutt, Managing Editor, Anthology of Appalachian Writers.

“A Train Just Don’t Stop Here Anymore”:
An Interdisciplinary Colloquium on the Soundscapes of Rural and Small-Town America

Millikin University, Decatur, IL • 3-4 April 2009

The Millikin University College of Fine Arts invites proposals for papers and lecture-recitals for an interdisciplinary colloquium on the soundscapes of rural and small-town America. The aims of this colloquium are to reach a broader understanding of the nation’s diverse musical cultures and practices, to develop strategies by which to investigate musical culture in rural communities and small towns, and to investigate the challenges facing professional musicians and culture industries in those communities. We welcome proposals for papers from an interdisciplinary field including history, musicology and ethnomusicology, anthropology, folklore, and American studies. Possible themes include:

- Community bands, orchestras, and choirs.
- The role of religious, social, government, and non-profit organizations in supporting local musics.
- The impact of urban and suburban expansion on rural and small-town music-making.
- The effects of media conglomeration on local and regional musics.
- Culture industries that support rural and small-town music-making.
- The effects of cultural tourism on musical cultures.

Please send a 250-word proposal to Travis Stimeling at tstimeling@millkin.edu. Electronic submission of proposals is encouraged. Print submissions can be sent to Travis Stimeling, Millikin University School of Music, 1184 W. Main St., Decatur, IL 62522 by 1 September 2008.

A Spates Brady Collection Now Available

The West Virginia State Archives in Charleston is pleased to announce the availability of the A. Spates Brady Collection for research. Brady (1876-1947) was a local coal operator and lumberman with business interests in the three-state region of Maryland, Kentucky, and primarily West Virginia. Brady also was a civic and social leader in Elkins and Randolph County, West Virginia, and he held several appointed positions in state government in the 1930s. The approximately 93 linear-foot collection includes correspondence, writings, business papers, and financial and legal papers, a large part of which concern Brady’s coal, timber, ice, and limestone business interests. Other topics covered in the collection include his service on the Elkins city council, involvement with several Public Service Commission rate cases, activities on behalf of Davis and Elkins College and the Mountain State Forest Festival, and affiliation with various social and civic organizations. A finding aid for the collection is available at the West Virginia Archives and History Website at http://www.wvculture.org/history/collections/ms2007-081.html.

University of Kentucky Website Additions

The University of Kentucky’s Special Collections and Digital Programs is eager to point you to important additions to our website. We have recently created an extensive list of Kentucky and Appalachian-related research topics with links to descriptions of archival collections in our holdings. In addition, finding aids for many of these collections are now digitized and available for searching. To take a look go to the Manuscripts section and click on the “Research Topics” tab: http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?web_id=627&lilib_id=13. Also, you can explore other Kentucky topics at the Public Policy Archives.
Your nominations are needed for ASA Officers and Steering Committee members. The ASA bylaws call for the annual nomination and election of officers. Any member of the association may nominate a fellow member to serve. The Association is seeking nominations for the following elected positions:

**The Vice President/President Elect (2009 – 2010)** chairs the nominating committee and negotiates for conference support at future sites. The vice president also becomes president the following year (2010 – 11). The president of ASA presides at all meetings, directs fund raising, serves as spokesperson, and serves on the Steering Committee for one year after his or her term (2011 – 2012). The president usually resides in the sub-region in which the upcoming conference will be held (2011).

**The Program Vice Chairperson/Chairperson Elect (2009 – 2010)** assists the chairperson, helps organize the next conference, and becomes chairperson the following year (10 – 11). The program chairperson and his or her committee oversee the operation of the annual conference in cooperation with the Local Arrangements chair and committee. Following his or her term, the program chairperson serves one year on the Program Committee (2011 – 2012).

**Three At-Large Members of the Steering Committee (2009 – 2011)** are elected by the membership for two-year terms. There are six at-large members on the Steering Committee, with three being elected each year. The Steering Committee members transact any necessary business, form standing committees, and approve the annual budget. The Steering Committee meets at least twice a year.

**Four Program Committee Members** (2010 Conference) help prepare the call for participation, review submitted abstracts, and compile the 2009 conference program. The Program Committee includes four at-large members who serve for one year (2009 – 2010) and are elected by the ASA membership.

**HOW TO MAKE A NOMINATION**

Make sure the nominee is willing to serve and understands the commitment involved.

Write a one-paragraph biography (please limit to 100 words) of the nominee that includes his or her involvement in Appalachian studies and/or Association. This paragraph will be included in the spring Appalink which includes the ballot.

Send your nomination/s to ASA Vice President:

Alice Sampson
North Georgia College & State University
Appalachian Studies Center
202 Vickery House
Dahlonega, GA 30597
avsampson@ngcsu.edu

The deadline for accepting nominations is November 17, 2008.
Please join us at the 32nd Annual Conference of the Appalachian Studies Association

“Connecting Appalachia and the World through Traditional and Contemporary Arts, Crafts, and Music”

March 27 – 29, 2009

Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, Ohio

Friday Keynote Speaker: Becky Anderson

Make plans now to experience this conference to be held for the very first time in Ohio Appalachia! The 2009 conference highlights the wealth of traditional and contemporary arts, crafts, and music of Appalachia and how they connect the region with the world. It examines their relationships with the environment and the economy; identity, image, and community; heritage and culture; the art and the artist; change and continuity; theory and action—locally, regionally, and beyond. These and other Appalachia-focused topics will explore and share memory, landscape, and community relationships that contribute to Appalachia’s connection with the world. You are invited to help “make the connection” by joining more than 600 colleagues in participating in the conference. Please visit the ASA website at http://www.appalachianstudies.org/conference for conference details as they become available.

Carol Baugh, 2009 ASA President; carol.baugh@sinclair.edu
Deanna L. Tribe, 2009 ASA Program Chair; tribe.1@osu.edu
Ginnie Moore, 2009 ASA Local Arrangements; gmoore@shawnee.edu

2009 ASA Program Committee:
Robert Gordon, Rich Greenlee, Donna Sue Groves, Lee Knisely-Sanders, and Deanna Tribe

The Appalachian Studies website has a lot to offer!

www.appalachianstudies.org
CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

CARL A. ROSS STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION
The Carl A. Ross Appalachian Student Paper Competition is open to students in two categories: middle/high school and undergraduate/graduate students. The authors of the winning papers will receive $100 each. Costs of attending the conference are the winners' responsibility. All papers must adhere to guidelines for scholarly research. To submit a paper for consideration for the 2009 competition, e-mail a Microsoft Word copy of the paper by January 9, 2009 to Aaron Astor (address below).

Middle/high school papers should be 12-15 pages in length; undergraduate/graduate papers should be 20-30 pages in length. Students submitting papers must be enrolled in courses at the time of the conference. To verify their student status, students can submit one of the following to the mailing address below by January 9, 2009: a copy of a schedule of classes; transcripts indicating enrollment for the spring 2009 term; a letter from a faculty advisor verifying the student's status for the spring 2009 term, which should include the faculty member's email address, phone number, and mailing address.

Students who wish to present their papers at the conference must also submit a Proposal for Participation following the guidelines above, available at www.appalachianstudies.org. Questions should be addressed to Aaron Astor, Anderson Hall 205A, Maryville College, Maryville, TN 37804 or aaron.astor@maryvillecollege.edu.

CRATIS D. WILLIAMS/JAMES S. BROWN SERVICE AWARD
The Cratis D. Williams/James S. Brown Service Award is given to an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia and/or the ASA. There is a two-step nomination process. Nominations should include a statement regarding the individual's specific contributions to the region or the individual's c.v./résumé. Following a review the Committee will request additional information about one or more finalists before selecting the award recipient. Send nomination materials to Emily Satterwhite, Assistant Professor of Humanities, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies (0227), 344 Lane Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0227 or by e-mail to esatter@vt.edu before January 12, 2009.

HELEN M. LEWIS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
The Helen M. Lewis Community Service Award is given to an individual or an organization that has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia through involvement with and service to its people and communities. Nominations should include a statement regarding the individual or organization's specific contributions to the region or its people, accompanied by at least two letters of support. Send nomination materials to Patricia Beaver, Director, Center for Appalachian Studies, Appalachian State University, University Hall, Boone, NC 28608 or to beaverpd@appstate.edu before February 1, 2009.

JACK SPADARO DOCUMENTARY AWARD
The award's name honors the activist and whistleblower, Jack Spadaro, who has spent his entire professional career working within the coalmining industry for the betterment of the Appalachian community. One award is given annually to recognize the best film, video, radio, television, or other media presentation on Appalachia or its people. Nominations should be made to Jack Wright at Ohio University School of Film, 378 Lindley Hall, Athens, OH 45701 or jwright ohio.edu before February 1, 2009. Technical and submission requirements are detailed at http://www.appalachianstudies.org/association/awards/.

THE e-APPALACHIA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING WEBSITE
The e-Appalachia Award is given annually in recognition of an outstanding website that provides insight on Appalachia and its people, or provides a vital community service to Appalachian. Nominations should be made to Gene Hyde, Website Committee Chair, at wehyde@radford.edu before February 1, 2009.

WEATHERFORD AWARDS
The ASA and Berea College annually present the Weatherford Awards to honor published works that “best illuminate the challenges, personalities, and unique qualities of the Appalachian South.” Two awards are given, one in nonfiction and a second in fiction & poetry. The award honors Willis D. Weatherford Jr. and Sr. for their contributions to the region. The late Alfred Perrin began the award in 1970. The only requirement is that the subject matter of the books be Appalachian or that they be set in Appalachia. All nominations for the Weatherford Awards must be made by December 31, 2008, and all entries must be originally published in 2008. The nomination and seven copies of each book should be sent to: George Brosi, CPO 2166, Berea, KY 40404.

For more details on any of these awards, please visit our website at www.appalachianstudies.org.

2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MARCH 27-29
Shawnee State University, PORTSMOUTH, OHIO
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Thirty-Second Annual Appalachian Studies Conference
March 27 – 29, 2009
Shawnee State University
Portsmouth, Ohio
Carol Baugh, President
Deanna Tribe, Program Chair
Ginnie Moore, Local Arrangements Chair

Thirty-Third Annual Appalachian Studies Conference
March 19 – 21, 2010
North Georgia College & State University
Dalonega, Georgia
Alice Sampson, President Elect
Cassie Robinson, Program Chair Elect
Donna Gessell, Local Arrangements Chair
“Appalachian Heritage is truly indispensable for readers and writers and literary folk in general who enjoy fine writing and are interested in the land and people of the Appalachian mountain region.” —Gurney Norman

“Without Appalachian Heritage, I probably never would have worked up the courage to submit my work…. The publication of my story in your magazine let me know that my writing had some merit.” —Silas House

TWO NEW SPECIAL ISSUES OF APPALACHIAN HERITAGE

A celebration of African American Appalachian artists, the Summer 2008 issue of Appalachian Heritage features work from Crystal Wilkinson, Frank X Walker, bell hooks, doris davenport, and Glennis Redmond. This issue showcases many photographs that demonstrate and commemorate the culture and rich history of African Americans in our region. William H. Turner is Guest Editor.

Don West, highly-acclaimed poet and activist, along with his wife Connie West, a gifted artist, take the spotlight in the Fall 2008 issue of Appalachian Heritage. The brilliant portraits painted by Connie are featured alongside the works of her husband. Each painting, as preserved by Wess Harris, stands out in wonderful color. Other contributors include R. T. Smith, Sidney Saylor Farr, Jeff Biggers, and the late George Garrett.

Appalachian Heritage is published by the Berea College Appalachian Center and distributed by the University of North Carolina Press.

For subscription information, call 919-962-4201, email unpress_journals@unc.edu, or fill out this handy form and mail along with your payment to:

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