

Fall, 2002

Volume 26, Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gordon McKinney

We are returning to our first home, Madison County, Kentucky, for our 26th meeting in March. It was in this location that Richard Drake and the other pioneers of the Appalachian movement founded this association. During our first quarter century of existence, the members of the association have sought to be inclusive. Conscious efforts have been made to reach out to racial, ethnic, gender, and age groups that might be underrepresented at our meetings and in our leadership positions. While our efforts have not been uniformly successful, our members have welcomed every opportunity to share our vision with the widest possible audience. With this year's theme, we will be seeking to continue this tradition. We hope to attract large numbers of health professionals, natural scientists, public and private persons who work with the environment, and public interest groups that challenge the status quo in these areas. We expect that the inclusion of these participants will enrich the dialogue within and outside of the Appalachian Studies Association.

Ironically, this year's conference will once again not reach one group—elected and appointed government officials. This is a problem not only of our formal organization, but it is one faced by all parts of the broader movement for equity and justice in Appalachia. Both activists and scholars have been unwilling to interact with these individuals. The reasons for this neglect seem to boil down to one factor—regional politicians are viewed as corrupt and not worthy of our attention. The assassination of two candidates for public office in eastern Kentucky this past spring only seems to confirm this perception.

Instead, most of us have followed the more congenial route of working with like-minded people to challenge the policies adopted by the established political infrastructure. This approach has won some notable victories including limiting the impact of the Broad Form Deed, limiting the destruction of our forest lands, preventing further destruction of our water resources, and assisting economically and socially challenged groups. But these victories—important as they are—do not change the fact that most decisions about the education, health care, environment, and economy of the region are made by elected officials and those persons they appoint.

President's message cont....

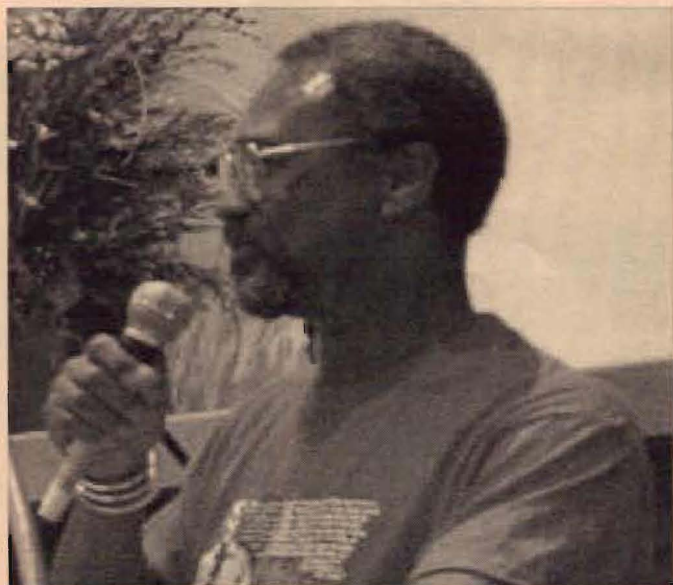


Folk art displayed at the 2002
Appalachian Studies Association Conference

If we are going to have an increasing impact on the mountain region—as a group or as individuals—we must become much more involved in the political process ourselves. These activities will require us to adapt to a world that has been shaped by nearly two centuries of history and tradition. Many of the persons already in politics hold ideas that are different and often in opposition to positions we hold. The influence of wealth, family history, traditional religious and social values, and personalities may well have a greater impact on the final result of an election or policy decision than scholarly analysis. Goals may be only partly achieved and compromise will be required to achieve even modest gains. Like others in the mountains, we could face possible economic or physical retaliation.

Despite these challenges, we must be willing to participate in this complex democratic process, or we will leave the power to make most of the important decisions in the mountains in the hands of others. If we do not include public officials in our own organization, we deny ourselves access to the women and men who make a real difference in the region. It is time for all of us to embrace the political system and to join with our fellow citizens in shaping Appalachia's future.

Gordon McKinney,
ASA President



Wilburn Hayden, California University of Pennsylvania
wearing a *Hosea Hudson, Appalachian Hero* T-shirt!
Want One? See our insert!

ASA WEBSITE UPDATE

www.appalachianstudies.org

The ASA webpage has undergone several updates. New features include an archive of material from previous conferences, the ASA Timeline that was featured at the 2002 annual meeting, and a leadership manual for the ASA Steering Committee.

The website will post up-to-the-minute plans for the 2003 annual meeting. Look for the conference program, news about lodging, and other program notes in the upcoming months.

All members of ASA, and anybody who is interested in Appalachian studies, can, and really should, take advantage of the website's interactive features:

- * Calendar of Events
- * Interactive Newsletter
- * Discussion Forums.

NEW DIVERSITY LISTSERV

The program for the 2002 ASA Annual Meeting in Helen, GA displayed unprecedented diversity, was the most inclusive conference to date, and sparked a wonderful event that participants will not soon forget. The "Diversity Breakfast" encouraged discussion of what *diversity* is, why it should be explored, and what it means to Appalachian studies. Focusing mainly on, but not limited to, increasing the participation of African Americans within the association, the discussion tapped into topics such as what it means to be Black and Appalachian. To keep the dialog alive, a listserv was developed to help shape discussions of this nature for future meetings. A 2003 Diversity Breakfast is proposed for the conference in Richmond, and all are encouraged to join, participate, and expand the discussions both on the listserv and at the breakfast. There are a multitude of voices that will be welcomed and who knows what can be understood and accomplished!

Join the listserv! Email csega@marshall.edu for more information.

Come to the breakfast during the 2003 conference in Richmond, KY!

Building A Healthy Region: Environment, Culture, Community ***Twenty-Sixth Annual Appalachian Studies Conference***

March 28-30, 2003

Co-Hosted by Berea College and Eastern Kentucky University at ECU in Richmond, KY

Mark your calendars! This year's conference theme, *Building a Healthy Region: Environment, Culture, Community*, is an attempt to bring greater continuity to our research and community activism. Conference sessions will feature work related to traditions, policies, and programs that sustain and enrich elements of mountain communities, cultures, and environments. In addition to papers, posters, panels, roundtable discussions, and exhibits, this year's conference will feature several special events including a presentation by environmental lawyer Tom Fitzgerald and an Appalshop movie presentation of Wendell Berry's reflections on the 9/11 experience. This movie presentation will take place in ECU's planetarium. Other features include folk art, traditional Appalachian music, receptions, book signings, readings, and a fashion show unveiling this year's Appalachian heroes and heroines T-shirts. Monies from T-shirt sales, along with proceeds from the annual silent auction, will contribute to the scholarship fund supporting community and student participation in the conference. Preliminary program and registration materials will be available by early January and on the ASA website. For further information contact Dr. Gordon McKinney; Appalachian Center; Berea College; CPO 2166; Berea, KY 40404.

PLEASE NOTE PROPOSED CHANGES IN ASA BYLAWS

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

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

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

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

The spring edition of Appalink will include an official ballot, and the membership will vote on the changes at the 2003 business meeting held during the conference. In the meantime, members can discuss the changes by logging into the bulletin board at the ASA website (www.appalachianstudies.org) or emailing Linda Spatig (spatig@marshall.edu).

2003 SILENT AUCTION

Dear Silent Auction Contributors and Participants,

It is never too soon to start planning how you're going to contribute to this year's Silent Auction. Since we started at the Boone conference in 1998, we have raised approximately \$13,750, all of which has gone into the "Scholarship Fund" to help individuals who without such assistance would not be able to participate in our conferences. We focus on the needs of community activist groups, public school teachers, and students. Help us by searching your homes for items of value that you no longer need. We get books, videotapes, crafts of all kinds, paintings, other framed-or-otherwise wall hangings, Appalachian collectibles of all sorts, art work in all media, carved walking sticks, novelty items, historical artifacts, mining artifacts, lots of hand carvings, and literally everything of value.

To check on the acceptability of any item just call me, Howard Dorgan (828-264-4361) or e-mail me at dorgancg@appstate.edu. The next time you hear from me I will be supplying the names and addresses of a number of "contact persons" throughout our region. These will be people to whom you can send items if you are not going to be at the conference in Richmond, KY. However, you can also send the items directly to me: Howard Dorgan, 747 Stadium Dr., Boone, NC 28607. I always arrive at the conference with the rear end of an SUV filled with auction items.

Be generous! This is a good cause. And plan on full participation with this event. You'll find that the people who work this auction have lots of fun, and do something good in the process. We came close at Snowshoe with \$3,800, but we still haven't broken the \$4,000 mark with a year's profits. Help us do that this time. Then I'll start moving the bar up to \$5,000. I don't plan on quitting this activity for a while.

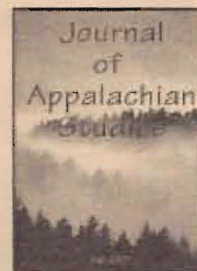
Bless you,

Howard Dorgan, Professor Emeritus of Communication

Call for Proposals: *Journal of Appalachian Studies*

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of ASA, the *Journal of Appalachian Studies* invites proposals for comprehensive articles assessing the current state of Appalachian Studies and how its scholarship has developed over the past two and a half decades. Topics may include both critical commentaries on disciplines (e.g., Appalachian literature, history, folklore, etc.) and on interdisciplinary topics (e.g., activism, health, environment, etc.).

Proposals should be limited to three pages and should include a thematic outline, an indication of what literatures will be addressed, and a statement suggesting why such changes in the field are significant. Send to Mary Thomas, Managing Editor, *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, Marshall University, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755. Deadline for proposals is 12/15/02.



Appalachia Wired: Webs of Diversity

March 6-8, 2003

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia (CSEGA) and Marshall University will host a web-based conference to explore, investigate, and reflect upon diversity in Appalachia focusing on ethnicity and gender. The conference will include web-based activities, starting with streaming video presentations of our five Rockefeller scholars and topics. A web-based conference allows anyone from anywhere with interests in ethnicity and gender in Appalachia to participate.

Proposals may be submitted for papers, posters, creative works - virtually anything that can be digitized by 11/1/02. Information is available at: <http://www.marshall.edu/csega>. Email leinen@marshall.edu or call 304-696-3348 with questions.

Change in 2003 ASA Membership Fees and Subscription Rates

At the fall meeting of the steering committee, a change in the membership and subscription rates for 2003 and a new category for membership were approved. Changes are as follows:

- Regular Individual Membership - \$40
- Individual Membership (w/o journal subsc.) - \$25
- Student Membership - \$25
- Library/Institutional Subscription - \$45.

New from AEL

■ *Small High Schools That Flourish: Rural Context, Case Studies, and Resources.* Edited by C. B. Howley and H. L. Harmon, 212 pages, \$20.

■ *Elementary Change: Moving Toward Systemic Reform in Rural Kentucky.* By P. J. Kannapel, L. Aagaard, P. Coe, and C. Reeves, 244 pages, \$20.

■ *Improving Rural School Facilities: Design, Construction, Finance, and Public Support.* Edited by S. Dewees and P. C. Hammer, 120 pages, \$18.

ASA Officer Nominations 2003

The ASA Bylaws outline the annual nomination and election of officers. Any member of the association may nominate a fellow member to serve. This year the association is seeking nominations for the following balloted positions:

The Vice President/President Elect (2003-2004) chairs the nominating committee and the scholarship committee, and negotiates for conference support at future sites. The vice president becomes president the following year. The president of ASA presides at all meetings, directs fund-raising, serves as spokesperson, and serves on the steering committee for one year following his or her term. Traditionally, the president elect resides in the state of the upcoming conference: VA in 2005.

The Program Vice-Chairperson/Program Chairperson Elect (2003-2005) assists the program chairperson, negotiates the future conference, and becomes the **program chairperson** the following year (VA in 2005). The program chairperson oversees the operation of all aspects of the annual conference. This includes officiating over the program committee and overseeing local arrangements. Following his or her term, the program chairperson serves one year on the program committee.

Three At-Large Members of the Steering Committee (2003-2005) The steering committee includes all elected and appointed officers and six at-large members, elected by the membership and serving two-terms. Three new at-large members are elected each year. The at-large members transact any necessary business, form standing committees, and approve an annual budget. The committee meets at least twice each year. This year, the committee has formed three new committees: finance and development, awards, and scholarship.

The Program Committee prepares the call for papers, reviews submitted abstracts, and compiles the conference program. A subcommittee handles local arrangements. The program committee includes four at-large members, elected by the ASA membership, serving for one year. The nominating committee is currently seeking program committee members for the 2004 conference to be held in NC.

New Office, ASA Historian (2003-2008) The steering committee has created the new office of "ASA historian." The ASA historian will be a nonvoting member of the steering committee with a five-year term, nominated by the nominating committee and appointed by the president. The ASA historian's work includes maintaining the association's timeline; cooperating with the ASA archivist in gathering relevant materials; and communicating the history of the association to the membership via the association's conference, website, journal, and newsletter. The person appointed does not necessarily have to be a professional historian, but must be an active ASA member with the requisite enthusiasm and skills.

How to Make a Nomination

1. Make sure the nominee is willing to serve and understands the work involved!
2. Write a one-paragraph biography of the nominee that includes his or her involvement in Appalachian studies and our association. This paragraph will be included with the spring ballot.
3. Send the paragraph to Thomas Plaut, chair of the nominating committee: The Richard L. Hoffman Center for Assessment and Research Alliances (CARA), Mars Hill College, 100 Athletic St., Box 1167, Mars Hill, NC 28754; 828-689-1337; Fax: 828-689-1355; tplaut@mhc.edu. Submit nominations no later than 1-15-03.

Conference Rotation Proposal

To provide greater flexibility in our conference location, ASA President Gordon McKinney proposed a rotation based on regions rather than states. There would be three regions as follows:

Northern: KY, OH, WV, PA, and MD

Central: VA and upper east TN

Southern: NC, GA, AL, and lower east TN

The spring edition of Appalink will include an official ballot, and the membership will vote on the changes at the 2003 business meeting held during the conference. Members can discuss the proposed change on our discussion log at: www.appalachianstudies.org.

What Do You Think? ASA would like to formally protest CBS's decision to develop a "Beverly Hillbillies" Reality TV show, in which a rural, possibly Appalachian family is asked to live in a mansion. That being the only premise, it is assumed that entertainment will come from how these "folks" behave. Is this offensive? Discuss topics such as this on the website discussion log (www.appalachianstudies.org).

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations should be made no later than 1/14/03. Direct questions to theresa.osborne@kctcs.edu, or call 606-589-2145. Mail nominations to: Robert Gipe; Appalachian Program Director, Southeast Community College, 700 College Road, Cumberland, KY 40823.

Cratis D. Williams/James S. Brown Service Award 2003

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. In most cases, the recipient is likely to be a member of the ASA; however, in the event of a significant contribution by an individual outside the association, the steering committee reserves the right to present the award to that individual. The award recipient is selected by the service award committee (appointed by the president) from nominations submitted by the membership, with the presentation made at the annual conference.

To make a nomination, please write a statement regarding the individual's specific contributions to the region, accompanied by letters of support from those familiar with the nominee. Nominations should be made no later than 1/14/03. Direct questions to theresa.osborne@kctcs.edu, or call 606-589-2145. Mail nominations to: Robert Gipe; Appalachian Program Director, Southeast Community College, 700 College Road, Cumberland, KY 40823.

2002 Helen M. Lewis Community Service Award

The community service award of the ASA will be given to an individual or an organization that has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia through involvement with and service to its people and communities. In most cases, the recipient is likely to be a member of the association. However, in the event of a significant contribution by an individual or organization outside of the association, the steering committee reserves the right to present the award to that individual or group. If you nominate an organization, please identify a contact person. Award recipients will be selected by the service award committee (appointed by the president of the association) from nominations submitted by the membership, with the award presentation made at the annual conference. The committee reserves the right not to present an award if no suitable nomination is made.

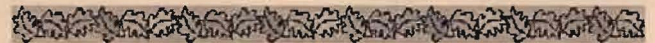
To make a nomination, please write a statement regarding the individual or organization's specific contributions to the region, accompanied by letters of support from those familiar with the nominee.

Carl A. Ross Student Paper Award

The Carl A. Ross Award was established in 1988, the year of Carl Ross' death. This competition is open to students in two categories: 1) middle /high school; and 2) undergraduate/ graduate. Student papers must adhere to the same guidelines and subject matter as other scholarly conference papers. The recipient/s is/are selected annually by a multi-disciplinary committee composed of Appalachian studies scholars. The prize includes a certificate and \$100 to be awarded during the Saturday business luncheon at the ASA conference which will be held at ECU in Richmond, KY, March 28-30, 2003. Students who want their papers to be considered for the conference program must submit a one-page abstract or proposal to the program committee by the deadline set for all other conference submissions. Winning this prize does not guarantee that the paper will be included in the conference program. By the same token, it is possible that a paper which does not receive the prize will, nevertheless, be selected for the conference program.

Students who wish to be considered for the 2003 Carl A. Ross Appalachian Student Paper Award should send four copies of a 20-30 page research paper to: Tal Stanley; The Appalachian Center for Community Service, Emory & Henry College, P.O. Box 947, Emory, VA 24327.

Please include a self-addressed stamped postcard or envelope if you wish to receive acknowledgment of receipt. To be considered for the prize, your paper must be postmarked by 1/06/03.



THANKS!!

**SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO
HELPED MAKE OUR GEORGIA CONFERENCE
SUCH A SUCCESS!**

**Another special thanks to the College of Education
and Human Services at Marshall University for
providing additional support for a summer graduate
assistant to work on our database.**

2002 ASA e-Appalachia Award

This award recognizes an outstanding website that provides insight on the Appalachian region and its people, or provides a vital community service to Appalachians. Nominations will be considered for any publicly available website that has been designed and is actively maintained by an Appalachian community-based group, or by Appalachian students at any level. Websites nominated must be active during the calendar year in which the nomination is made, and not created or managed by website professionals. All web presentations must adhere to the guidelines established by the U.S. Copyright Act and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. In addition, all individuals wishing consideration must agree to ASA's Website Security Notification and Acceptance of Terms. The award winner will receive \$250, but costs for attending the annual meeting of the ASA, where the award will be presented, are the winners' responsibility.

Evaluation of web presentations will be based on effective graphic design, quality and accuracy of content, innovative presentation concept, and compatibility of presentation with the mission of the ASA. The association reserves the right not to present an award if no suitable nomination is made. Individuals or community groups that wish to be considered for the ASA's e-Appalachia Award should submit a single page abstract stating the purpose of their site, its current address, and personal contact information to: Bill Klaus, PO Box 2095, Alderson-Broadus College, Philippi, WV 26416.

All nominations must be post marked no later than 2/7/03. Please include an email address with your nomination if you wish to receive acknowledgment of receipt. For questions contact Bill Klaus at 304-457-6338 or klausw@mail.ab.edu.

2002 Weatherford Award

In memory of Drs. W. D. Weatherford, Sr. and Jr., Berea College and the ASA present an award of \$500 to the author of the work published anywhere in the United States which, in the opinion of the judges, best describes and analyzes the challenges, personalities, and qualities of the Appalachian South. The conferring of this annual award has come to be recognized as a major Appalachian event. The winning work must be book length, or shorter, and it may be fact, fiction or poetry. It must have been first published during the year for which the award is made.

Deadline: A work may be nominated by its publisher, by a member of the award committee, or by any reader. All nominations for a given year must be received by 12/31 of that year. Persons making nominations are asked that seven copies of the nominated work be sent to the award committee. The winning work and the award will be presented during the annual meeting of the ASA.

Judging: The award committee is made up of an independent group of persons from various parts of the Appalachian South.

Submission: Send entries to: Weatherford Award Committee; Appalachian Center, CPO 2166; Berea College; Berea, KY 40404-2166.

Ancillary Awards

In addition to the ASA awards noted above, other groups and organizations offer awards relevant to Appalachian studies. For instance, the University Press of Kentucky offers an annual cash prize for the best book-length manuscript about Appalachia. Details about this competition are available at nholmes@ulkans.uky.edu.

AWARD WINNERS

2001 Weatherford Award – *At Home in the Heart of Appalachia* by John O'Brien.

2002 Carl A. Ross Student Paper Award - Alyson Baker, Paper: "The Flanary & Co. Store: A Century of Connections Between Southern Appalachia and the Wider World."

2001 ASA e-Appalachia Award - Resources for Readers and Teachers of Appalachian Literature for Children and Young Adults, <<http://www.ferrum.edu/AppLit/>> Site Designers: Judy Teaford and Tina Hanlon.

2001 Helen M. Lewis Community Service Award - Hindman Settlement School.

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 28-30, 2003

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

**EASTERN KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY
RICHMOND, KENTUCKY**

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

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 mthomas@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 spring 2003 edition is 1/31/03.

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

APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

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