“What I can’t figure out is whether this is the start of today or the tail-end of yesterday.”


In Gurney Norman’s short story, “The Tail-End of Yesterday,” Uncle Delmer makes this comment to his sisters, mother and young nephew Wilgus when members of the Collier family are going through a time of change and are trying to communicate and sort out some difficult issues. It is a comment that I have often gathered up and thought about during my life when things have been confusing and I seemed to be standing in several places at one time. It is a comment that fits us well in Appalachia today.

We are witnessing—living through—a time when the region that we have known, written about, and tried to understand is transforming at lightning speed. New opportunities and challenges unfold every day, and the region is alive with new ideas, energy, and creative expressions. Still, we continue to work on hard and persistent problems that we have not yet been able to solve.

Renewed and redirected federal interest in the region is encouraging. The Appalachian Regional Commission is seeking new ways to strengthen our most economically distressed counties. In a welcome sense of collaboration and openness, ARC has held listening sessions around the region to gather public input on how to improve its programs. Substantial ARC investments now go to initiatives intended to foster dynamic local economies and to provide alternatives to dependence on natural resource extraction. President Clinton has prompted other federal agencies to look our way as well, as he directs attention to the neighborhoods and regions around the country bypassed by the recent economic expansion.

Touted as one of the country’s “new markets” ripe for investment, Appalachia is poised to benefit from new funding for community development banks, empowerment zones, and tax breaks and financial incentives for new businesses. Early returns from this corporate attraction strategy, however, are disappointing. The telemarketing centers and data processing firms springing up around Appalachia, for instance, are attracted to low wages and our strong work ethic. These firms are not anchored in our communities and do not produce quality jobs.

(President’s Message cont on next page)
Inside the region many people are interested in community-based and locally-led development that will result in sustainable communities, a high quality of life, and stewardship of our natural and human resources. It is a difficult time, as the industrial backbone that families and communities depended on through much of the last century is coming apart. But it is also a time of opportunity, and people are calling for a development path that will result in equitable, self-sustaining communities.

The Appalachian Studies Association is poised to play a central role in this new era. From its beginning in 1977, the ASA has understood that our academic work must be based in and responsible to the communities that surround and host our colleges and universities. Never a remote enclave of academics, ASA seeks to mobilize the resources in our public institutions on behalf of the region’s well-being and provides a regional forum for ongoing conversations about the region’s problems and future.

At ASA’s twenty-fourth annual conference, we will gather at Snowshoe Mountain Conference Center in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. The Center is at the top of West Virginia’s highest mountain in one of its most beautiful counties. It is a fitting place for us to come together to take stock of where we are today and assemble our resources and energy to prepare for the future.

Interest in the Snowshoe conference is high. Many people and groups who very much have been a part of the region but not regularly a part of the ASA are planning to attend. The West Virginia Humanities Council will host a reception to welcome conference newcomers. Conference activities and participation will reflect Appalachia’s diversity, buried so long behind the stereotype of a monocultural, white, rural place. Young people will be involved throughout the conference in activities designed for and by teens and twenty-somethings, as well as little kids. This moves us beyond the days when ASA sponsored an auxiliary, separate youth conference, and it will help prepare a generation of new leaders.

There will be powerful examples of things that work in our communities, schools and workplaces—and a lot of this will be fun! “Stump the Chef,” for example, is a conference icebreaker in the works, coming to us from noted entrepreneurial farmer and gourmet food processor Harvey Christie—one of a number of activities from Highland Harvest that will introduce us to a new kind of economic development strategy in West Virginia. An off-site visit to the Greenbank National Radio Observatory and a new session at the conference by NASA Space Challenger Center may inspire a new group of Rocket Boys—or Rocket Girls. Young people, teachers, and officials will be on hand to share the ways they are transforming rural schools through place-based education. And many of our service learning programs around the region will be demonstrating the value of learning through engagement with communities.

Entertainment plans include two evenings of performances and other activities interspersed through the program. Saturday night the famous ASA Silent Auction turns not-so-silent as an Appalachian auctioneer takes the stage to help us raise money for conference scholarships. You’ll enjoy the first ever “Appalachian Heroes and Heroines T-Shirt Fashion Show,” currently being designed by Robert Gipe and an event that promises to become an ASA tradition. Off-site activities also include a trip through former lumber camps on the Cheat Mountain Salamander railbus and a visit to the homeplace of poet laureate Louise McNeil. In the Appalachian Gallery Walk exhibit area you will find the latest from community groups and school and campus programs.

More information about the conference is inside the newsletter, including the new ways the Program Committee is inviting people to participate. These new formats are intended to increase opportunities for people to get to know each other, share ideas and knowledge about the region, raise and discuss important issues, and form partnerships for the work ahead.

Eleven co-sponsors have signed on as our partners for this conference: the Appalachian Regional Commission, West Virginia University, West Virginia University Extension Service, the West Virginia Humanities Council, the West Virginia Rural Development Council, the Lightstone Foundation, the Rural School and Community Trust, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, the West Virginia Rural Development Council, the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, and the Economic and Community Systems division of USDA’s Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.
**Special ASA Lodging Rates Make 2001 Conference a Deal!**

Snowshoe Resort is offering low rates to accommodate ASA members. Take this opportunity to bring your family to the mountain top and spend some time in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. Choose lodging in Mountain Lodge or Spruce Lodge to take advantage of "ASA Rates." Both are central to Conference activities and to Snowshoe amenities.

**Mountain Lodge at the Snowshoe Mountain Conference Center:** Over 200 suites are available, each with a private outside balcony, kitchenette, living room, and standard size sleeper sofa. Some open to large interior atriums or to the main lobby with its large fireplace and living room area. A two-night stay is required for these rates – but you’ll want to be there longer.

- **One Bedroom, Mountain Lodge:** $91.00 can sleep 4
- **Two Bedrooms, Mountain Lodge:** $127.00 can sleep 6, two private baths

**Spruce Lodge:** This is a real bargain – lodge rooms, rather than condominiums. **Choose a Twin, Double, or Queen size bedroom option:** $61.00.

For Mountain Lodge or Spruce Lodge and the “ASA Rates,” call 1-877-441-4386. Be sure to mention that you are with the ASA.

Check out other lodging choices at the Showshoe website: www.snowshoemtn.com. Groups interested in hosting a “House” might consider reserving one of the larger condominiums on the mountain... and having us all over!

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**Program Committee Seeks Images of Appalachia for Display**

We’d like to project the faces and places of our region on the walls at the 2001 conference on Snowshoe Mountain, as a constant reminder of other people and situations.

Do you have slides you’d be willing to let us copy or borrow for the conference? Digital images we could use? What images would you like people to keep in mind during the conference? Please contact Kate Long, of the program committee at kate_long@hotmail.com. Kate will collect images for the next few months and find ways to project them on the walls as we travel through the conference.

The images can be informal snapshots or old photos, whatever. We can also feature specific photographers. Send Kate your ideas or let her know what you can contribute. We’ll take good care of slides and get them back to you.

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**Appalink** is published twice a year. The editor welcomes submissions for announcements and news. Subjects may include upcoming conferences, lectures, meetings, fellowships, award nominations, or other events that concern the membership of the Appalachian Studies Association. Submissions should be sent by e-mail or regular mail to Bill Klaus at: wklaus@wvu.edu; Department of History, West Virginia University, PO Box 6303, Morgantown, WV 26506-6303; Limited space is available, and all submissions are subject to editing. Paid-for advertisements will be considered for inclusion. Contact the editor for rates. The deadline for the Spring 2001 edition is January 15, 2001.
IT’S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL ASA SILENT AUCTION!

Once again, the Appalachian Studies Association will hold a silent auction with its annual spring conference. Please help us make the Snowshoe, West Virginia, event as successful as have been the past three years. Our silent auction raises money for people who, without financial assistance, would be unable to attend ASA’s conferences. This appeal seeks your contribution of one or more bid items to raise funds for 2002.

Conferences can be expensive for program participants without a college, university, or other institution to support their travels. The first three auctions raised, collectively, over $6,000. With the Snowshoe gathering, let’s see if we can bring that total up to $10,000. That can be done if we all pitch in with quality bid items and then make our own contributions to the actual bidding. Please be generous. I challenge West Virginia folks in particular to make their contributions.

Popular items have included Appalachian books, regional art and craft pieces, a great variety of “collectibles,” recordings of Appalachian music, video documentaries, novelty objects, and collections of regional photography. Last year’s hotly-competed-for objects included a Star of Bethlehem quilt, several pieces of Depression Glass, three beautifully carved Mountain Laurel or Dogwood walking canes, and a number of Appalachian landscape paintings.

This year’s event will include what Sally Maggard is billing as a “not so silent auction,” employing the talents of a West Virginia auctioneer to solicit on-the-spot bids for a number of the highest valued items. So bring your checkbook to the major evening entertainment where all of this will take place.

However, the above means that we must generate a sufficient number of quality bid items to drive the enthusiasm for this part of the affair. If you belong to one of the many organizations representing our various Appalachian interests, urge your groups to contribute an item that will be of such quality and value to be included in that evening’s select collection of auction objects or services. Give me a call—or e-mail me—if you have some thoughts about a possible contribution: Howard Dorgan (828) 264-4361 (home); (828) 262-2403 (office); dorganch@appstate.edu (email).

All bid items should be sent directly to Howard Dorgan, Dept. of Communication, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608. Please make your contributions far enough in advance of the conference that they can be properly readied for the event. The auction committee needs any information that will be helpful in promotion of the item (details about the respective artisan and/or craft guild). Objects which are brought directly to the conference will of course be accepted; however, such a delivery may not provide time for the most advantageous display preparations.

What’s New @ AppalachianStudies.org?

President Sally Maggard expanded the ASA Website Committee by three new members. Former site manager Scott Schwartz has been appointed to the committee and honored for his work with a plaque replicating the new front page he developed for the site. Joining him are Roy Silver, a professor at Southwestern Community College in Kentucky, and Emily Satterwhite, a graduate student at Emory University in Georgia. Our new site manager is Boyd Shearer Jr., a principal in the Internet mapping firm outrageGIS.com in Lexington, KY.

At the annual meeting in Knoxville individual committee members took responsibility for maintaining content in various areas of the site: For suggesting additions, corrections, or updates under “Appalachian Studies Association” contact Phil Obermiller, solotso@aol.com; for the “Research Resources” contact Roy Silver, rsilver@pop.uky.edu or Alan Banks, antbanks@acs.eku.edu; for the “Regional Services and Activism” contact Darlene Wilson, dgwils0@pop.uky.edu; for the bibliography contact Marie Tedesco tedescom@etsu.edu; and for submitting Appalachian course syllabi contact Emily Satterwhite esatterwhite@juno.com.

Be sure to visit the ASA site at AppalachianStudies.org to learn more about the call for papers at our 2001 conference in Snowshoe, West Virginia. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with your comments and suggestions about the site. Phil Obermiller, Website Committee Chair.
**WHAT YOU WILL FIND AT THE SNOWSHOE CONFERENCE**

**COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS: At Dinner With...**
meal time discussions of hot topics, new ideas, lessons learned, and special interests. This is also a good venue to begin to organize an ASA member interest group or caucus.

*Propose to host a Community Conversation: a chance to meet and greet and share your ideas.*

**21st CENTURY PANELS** — a new kind of panel to encourage sharing, provoke reflection, and inspire.

*Format:* 4-5 panelists have three minutes each to comment on a topic, panelists respond, and the audience gets into the act.

*Confused? Here are some ideas:*

- "Whoops! Mistakes I Made, Their Lessons and Consequences"
- "Appalachian War Stories: What We Survived and How"
- "Critics Corner: At the Movies with an Appalachian Eye"
- "The Creative Impulse in Appalachia: Our Masterpiece Creations"
- "Appalachian Family Album: What My Parents & Grandparents Taught Me"
- "The Global Beat: How Appalachia and the Global Economy Connect"

*Propose to a 21st Century Panel and launch a new Appalachian Studies Conference Tradition.*

**GET US MOVING** — it takes more than sitting and talking to "look to the future." Get our energy flowing so our minds work even better — and take advantage of our beautiful meeting site in Big Mountain Country, as they say in Pocahontas County.

*How about:*

- "Mountain Biking (or Hiking) on the Greenbrier Trail"
- "Appalachian Scavenger Hunt on Showshoe Mountain"
- "Appalachian Spring: An Early Morning Bird and Nature Walk"
- "Fly fishing on Headwater Streams and the Greenbrier River"

*Or if it snows — "Let's Go Skiing, Tubing, Snowboarding, and Mogul-busting!"

*Propose to Get Us Moving: meet, greet, exercise, and spark some great conversation.*

**POSTER SESSION** — a time and space set aside for informal conversations about your work. Use mounted visual displays, handouts, and literature as you meet and greet the people who come by your "poster" presentation.

*A venue for community groups, scholars, artists, teachers, extension educators, development specialists — for everyone!*

*Propose a Poster Presentation to introduce your work, find peers, and generate support.*
ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS – A Roundtable Chair and up to four or five Contributors address for 5 minutes each the topic of the session. Sessions are limited to the number of seats available – fifteen to twenty. Everyone is expected to participate. Use these to discuss research-in-progress, the value of a research method, curriculum issues, a hurdle in community organizing, problems in fund raising, and more. A good venue for many needs at the conference. Propose a Roundtable Session for some concentrated discussion of your issues and expect good feedback from participants.

ASA’s TRADITIONAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION FORMATS CONTINUE, some with a new twist:

- RESEARCH PAPER SESSIONS
- COMMUNITY GROUP PRESENTATIONS
- FACILITATED PANEL SESSIONS
- FILM AND VIDEO PREMIERES
- BOOK, AUTHOR, STUDENT, AND OTHER RECEPTIONS
- ASA KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND BANQUET
- ASA LUNCHEON, BUSINESS MEETING, AND AWARDS
- EXHIBITS – COMING THIS YEAR AS “THE ASA GALLERY WALK”
- THE SILENT AUCTION – WITH A NEW “NOT-SO-SILENT” CLOSE OUT!
- CRAFTS SHOW – AS “THE APPALACHIAN MARKET PLACE”
- WORKSHOPS AND NEW “SHOW ME HOW” SESSIONS
- ENTERTAINMENT: “LIVE” AND, NEW THIS YEAR, “PROJECTED”
APPALINK READERS:
CONTACT YOUR LIBRARY ABOUT OUR JOURNAL!

Invite your institution's library and/or your local public library to subscribe to the Journal of Appalachian Studies. Give them the form below. Tell them the JAS is published by the Appalachian Studies Association, the national association of scholars, teachers, and regional activists who write, research, and teach in the interdisciplinary field of Appalachian Studies. The JAS is published twice annually, in the spring and fall, and includes the most recent scholarship in academic disciplines specializing in the Appalachian region as well as an annual bibliography.

All back issues of JAS are available. Inquire at RRIASA@wvu.edu or at the office address below.

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We have enclosed $35 for a one-year institutional subscription. (Libraries may wish to place an order through a subscription service.) Please make checks payable to: Journal of Appalachian Studies. Return subscription form to: Journal of Appalachian Studies, P.O. Box 6825, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506.

We would like to see an issue of the JAS before subscribing. Please send us a free sample copy.

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BACK ISSUES ORDER FORM

If you would like to obtain back issues of the JAS, JASA, or Proceedings of the ASA, complete the form below and send it with your check made out to: Journal of Appalachian Studies, Box 6825, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506. Be sure to include your return address and phone number.

The following issues of the Journal of Appalachian Studies are available at $10 per copy: Vol. 1, no. 1, Fall 1995; Vol. 2, nos. 1 & 2, Spring and Fall 1996; Vol. 3, no. 2, Fall 1997; Vol. 4, nos. 1 & 2, Spring and Fall, 1998. Vol. 5, nos. 1 & 2 are $15 each. CIRCLE THOSE YOU WISH TO PURCHASE.

The following issues of the Journal of the Appalachian Studies Association are available at $5 per copy: Vol. 7, 1995 (Appalachia and the Politics of Culture); Vol. 6, 1994 (Appalachian Adaptations to a Changing World); Vol. 5, 1993 (Diversity in Appalachia); Vol. 4, 1992 (Environmental Voices). Volumes 1, 2, & 3 are out of stock. CIRCLE THOSE YOU WISH TO PURCHASE.

Proceedings of the 10th Annual ASA Conference (Remembrance, Reunion, and Revival [1988]) is still available at $5 per copy. All other Proceedings are out of stock. CIRCLE THOSE YOU WISH TO PURCHASE.

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ASA to Cosponsor the Weatherford Award with Berea College

The Appalachian Studies Association is pleased to announce that, starting this year, it will cosponsor the venerable Weatherford Award with Berea College. Since 1970, the Appalachian Center and Hutchins Library at Berea College have sponsored the annual W. D. Weatherford Award. This prize of $500.00 has been presented to the author(s) of the work published anywhere in the United States which, in the opinion of the judges, best describes the challenges, personalities, and qualities of the Appalachian South. The winning work may be book-length or shorter, and it may be fact, fiction, or poetry.

A list of the past decade’s recipients shows the prestige and breadth of the award:

A work may be nominated by its publisher, the author, a member of the award committee, or any member of the Appalachian Studies Association. Nominations are due by December 31 of each year. Starting this year, the award will be presented during the annual Appalachian Studies Association conference.

The West Virginia Humanities Council graciously hosted the fall meeting of the ASA Steering Committee. WVHC recently relocated its main office to the historic Hubbard House, on the Kanawha River in Charleston, West Virginia. The house was built in 1836, and was recently restored through the efforts of WVHC. The Council is a cosponsor of the 2001 ASA Conference.

Pictured to the right, on the house’s main staircase, are (on the stairs from the top left) Howard Dorgan, Silent Auction Committee; Sandra Barney, Program Chair 2001; Ken Sullivan, Director of the West Virginia Humanities Council and Program Committee 2001; Sally Maggard, President 2001; Judi Jennings, At-Large Member. Standing on the floor are, from left to right, Phil Obermiller, Website Committee; Shaunna Scott, At-Large Member; Helen Lewis, President Elect; Susan Lewis, Office Manager/Managing Editor JAS; Pat Beaver, At-Large Member. Not pictured: Bill Klaus, Secretary; Doyle Bickers, Treasurer; Gordon McKinney, At-Large Member.

Go to the ASA website, appalachianstudies.org, for a complete list of ASA Officers and their e-mail addresses.
Symposium represents a continuing effort to increase awareness and understanding of regional culture.

The symposium features Dr. Grace Toney Edwards, Radford University, as the keynote speaker. Kay Moss will also speak on Southern Folk Medicine, and Jim Lloyd will hold a storytelling concert and workshop. The tentative program includes the panels, “Representing Appalachia,” “Cultural Attachment to Land,” “Developing Heritage Tourism,” “The Highlander Academy: A Study of Appalachian Culture,” “The Origin of the 5 String Banjo,” “Mending Our Quilt of Cultures: How to Discuss Race and Tolerance,” and several others. For more information, contact Shannon Brooks, P.O. Box 8508, Roanoke, Virginia 24014; e-mail sbrooks@explorepark.org; (540) 427-1800.

Boone, NC: The Center for Appalachian Studies at Appalachian State University invites applications for the Master of Arts degree in Appalachian Studies for the 2001 academic year. This 36 semester hour degree program offers concentrations in the Appalachian Culture Area and in Sustainable Development. Support for graduate students is available through scholarships, assistantships, and employment on the campus. For more information, please contact Patricia D. Beaver, Director (beaverpd@appstate.edu; tel 828-262-4089; or write the Center For Appalachian Studies, ASU, Boone, NC 28608), or visit our website at www.appstudies.appstate.edu. Applications for admission and other information are available online from the Cratis Williams Graduate School home page at www.appstate.edu.

New Edition of *Appalachia: Social Context Past and Present*

Professors Ergood and Kuhre have retired, and Kendall & Hunt, publisher, has asked us to revise *Appalachia: Social Context Past and Present* for a fourth edition to be published in 2001. Because of the volume's central role in introducing students and others to the region, we are consulting as widely as possible on the revision. Please take a few moments to give us your suggestions for the additions and changes you would like to see. You can contact us at:

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E-mail: solotso@aol.com

Michael Maloney
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Cincinnati, OH 45213
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Fax: 513.531.3899
E-mail: meamon@aol.com
Nomination for the Cratis D. Williams & James S. Brown Service Award of the Appalachian Studies Association

This award will be given to an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia and/or the Appalachian Studies Association. 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 outside of the Association, the Steering Committee reserves the right to present the award to that individual.

The Award will be selected by the Service Award Committee (appointed by the President) from nominations submitted by the membership, with the presentation to be made at the annual conference. The committee reserves the right not to present the award if no suitable nomination is made.

Nominations should be made no later than January 12, 2001. Mail nominations to: Patricia Beaver, Center for Appalachian Studies, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608. Direct questions to beaverpd@appstate.edu, (828) 262-4089.

Nominee

Name:

Address:

Affiliation:

ASA Membership: Yes □ No □
If “yes”, specify length and type of involvement in the Association:

Nominator

Name:

Address:

Phone Home/Work:

Affiliation:

Please include a narrative which includes the nominee’s field of endeavor; specific examples of his or her contribution(s); the number of individuals affected by the contribution and/or the geographic area served; and any other relevant information. In addition, please submit at least two supporting letters from individuals acquainted with the nominee’s work.
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MARCH 30 - APRIL 1, 2001
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LOOKING TO THE FUTURE
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CONFERENCE CENTER
SNOWSHOE, WEST VIRGINIA
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