



## President's Message

It's another new year in Appalachia and I continue to ponder goings on in what Silas House dubbed "New Appalachia." My fall message focused on tackling discrimination against LGBT individuals and problems with Mountain Top Removal (MTR) mining in the region. An encouraging victory on the latter, by the way, occurred late last fall when Patriot Coal announced its decision to phase out MTR mining. The decision, made in agreement with citizen activist groups, explicitly acknowledged negative environmental effects of MTR mining.

The first news bulletin of today's message is that negative stereotypes of the region are alive and well. In January, MTV aired the first segment of a new reality show *Buckwild*. Set in West Virginia, the show features what Asawin Suebsaeng calls "thickly-accented young adults as they swear, fight, fornicate . . . [and] enjoy shooting things, blowing stuff up, and operating all-terrain motor vehicles with zero regard for logic or safety" (*Mother Jones*, December 11, 2012). West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin went on the *Today Show* to register objections to the show on the grounds that it "plays to ugly, inaccurate stereotypes." Lauren Oyler, who grew up in Hurricane, West Virginia and recently graduated from Yale University, wrote, "I didn't spend my childhood rolling around in a giant tire. It's a little ridiculous that I have to make this point, but . . . most West Virginians aren't seven-toothed rednecks who spend days in the coal mines and nights with their cousins. . . . The thick accent, the loud, obnoxious insistence on 'freedom,' the mud-splattered all-terrain vehicles—none of that is me" (*Salon* - January 2, 2013).

Oyler goes on to critique Manchin's critique as well as the response of an MTV producer who called the cast members' pride in their lifestyle a "refreshing" rejection of "the crap in daily life." Oyler's response to this: "It's not a 'refreshing choice' . . . It's ignorance." She argues that for this to be an intentional choice for these young

people requires an "exposure to the rest of the world that West Virginia education systems rarely offer." She describes Manchin's response as "out of touch," noting that West Virginia is neither the "greatest state in the nation nor a land of inbred savages, and its problems won't be solved by sound bites or synecdoche."

Synecdoche, pronounced se-neck'-do-key, is a new word for me, a figure of speech that involves using a part of something as the whole of it, in effect generalizing from a part to the whole. A fitting term for discussing stereotypes. In this case, the part (the cast of the show)—a relatively small group or subset of young adults in West Virginia—is a stand-in for all young adults in the state. This is logically problematic, of course, as well as culturally offensive, given historical state and regional stigmatization. It seems to me, though, that Oyler's broad-stroke condemnation of West Virginia school systems is an example of synecdoche as well. In my experience, there is considerable variation in school systems and schools, and even in classrooms, across the state. Further, in some areas—such as early childhood education—West Virginia is considered a national leader, especially with its provision of state-supported pre-kindergarten.

Speaking of leadership, news flash number two: Appalachia is leading the nation in what the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is officially calling an "epidemic" of prescription drug overdose deaths. This is a national problem. According to Dennis Lee, quoted in the *Bluefield Daily Telegraph*, "overdose deaths surpassed . . . car accidents as the leading cause of accidental deaths in America" (Kate Coil, Nov 21, 2012). The CDC reports that drug overdose rates in the U.S. "more than tripled since 1990 and have never been higher." Unfortunately, though, the epidemic seems to be most acute in the Southwest and in Appalachia. Recent CDC reports indicate that the highest death rates exist in two states, New Mexico and West Virginia, with West

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Virginia rates “nearly five times that of the state with the lowest rate, Nebraska.” West Virginia is the only state located fully in Appalachia, but the Appalachian parts of other states also are experiencing serious problems with overdoses. Dennis Lee, Commonwealth Attorney for Tazewell County, Virginia, for example, explains that the rate of drug overdose deaths in rural “Southwest Virginia is now triple the state average” (Kate Coil, *Bluefield Daily Telegraph* – Nov 21, 2012).

Why the higher overdose death rates in Appalachia? No clear answers have emerged, but perhaps some clues might be found in a recent article on demographic trends in the region. In the piece, Robert Ludke, Phillip Obermiller, and Eric Rademacher report that childhood poverty rates in Appalachia increased from 17.1 percent to 22.1 percent between 2000 and 2008-2010, an increase greater than for the non-Appalachian region and the United States as a whole. In fact, there has been an increase in poverty in the region generally with the exception of adults 65 and older, an increase in poverty rates that represents “a reversal of the trend of decreasing poverty in the region occurring since at least 1970” (*Journal of Appalachian Studies* 18: 1&2, p. 88). Further, while the region seems to have caught up with the rest of the nation in high school graduation and college-going rates, “the increase in educational attainment did not result in increased employment” in Appalachia (p. 86).

In closing, I will try to lift your spirits with a bit of upbeat Appalachian Studies Association news. We continue to adapt well to our new organizational structure


with officers and conference chairs serving three-year periods. Our *Journal of Appalachian Studies* continues to broaden its scope and increase its visibility. This year we added JSTOR—in addition to EBSCO Host and ERIC—to our list of electronic indices and distributions. Finally, we are excitedly gearing up for our 36<sup>th</sup> annual Appalachian Studies Conference, to be held at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Our executive committee retreat this past summer was my first visit to Boone and I admit being instantly smitten by the physical beauty of the place. I was also blown away by the incredibly extensive William Leonard Eury Appalachian Collection in the university's Belk Library. The collection includes over 44,000 books, 200 periodical subscriptions, 8,000 sound recordings, and 1,500 videos and DVDs. Equally impressive to me, though, were brand new happenings on and near the campus. We had a delicious lunch, for example, at the F.A.R.M. Café, a non-profit, pay-what-you-can community kitchen in downtown Boone. The Café provides high-quality meals produced from local sources when available. The meals are served in a restaurant where everybody eats, regardless of means. I look forward to seeing many of you at the conference and continuing the conversation about New (and Old) Appalachia—maybe over lunch at a local café. . .

*Linda Spatig, President*

## ASA 2013 CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The conference in Boone will be upon us before we know it. This year, as in the past, the ASA is pleased to offer scholarships to those wishing to attend the conference, but are unable to do so because of financial reasons. For years this scholarship has made it possible for thousands of people to attend the ASA annual meeting. I, also, received a scholarship when I was a graduate student in the 1990s. The scholarship covers the conference fee only. Recipients must pay for meals, lodging, and travel to Boone. Priority in awarding scholarships will be given to those actively involved in the conference such as presenting a paper or speaking on a panel. However, anyone may apply.

The scholarship application form is on the website. The deadline for applying is February 18, 2013. Applicants will be notified via email by February 22, 2013. Remember, if you request a scholarship, do not pay for the conference unless you have been notified that you have not been funded. For any additional information, please email the scholarship Chair, Roger Guy at [roger.guy@uncp.edu](mailto:roger.guy@uncp.edu).



**APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

Appalink is published twice a year. We welcome submissions, announcements, and/or news. Subjects may include upcoming conferences, lectures, meetings, fellowships, award nominations, or other events of interest to the members of the ASA. Submissions should be sent by e-mail to Mary Thomas at [asa@marshall.edu](mailto: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 2013 edition is December 1, 2013.

Eryn Roles, Editor  
Mary Thomas, Managing Editor

Appalachian Studies Association  
One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, West Virginia 25755



# 36th Annual ASA Conference

March 22-24, 2013

## “Communities in Action, Landscapes in Change”

The 36th Annual Appalachian Studies Conference, to be held March 22-24, 2013, on the campus of Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, is shaping up to be an eclectic and exciting gathering of academics, community activists, students, and community members from around the region and the world.

Some highlights of this year's conference include a keynote address after our Friday night banquet by Bill Ferris entitled “The Changing Landscape of Regional Studies: Appalachia and the American South.” Based on his experience as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities from 1997-2001, Professor Ferris's keynote address will reflect on how the NEH has supported Appalachian studies and regional studies in general. Professor Ferris will also discuss the relationship of Appalachia to the American South and the importance of its literature and music.

The 2013 program committee has organized several special events to introduce conference attendees to issues and opportunities in Watauga, Avery, and Ashe Counties. A community service project on Friday afternoon will allow conference attendees to make a difference in Boone by planting live stakes of native trees near campus. Conference attendees are also invited to take a tour on Friday afternoon of Appalachian State University's Sustainable Development Teaching and Research Farm and Agroecology Laboratory in nearby Ashe County. A tour of steep slope and second home development sites in Watauga and Avery Counties will take place on Saturday. Both tours and the service project are free. Van transportation will be provided for the tours.

Resources at Appalachian State University for the study of and engagement with the Appalachian region will be highlighted during our conference as well. The W. L. Eury Appalachian Collection in Belk Library and Information Commons will host an open house during the conference, and the Center for Appalachian Studies will inform conference attendees of its scholarly and community outreach agendas.

Our 2013 coordinator of music and entertainment, Mark Freed, has lined up two evenings of special events

### Featured 2013 Conference Keynote Address by Bill Ferris



“The Changing Landscape of Regional Studies: Appalachia and the American South”

Based on his experience as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities from 1997-2001, Professor Ferris will reflect on how the NEH has supported Appalachian studies and regional studies in general. He will also discuss the relationship of Appalachia to the American South and the importance of its literature and music.

for us sponsored by the Appalachian Heritage Council, an ASU student group. Following Professor Ferris's keynote address on Friday night, conference attendees are invited to an Appalachian Social, an open forum for jamming, flatfoot dancing, and socializing. On Saturday evening, conference attendees may enjoy a concert featuring performances by ballad singer and banjo player Rick Ward; storyteller Orville Hicks; legendary dancer Robert Dotson; and a local string band. The concert will be followed by a square and contra dance with callers Phil Jamison and Rodney Sutton.

With fingers crossed for balmy temperatures and clear skies the weekend of March 22-24, the 2013 ASA conference committee, the Center for Appalachian Studies, and the faculty, staff, and students of ASU look forward to welcoming all of you to campus, Boone, and Western North Carolina.

*Katherine Ledford, Conference Chair*

## HOWARD DORGAN SILENT AUCTION

This year the Silent Auction is honoring its founder, Howard Dorgan. This seems only fitting because the conference is being held at Appalachian State where Howard had a distinguished academic career. Howard saw the need for more money to fund scholarships to the ASA conference. In 1998 he did something about it. In 2005 Howard asked Carol Baugh and me to take over and we have carried on pretty much the way he established the Silent Auction, adding only a raffle with three or four special items.

Supporters of the Silent Auction bring their contributions to the conference or send them to me if they are not attending. The conference exhibitors—especially the book publishers—generously donate to the collection of things put up for auction. Over the last several years, approximately 250 items make up the selection presented for contemplation. The first Silent Auction was comprised mostly of books. Since then, all sorts of treasures can be found among the items presented for bid. These include furniture, household goods, handcrafted objects, unusual collections, academic miscellanies, jewelry and other accessories, and of course lots of books, both new and gently read.

Conference participants place bids on sheets beside the items. We start the bidding very low to encourage participation. Then we ask people to check back frequently to continue upping their bids on desired items. The raffle and Silent Auction end on Saturday, with the final check-out going surprisingly fast. While you are not required to be present at the end, arrangements must be made with the Silent Auction staff for securing your haul.

Over the years that I have been associated with the Silent Auction the final receipts have been about the same. In memory of Howard Dorgan, let us make this year the best ever – both in objects contributed and money raised. You make this possible. Thank you! Please contact me if you have any questions [philis@philisalvic.info](mailto:philis@philisalvic.info).

*Philis Alvic & Carol Baugh, Co-Chairs,  
Howard Dorgan Silent Auction*

## ASA BUSINESS

### Website News

ASA is excited to welcome Aaron Nelson of Morehead, KY as our new Web Manager. Aaron has hit the ground running in terms of streamlining our already fantastic website. Eryn Roles has taken over as Website Committee Chair, so if you have any news, information,

edits, etc. to contribute to the site please contact her at [roles1@marshall.edu](mailto:roles1@marshall.edu). We are very excited at the prospect of how the website will grow with our organization, and encourage our members, scholars, and community activists to contribute their ideas and visions to the ASA. Please visit our website to see the new and upcoming changes at <http://www.appalachianstudies.org>

*Eryn Roles*

### Journal News

The *Journal of Appalachian Studies* is pleased to announce that Shaunna Scott has been selected as the new editor. Our thanks go to search committee members Mary Anglin, Chad Berry, John Inscocoe, and Bruce Tucker, and committee chair, Barbara Ellen Smith, who took on the difficult task of reviewing applications and considering the highly qualified applicants. Shaunna, a past president of the ASA and highly respected scholar, is Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of Graduate Studies at the University of Kentucky.

Members of the Appalachian Studies Association owe a debt of gratitude to Ted Olson, who edited *JAS* from 2009 until 2012. His ideas, cooperative spirit, and energy brought exciting changes to the design and content of the journal. *JAS* 18, nos.1 and 2, edited by Olson, is due to come out before the end of January, 2013. This volume features an article on demographic change in Appalachia, articles on urban Appalachians, a look at perceptions of emergency plans for coal waste impoundments, a personal essay on “redneck resistance,” Si Kahn’s 2012 ASA conference keynote address and responses to it, selected 2012 ASA conference papers, a community note on Appalachia in the Black Belt South, and Jo. Brown’s annual bibliography of Appalachian studies publications, as well as book and media reviews.

*Eddy Pendarvis,  
Interim Editor*



## BY-LAW CHANGES

Please read carefully. The ASA Membership will vote on these changes during the ASA Conference during the Business Meeting, Saturday, 1 PM in the Central Dining Facility.

Rationale: The following changes to ASA's bylaws reflect the fact that the position of ASA Secretary and Appalink editor are now held by two different individuals, and this change would recognize that split of responsibility.

1) ARTICLE IX, Section 1, a. ELECTED OFFICERS: **Change (3) Secretary/Appalink Editor); To: (3) Secretary**

2) ARTICLE IX, Section 1, b. APPOINTED OFFICERS: **Add: (12) Appalink Editor.**

3) ARTICLE IX, Section 3, a. [TERMS FOR] ELECTED OFFICERS: **Change: (3) Secretary/Appalink Editor — three years; To: (3) Secretary—three years**

4) ARTICLE IX, Section 3, b. [TERMS FOR] APPOINTED OFFICERS. All appointed Officers shall serve a term of three years renewable as voting members of the Steering Committee. **Add: (12) Appalink Editor.**

5) ARTICLE X, Section 3. **Change: (Secretary/Appalink Editor) To: Secretary.** The secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the association and the steering committee; and shall maintain a copy of the association bylaws, articles of incorporation, and *Robert's Rules of Order*. **Remove: The Secretary shall be responsible for the publication of Appalink.**

6) **Add under:** ARTICLE X: Section 19. ***Appalink Editor.* The Appalink Editor shall be responsible for the publication of Appalink.**

Rationale: In keeping with the Long-Range Plan goals of bringing younger members into the organization, these by-law changes will facilitate the inclusion, mentoring, and on-the-job training of student members. The vision is that elected students would serve two years, working closely with the President (who then becomes Past President and Conference Chair) on the running of ASA and its conference.

7) **Add:** ARTICLE IX, Section 1, a. ELECTED OFFICERS: **(8) At-Large Student Steering-Committee Member (Two).**

8) **Add under:** ARTICLE IX, Section 3, a. [TERMS FOR] ELECTED OFFICERS: **(8) At-Large Student Steering-Committee Member (two)—Two years.**

9) **Add under:** ARTICLE X, Section 20: **At-Large Student Steering-Committee Member.** See Article XI, Section 1, b.

10) Add under: ARTICLE XI, Section 1: b. Election of at-large student steering-committee members. At-large student members shall serve for two (2) years, with one new member being elected each year. At-large student members shall be elected by written ballot as described in Article IX, Section 4. **In addition to the responsibilities listed in this section (Article XI, Section 1), at-large student members will work closely with and support the duties of the President (and Past-President).**

11) **Change:** ARTICLE XI: Section 1, b. to Section 1, c.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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's 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 at [beaverpd@appstate.edu](mailto:beaverpd@appstate.edu) before February 1, 2013.

### e-Appalachia Award nominations

Please take the time to send nominations in for the e-Appalachia Award. This 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 Appalachians. The e-Appalachia Award is increasingly gaining prestige among those in the field. Nominations should be made to Eryn Roles, Website Committee Chair, at [roles1@marshall.edu](mailto:roles1@marshall.edu) before March 1, 2013.

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (BOOK PROJECT): Appalachia Revisited: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives On Regional Continuity And Change

We request a Call for Abstracts of original, scholarly research across the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences that address the theme of "Appalachia Revisited." With revisited, we mean to highlight transformations in the Appalachian region

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and concurrent changes in the way Appalachia is approached as a topic of academic study. Our goal is to develop a cross-disciplinary examination of the cultural, technological, economic, political, and environmental processes that have shaped Appalachia approximately over the last twenty years. The objective of this project is the production of a peer-reviewed, edited book of approximately 80,000 words for publication through an academic press. Individual chapters will range 6,000-7,000 words. We invite abstracts of 450-600 words by March 1, 2013 that address Appalachia's connections to wider processes of transformation, including changes in theoretical and methodological approaches to regional scholarship. Above all, we welcome creativity in Revisiting Appalachia. For a copy of the complete CFP with suggested topics, to request more information, or to submit an abstract, please contact one of the following project editors.

Dr. William Schumann  
University of Pittsburgh at Bradford  
[wrs18@pitt.edu](mailto:wrs18@pitt.edu)

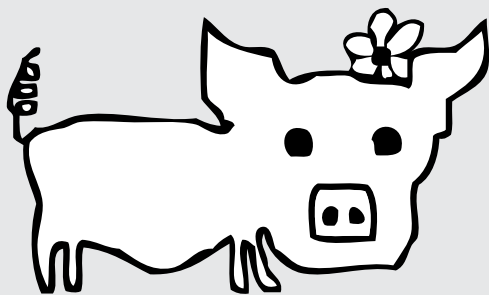
Dr. Rebecca Adkins Fletcher  
Ohio University Southern  
[fletchr1@ohio.edu](mailto:fletchr1@ohio.edu)

Dr. William Schumann is assistant professor of anthropology and director of the Allegheny Institute for Natural History at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford.

Dr. Rebecca Adkins Fletcher teaches Anthropology and Women's and Gender Studies at Ohio University Southern.

## REGISTER EARLY!

Register By March 1, 2013  
for the early bird rate, saving \$25!



The ASA EnSOWment is asking you to "Feed the Pig!" Have you given your \$10.00 to the ASA Endowment Fund?

## OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The following individuals have been nominated for ASA offices. Be sure to vote; the ballot is on page 11 in this issue of Appalink and may be turned in at conference registration or mailed to Mary Thomas, ASA Executive Director, Marshall University, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755.

### **Vice President/President Elect (2013-2014); President (2014-2015); Conference Chair (2015-2016):**

**Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Ph.D.**, is Professor of English at Shepherd University and Coordinator of the Appalachian Studies Program and the Appalachian Heritage Writers Project at Shepherd University. She teaches Appalachian Literature, 19th-Century British Literature, and Linguistics. She was 2006 West Virginia Professor of the Year and serves as current Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty of West Virginia. Her books include *Reading/Writing Relationships* (Kendall Hunt) and her essays have appeared in *Victorian Poetry*, *Women's Studies*, *North Carolina Literary Review*, *The Journal of Appalachian Studies*, *Journal of Kentucky Studies*, *Essays in Literature*, *Women and Language*, and other journals and critical collections including *Untying the Tongue: Gender, Power and the Word*, Scribners' *American Writers* and *World Writers in English* collections, and *Feminism in Literature*. She is managing editor of *Anthology of Appalachian Writers*, a yearly volume featuring current and heritage Appalachian poets and fiction writers; and she is directing an NEH Summer Seminar for Teachers, *Voices from the Misty Mountains*, July 7-27, 2013.

### **Vice Program Chair/Program Chair Elect (2013-2014); Chair (2014-2015 Tennessee):**

**Amy Collins** is Director of the Archives of Appalachia, a unit of the Center for Appalachian Studies & Services at East Tennessee State University. She also teaches archival studies for the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program at ETSU. Before coming to East Tennessee in 2000 on a National Historical Publications and Records grant, Amy was Manuscripts Librarian and University Archivist at the University of Rochester. Prior to moving to Rochester, Amy was Director of Library and Information Resources for the New York State Historical Association in Cooperstown, New York, where she also served on the adjunct faculty of the Cooperstown Graduate Program for History Museum Studies. Amy received her MLS in Library and Information Policy from the State University of New York at Albany.

### **2014 Program Committee Nominees (West Virginia conference):**

**David Trowbridge, Ph.D.** is an associate professor of history and Director of African and African American

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Studies at Marshall University. He is the author of *A History of the United States* and a forthcoming book entitled *Jim Crow in the Land of John Brown* that explores the origins of racial segregation in the Midwest. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on civil rights, race and ethnicity, and military and diplomatic history. He has also published several articles in leading academic journals, including the *Journal of African American History*.

**Maureen Mullinax, Ph.D.** is a scholar and educator with interests in social movements, community-based arts, social inequalities, central Appalachia and documentary media. She is currently an assistant professor of sociology at Xavier University. Prior to her current position she worked at Appalshop as the director of the Appalachian Media Institute. Dr. Mullinax's current research examines grassroots efforts to engage people in democratic dialogues about their communities through community-based art.

**Heather Stark, Ph.D.**, is an assistant professor of art history in the School of Art and Design at Marshall University. Dr. Stark completed her doctorate in Interdisciplinary Arts at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, with a major in art history and a minor in music history. Dr. Stark's teaching experience at the college level has crossed boundaries between the studio and the lecture hall. She is a member of the Appalachian Studies Association and presented work at the 2009 conference.

**Art Stringer, M.F.A** is a Professor of English at Marshall University where he has taught writing and literature for 24 years. He has edited a 2009 edition of Louise McNeill's *Paradox Hill: From Appalachia to the Lunar Short*, and he is the author of three collections of poems, *Channel Markers* (Wesleyan University Press), *Human Costume*, and *Late Breaking* (both by Salmon Poetry). His work has appeared in such journals as *The Nation*, *Antaeus*, *The Ohio Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Shenandoah*, *Poetry Northwest*, and in *Backcountry: Contemporary Writing in West Virginia*.

### **At-large Steering Committee Nominees, 2013 – 2016**

**Monica Garcia Brooks** serves as Assistant Vice President for Information Technology and Online Learning and Libraries at Marshall University. She received an MSLS from the University of Kentucky in 1990 and an Ed.D. in leadership studies from Marshall University in 2007. In addition to distance education and library science, her research interests include race, gender, and ethnicity issues in Appalachia and *la Carpa Garcia: Mexican-American Tent Show, 1914-1947*. She has participated in ASA for several years as an attendee, presenter, and conference helper. During the last ASA visit to the MU campus, she coordinated the conference tech support teams.

**Jeffery B. Cook** is a professor of history at North Greenville University. He is the author of numerous articles on twentieth-century American politics. He has authored three books including *Harry S. Truman: Continuity and Change* (New York: Nova Science Publishers, 2012), the *Dictionary of Literary Biography: American World War II Correspondents* (Detroit: Gale Cengage, 2011), and *American History: A Survey* (Charlestown: American Public University Press, 2012). He is presently working on a fourth book *Aretas Brooks Fleming: Building a Kingdom of Coal* which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by West Virginia University Press.

**Joy Gritton** is a Kentucky native who believes in the power of the arts to foster healthy communities. She seeks through her own art, teaching, and research to empower others to contribute their time, energies, talents, and intellect to collaborative community building, particularly in Appalachian Kentucky. Joy works to promote the study, practice, teaching, and support of the arts in Appalachia. Committed to service learning and participatory research, she is the founder of the Eastern Kentucky Arts Project, co-coordinator of the Haldeman Community Center after school program, and director of the Morehead State University Appalachian Studies program.

**Jill LeRoy-Frazier** is an associate professor of liberal studies at East Tennessee State University, where she teaches in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies and Women's Studies programs. She helped develop the MALS concentration in Regional and Community Studies and teaches courses such as Theory and Practice of Regionalism; Gender, Diversity, and Social Justice; and Women and Activism in Appalachia. Her research interests include women of Appalachia and the South. She holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Michigan, where she completed her dissertation on Southern literary genre under Patricia Smith Yaeger.

**Kelli Johnson** is an assistant professor/ Librarian II for Marshall University's IT/Online Learning & Libraries. Though I have only recently become a member of ASA, I am already hooked and would like to continue increasing my participation in this awesome organization. Though not originally from Appalachia, I do have roots here and have been a proud resident of West Virginia and Southern Ohio for the past 15 ½ years. I have several degrees from Marshall University; a Master's in Library Science from Texas Woman's University and am currently working on an Ed.D. from Marshall's Graduate School of Education and Professional Development.

**Amelia Kirby** is an activist, cultural worker and small business owner. She is the development director at the Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, a non-profit law firm

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providing free legal work for people impacted by the extraction industries of the region. She worked for eight years as a media producer at community media center Appalshop, where she co-founded and co-directed the Thousand Kites and Holler to the Hood projects. Since 2008, Kirby has co-owned Summit City, a coffee shop, bar, gallery and live music venue in Whitesburg dedicated to the creation of open and democratic space for dialogue, the practice of community ownership, and celebration of mountain communities.

**Carrie Nobel Kline** operates Talking Across the Lines, a folk life documentary enterprise. She and Michael Kline have made 23 audio productions giving voice to rural people through story and song, winning an Oral History Association award in 2005 and a Media Arts Fellowship Award from the West Virginia Division of Culture & History. Carrie holds a Master's Degree in American Studies from SUNY/Buffalo. She received a Rockefeller Fellowship from the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia at Marshall University to chronicle Appalachian resiliency in GLBT people, resulting in a staged reading, *Revelations*. Carrie also performs Appalachian music.

**Ron Roach** is a professor of communication studies and the founding Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement, Young Harris College (GA). Ron grew up in NC in a family with strong roots in Appalachia, especially in music. Many members of his family have been old-time, gospel, or bluegrass musicians, including his cousin Tony Rice. Ron attended some of the earliest bluegrass festivals as a boy and now leads a monthly Appalachian jam session. After several years in academic administration, Ron now focuses on teaching, studying the rhetoric of Appalachia as expressed through speeches, literature, and music.

For the past seven years **Randy Sanders** has served as the managing editor of *Now & Then: The Appalachian Magazine* and coordinator of marketing and public relations in the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services at East Tennessee State University. A seventh-generation northeast Tennessean, Randy left Tennessee as a young boy—living a transient life as an “Army brat,” where he called seven states and two foreign countries “home.” A graduate of ETSU, Randy has worked as the executive director of a non-profit, a graphic designer, and for five years as an exhibited artist in New York City.

A native of Upstate South Carolina, **Jimmy Smith** received graduate degrees from Hollins College and the University of South Carolina. He lives in Barbourville, KY where he chairs the Department of English and directs the Honors Program at Union College. Formerly President of the Kentucky Philological Association, Smith founded the Appalachian Studies section of the

American Culture Association. He has published articles on John Fox, Jr., Loretta Lynn, and Ron Rash, as well as on non-Appalachian figures. He is currently working on a book about rapacious industry and the Appalachian landscape in literature.

As an activist/scholar, **Betsy Taylor** has worked in Appalachian Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina to support community-led projects for holistic, sustainable development. Her fieldwork (for Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology) was in southern WV coal camps in the early 1980s. She taught at Albion College & UNC before coming to the University of Kentucky (Research Director, UK Appalachian Center; Co-Director, UK Environmental Studies). She is now Research Scientist in the Religion & Culture Dept, Virginia Tech. Her scholarly writings in Appalachian Studies can be found at <http://vt.academia.edu/BetsyTaylor> (as well as work in global regional studies – especially in India).

**Deborah J. Thompson** has been a member of ASA since beginning her undergraduate work in Appalachian Studies in 1980. She is a musician, coordinator of Country Dance Programs, and assistant professor of general studies at Berea College. She recently earned her Ph.D. in Geography at the University of Kentucky, and continues to study the impact of race and gender on Appalachian cultural expressions. She worked on two key collaborative projects, the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* and *A Handbook to Appalachia*, and was a founding member of Just Connections, an organization dedicated to service-learning and social justice in the region.

**Althea Webb** was born and raised in western Kentucky and moved to Lexington in 2000 to attend the University of Kentucky. I have been at Berea College as an assistant professor of education since 2007. I first heard of Berea College from my seventh grade teacher, Miss Hines. I view my work in helping to prepare teachers as work on behalf of children. Forty years after Miss Hines told me about Berea, I have adopted eastern Kentucky as my home, and I am working for greater understanding of the beauty, strength, and diversity of Appalachian culture.

**Barry Whittemore** has been a member since 1989 and has only missed three conferences in that time. He holds a B.A. from VA Tech, M.A. in History and Community College Ed from Radford, M.A. & D.A. from Carnegie Mellon, and M.Div. from Duke. He is an adjunct instructor in history at the University of North Georgia on the under-represented southern boundary of our region. He focuses on educating undergraduates to appreciate, study, and champion Appalachia. His sensitivities include long periods of being a graduate student, outside of academia, or as an adjunct. He hopes to facilitate scholarly rigor, cultural awareness, heritage protection, and sustainable development.



# WEATHERFORD AWARD NOMINEES 2012

## Non-fiction

- *Appalachian Travels: The Diary of Olive Campbell* edited by Elizabeth McCutchen Williams
- *Appalachian Health and Well-Being* edited by Robert L. Ludke and Phillip J. Obermiller
- *Blue Ridge Commons: Environmental Activism and Forest History in Western North Carolina* by Kathryn Newfont
- *Dead Ringers* compiled and edited by Wess Harris
- *A Few Honest Words: The Kentucky Roots of Popular Music* by Jason Howard
- *Helen Matthews Lewis: Living Social Justice in Appalachia* by Helen Matthews Lewis, edited by Patricia D. Beaver and Judith Jennings
- *Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South* by Randal L. Hall
- *The Poco Field: An American Story of Place* by Talmage A. Stanley
- *The Spirit of the Appalachian Trail: Community, Environment, and Belief on a Long-Distance Hiking Path* by Susan Power Bratton
- *Standing Our Ground: Women, Environmental Justice, and the Fight to End Mountaintop Removal* by Joyce M. Barry
- *Transforming Places: Lessons from Appalachia* edited by Stephen L. Fisher and Barbara Ellen Smith
- *The Water-Powered Mills of Floyd County, Virginia: Illustrated Histories, 1770-2010* by Ricky L. Cox and Franklin F. Webb

## Poetry:

- *Appalachian Elegy: Poetry and Place* by bell hooks
- *Blacksnake at the Family Reunion* by David Huddle
- *Cold Spring Rising* by John Thomas York
- *During the Recent Extinctions: New and Selected Poems 1984-2012* by Richard Hague
- *Green-Silver and Silent: Poems* by Marc Harshman
- *Revelations* by Ted Olson
- *She Let Herself Go* by George Ella Lyon
- *She Who is Like a Mare: Poems of Mary Breckinridge and the Frontier Nursing Service* by Karen Kotrba
- *Twofold Consciousness: Poetry and Essays on Mysticism* by Victor M. Depta.

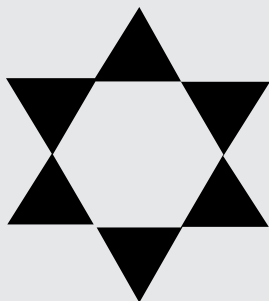
## Fiction

### Novels:

- *A Killing in the Hills* by Julia Keller
- *A Land More Kind than Home* by Wiley Cash
- *Auraria* by Tim Westover
- *Breakdown at Clear River* by Eliot Parker
- *The Cove* by Ron Rash
- *The Dark Corner* by Mark Powell
- *The Evening Hour* by Carter Sickels
- *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *Glorybound* by Jessie Van Eerden
- *Heading Out to Wonderful* by Robert Goolrick
- *The Homegoing: A Novel* by Michael Olin-Hitt
- *The Midwife of Hope River* by Patricia Harman
- *Pickering's Mountain* by Joseph G. Anthony
- *The Scummers* by Lee Maynard
- *Shrapnel* by Marie Manilla
- *Sons of Mercy and Justice: A Transylvania Story* by G. Keith Parker and Leslie Parker Borhaug

### Story Collections:

- *The Hills Remember: The Complete Short Stories of James Still* edited by Ted Olson
- *Out Across the Nowhere* by Amy Willoughby-Burle
- *Stormy Weather & Other Stories* by Lisa Alther
- *Stray Decorum: Stories* by George Singleton



## Volunteer with ASA!

The ASA needs you! Why? Because the ASA depends on volunteers who donate their time and effort to run the organization, publish the JAS, and plan the annual conference. Check out our ASA Volunteer form to see how you can help! [www.appalachianstudies.org](http://www.appalachianstudies.org).



## **New Appalachia: Known Realities and Imagined Possibilities**

**MARCH 28-30, 2014**

Marshall University  
Huntington, West Virginia

Have you thought of coming to an Appalachian Studies Conference but didn't because you can't play a fiddle? Never really thought of yourself as an "Appalachianophile" because quilting just wasn't your thing? Appalachian Studies Conferences are rich, interdisciplinary events that explore and honor traditions of Appalachia while at the same time making unblinking appraisals of all that is present-day Appalachia.

As always, the 2014 conference will have something for everyone with an interest in the region, including artists, musicians, activists, and academicians. The time has never been better to experience this energizing annual event. Plan to join us in conversation about the past, present, and future of our region and our organization. Who knows? You might even pick up a dulcimer.

Located in Huntington, West Virginia, Marshall University is conveniently located off I-64 on the Ohio River just 11 miles from Kentucky and 45 miles from Yeager airport in Charleston. Marshall University has hosted the Appalachian Studies Association for 12 years and serves students throughout the tri-state region (WV, KY, OH) in Central Appalachia. Incorporated in 1871 as a railroad nexus between the east coast and the Midwest, Huntington serves as a port of entry to the mountains of West Virginia. Visitors can stay in Huntington's downtown, vibrant with local businesses and artisans, just minutes from campus either by foot or a free bus ride. Full information on accommodations will be available in fall 2013.

For more information (or to share ideas & resources) contact:

Linda Spatig, Conference Chair, at 304.696.2875 or (spatig@marshall.edu)

Marianna Linz, Program Chair at 304.696.2774 (linz@marshall.edu)

Mary Jo Graham, Local Arrangements Chair, 304.696.6478 (graham@marshall.edu)

## ASA Ballot 2013

### Vice President/President Elect (2013-2014, VP; 2014-2015, President; 2015-2016, Conference Chair)

(vote for one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt

\_\_\_\_\_ Write in candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2015 Conference (Tennessee) Vice Program Chair/Program Chair Elect

(vote for one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Amy Collins

\_\_\_\_\_ Write in candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### Elected At-Large Members of the Steering Committee, 2013-2016

(vote for two)

\_\_\_\_\_ Monica Garcia Brooks

\_\_\_\_\_ Jeffery B. Cook

\_\_\_\_\_ Joy Gritton

\_\_\_\_\_ Jill LeRoy-Frazier

\_\_\_\_\_ Kelli Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_ Amelia Kirby

\_\_\_\_\_ Carrie Nobel Kline

\_\_\_\_\_ Ron Roach

\_\_\_\_\_ Randy Sanders

\_\_\_\_\_ Jimmy Smith

\_\_\_\_\_ Betsy Taylor

\_\_\_\_\_ Deborah J. Thompson

\_\_\_\_\_ Althea Webb

\_\_\_\_\_ Barry Whittemore

\_\_\_\_\_ Write in candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2014 Program Committee Members

(vote for four)

\_\_\_\_\_ David Trowbridge

\_\_\_\_\_ Maureen Mullinax

\_\_\_\_\_ Heather Stark

\_\_\_\_\_ Art Stringer

\_\_\_\_\_ Write in candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 14 (ADDRESS BELOW) OR AT THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK BY FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2013, 4:30 PM.

**Please mail or fax completed ballot to:**

**Mary Kay Thomas, Executive Director  
Appalachian Studies Association  
One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755  
Fax: 304-696-6221**



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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Thirty-Sixth Annual  
Appalachian Studies Conference  
March 22 – 24, 2013**

Appalachian State University  
Boone, North Carolina

**“Communities in Action, Landscapes in Change”**

Katherine Ledford  
Conference Chair and Immediate Past President  
[ledfordke@appstate.edu](mailto:ledfordke@appstate.edu)

Kathy Olson  
Program Chair  
[olsonk@lmc.edu](mailto:olsonk@lmc.edu)

Sonya Long  
Local Arrangements  
[longsm@appstate.edu](mailto:longsm@appstate.edu)

**Thirty-Seventh Annual  
Appalachian Studies Conference  
March 28 – 30, 2014**

Marshall University  
Huntington, West Virginia

**“New Appalachia: Known Realities  
and Imagined Possibilities”**

Linda Spatig  
President  
[spatig@marshall.edu](mailto:spatig@marshall.edu)

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[linz@marshall.edu](mailto:linz@marshall.edu)

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