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# President's Message

We're diverse and growing. That's the message of the upcoming, very exciting March 17-20 conference planned for us by Conference Chair Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Program Chair Rachael Meads, and the amazing Local Arrangements Committee at Shepherd University. With Keynote Speaker Frank X Walker, co-founder of the Affrilachian scholars movement; plenaries that foreground regional ethnic, cultural, and artistic diversity; photography by the award-winning photographer, Builder Levy; a Saturday night concert featuring diverse forms of artistic expression; hundreds of presentations addressing the conference theme of "Diversity and Unity"; and the spectacular location of Shepherdstown, West Virginia, this 2016 conference promises to be one of our very best and one that etches our Association commitment to anyone who has experienced, even suffered, from being "different" upon the literal and figurative landscape of place.

And what an amazing place it is. To walk around Shepherdstown and its shops (or is "shoppes" better?), restaurants, and deeply historic places is to transcend time, American time, while still being very much in the heart of the present. Only 65 miles from Washington, D.C., the physical forms of this town founded in the 1730s evoke images of the myriad discussions, publications, scholarship, and activism on the seeming (but not really) dualism

between urban and rural, small town and corporate cities, or, in Appalachian studies terms, an Appalachia that reconstitutes an American nationalism predicated in part on a nostalgic conception of romanticized rural white communities. All of us need to attend this conference to capture our own responses to this particular town of and in Appalachian America.

The Shepherd University Conference is doing more than providing a provocative venue and program. It is also making a statement about the current state of the Appalachian Studies Association (ASA). Since its inception in 1977, the ASA has

embraced the concept of plurality and cultural diversity, but only recently has it implemented committees and groups to seek out visible and empowered ways to engage fully those from or involved in the region. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee, for example, became a standing committee with representation on the ASA Steering Committee by membership vote at the last association business meeting at the 2015 annual conference. Language concerning diversity and inclusion was also added to our mission statement via membership vote. The young persons' group, Y'ALL (Young

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Appalachian Studies Association is to promote and engage dialogue, research, scholarship, education, creative expression, and action among a diverse and inclusive group of scholars, educators, practitioners, grassroots activists, students, individuals, groups and institutions. Our mission is driven by our commitment to foster quality of life, democratic participation and appreciation of Appalachian experiences regionally, nationally, and internationally.*

Appalachian Leaders and Learners), will be on the ballot for bylaws approval this coming March for inclusion as a standing committee on the Steering Committee as well. Their role is vital in constructing an active, flexible, informed, and visionary Association that addresses the concerns and needs of those newly involved in Appalachian experiences. In making these important changes, ASA is also asserting its presence on the international stage. Presenters from eastern Europe at the Johnson City conference illustrated our movement into the global and globalized sphere of representation and involvement. We are, indeed, expanding and, in so doing, making statements about, if not demanding a place at the big table of global geopolitics and political economies, while, at the same time, retaining our identity as an open and inclusive organization that privileges no sector of the region it serves over another, whether by profession, race, gender identity, socioeconomic level, or geocultural orientation.

Those of us involved in the 2017 conference planning at Virginia Tech


do not intend to lose the momentum of the Shepherd University conference and the ASA itself, although our venue is quite different. This March 9-12, 2017 conference has as its theme "Extreme Appalachia," to capture the stunning and notable positive and negative contexts, contributions, and conflicts that set our region apart within all facets of the human experience, while, at the same time, establishing it as an international force in how geopolitics and transglobal economics are played out at the local and regional levels. These are issues in diversity, and this conference will recognize them as such.

By way of concluding these remarks, allow me to mention some practical matters. First, the ASA needs your support, financial and otherwise. We are growing and the demands on our office staff, now approved to be two full-time people (Mary Kay Thomas and Christopher Leadingham), are close to exceeding their physical abilities and their salaries. The Steering Committee has formed an ad hoc fundraising committee and will be coming to you for contributions and ideas. If you want ASA to continue and do what it needs to do, we need your assistance. Consider even a small financial or time (volunteer service) donation.

Second, don't forget to contribute or discuss with others how they may contribute to the *Journal of Appalachian Studies* two-year forum on sustainable economic development in Appalachia. In addition, please, strongly encourage young people, whether college students or engaged citizens in other life trajectories, to get involved in Y'ALL.

Lastly, feel free to contact me, Mary Kay Thomas, or other Steering Committee members regarding your concerns, your ideas, or your willingness to serve.

~ Anita Puckett, President



We are currently encouraging submissions of new syllabi and lesson plans that you would like to contribute. Please send submissions to Eryn Roles at [roles1@marshall.edu](mailto:roles1@marshall.edu).



**APPALINK**  
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 Eryn Roles at [roles1@marshall.edu](mailto:roles1@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 Spring 2016 edition is December 1, 2015.

Eryn Roles, Editor  
Mary Thomas, Managing Editor  
Chris Leadingham, Asst. Managing Editor

Appalachian Studies Association  
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STAY CONNECTED   

# 39th Annual Appalachian Studies Conference

## *Voices from the Misty Mountains: Diversity and Unity, a New Appalachia*

March 17-20, 2016 | Shepherd University | Shepherdstown, West Virginia

This 2016 Appalachian Studies Association Conference will focus on the changing face of the region, the diverse groups that constitute who we are, the educational and community institutions that either accommodate or react to the changes that challenge us and call for our best selves, and our efforts to protect the very mountains that are the principal source of our commonality and identity. Our keynote speaker will be Frank X Walker, a Kentucky poet laureate, activist, and leader among those Affrilachian voices in the region. The conference will open with a traditional Cherokee blessing and origin stories from storyteller Lloyd Arneach. Other plenary and special sessions will include the extraordinary exhibit *Appalachia U.S.A.* by Builder Levy. Levy is a world-renowned writer and photographer whose work has appeared in more than 200 exhibits across the nation. Other highlights will include reflections on preservation of history and folklife from John Lilly, former editor of West Virginia's *Goldenseal* magazine, on where we've been, where we are going, and what the past will look like 40 years from today as well as a special panel on Appalachian dance in historical context featuring Matthew Olwell, Emily Oleson, and Becky Hill. Additional storytelling and literary features will include special sessions by Affrilachian poets Kelly Norman Ellis, Ricardo Nazario y Colón, and Bianca Spriggs as well as by award-winning storyteller Adam Booth. In addition to the plenary and special sessions, there will be 11 concurrent sessions that will focus on the diversity and unity of the region as we forge together a "new Appalachia."

Information about accommodations and conference submission can be found in the **CALL FOR PARTICIPATION**, now online at [appalachianstudies.org](http://appalachianstudies.org) and in the upcoming preconference publication. The official call for submissions with submission details will go out September 1, with a reminder October 1, and the final deadline October 15.

### About Shepherd University

Shepherd University, located on a high bluff overlooking the Potomac River, is a gateway to the mountains from the eastern urban area of the country's largest population centers. Tours and special programs associated with Storer College, Harpers Ferry National Park, Antietam National Battlefield, the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, historic Martinsburg, and historic Shepherdstown will be featured highlights of the conference. Shepherdstown is the oldest town in West Virginia, a living museum of architecture and cultural heritage, in the valley surveyed by 16-year-old George Washington. Walking tours, ghost tours, an old-time Appalachian square dance, and a showcase concert featuring Blue Yonder, Good Foot Dance Company, and storytellers Lloyd Arneach and Adam Booth will all be part of the Shepherdstown conference.

Learn more about Shepherdstown at [shepherdstown.info](http://shepherdstown.info).

Shepherd University's Appalachian studies program (see [www.shepherd.edu/appalachian](http://www.shepherd.edu/appalachian)), features a minor and a graduate certificate, the West Virginia Fiction Competition, the yearly *Anthology of Appalachian Writers*, and the annual Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence Project hosting Nikki Giovanni in fall 2015. These programs and projects are funded by Shepherd University, the Shepherd University Foundation, the West Virginia Center for the Book, and the West Virginia Humanities Council.

**Shepherd**  
UNIVERSITY

# ASA REPORTS

## Finance and Development Report

### What you get for your money at ASA

ASA is fortunate to have grown since its founding nearly 40 years ago. The fate of businesses and community groups is typically not so successful. Most fail within the first five years. We owe ASA's longevity to a diverse group of individuals who had a clear vision and held to their values of conviction for the Appalachian region, inclusivity, and, most importantly, support of students, scholars, and activists who make your organization so remarkable.

At the July Steering Committee meeting in Shepherdstown, WV we voted to hire a full-time office manager to assist Executive Director Mary Kay Thomas with the burgeoning workload of the ASA office. Mary Kay will benefit from a very capable and talented young person by the name of Chris Leadingham, who has been serving in this capacity as a part-time employee. Chris hails from Elliott County, KY and demonstrates a kind of drive that is often touted by folks I know in that community, who will be the first to tell you that the work ethic of Elliott County's people is second to none. It has been my observation that Chris could be the poster child for Elliott County's rich contribution to the Appalachian fabric. We are certainly glad to elevate him to a full-time position with ASA.

Kudos being given to the dedicated staff at ASA central, I would also like to point out that your membership support helps the organization thrive. Some of you may note that we had a modest increase in membership dues last year, and these funds make the new position possible. But there is more to your membership fee than a simple wage allocation. Embedded in your payment of membership and conference fees is the understanding that you are getting your money's worth. One of the important things I see as a great benefit is that ASA creates space for students to develop their research and presentation skills. Our conferences are very welcoming to novice presenters and expert researchers, alike. The annual event offers an exceptionally nurturing atmosphere for undergraduate and graduate students.

What you get for your investment in ASA is a strong organization that continues to manage an increasing workload. In addition to our full-time staff and graduate interns, the organization enjoys the support of myriad volunteers from member institutions who give up their professional time to ensure that our resources are wisely managed. By virtue of a small fee increase last year, you also get the benefit of a very talented professional who does everything from serving as assistant managing editor of our journal to thoughtfully answering emails and tending to details that make involvement in ASA rewarding. What perhaps can't be measured in terms of revenues and expenses are the benefits of a welcoming community, a diverse range of worldviews, and a group of dedicated professionals who are always looking to promote and support each other. While I have spent a lot of my professional career worrying over money, it

is good to be part of an organization whose members understand what the money really represents.

~ Jeff Spradling, Finance and Development Committee Chair

## Howard Dorgan Silent Auction

Appalachia is a region unique and special, steeped in tradition but changing as rapidly as the technology that connects us. In keeping with this year's conference theme "Voices from the Misty Mountains: Diversity and Unity, A New Appalachia," we invite you to contribute an item that expresses your notion of Appalachia. This may mean a finely woven textile or a skillfully crafted bowl. It may mean a breathtaking photograph or an inspirational book of poetry or prose. Perhaps you think of good music (CD box set) or good food (basket of assorted fare). What does Appalachia mean to you? Use your imagination and contribute to the 2016 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction!

All proceeds from the Silent Auction go to the ASA Scholarship Fund for individuals requiring financial assistance to attend the Appalachian Studies Conference. Attending the conference can be an important learning experience for a young Appalachian learner or a critical networking tool for a community leader. Whatever the reason, it is important for all of us to make attending the annual conference an affordable opportunity.

The 2016 Silent Auction will be held at Shepherd University on Friday and Saturday, March 18-19. Winners will be announced on Saturday at the conclusion of the auction. Donations may be left at the Silent Auction table beginning 8:00 am on Friday. If you are not able to attend the conference, please consider making a monetary donation to the ASA Scholarship Fund. For information, contact Mary Thomas ([mthomas@marshall.edu](mailto:mthomas@marshall.edu)) or Christopher Leadingham ([leadingham6@marshall.edu](mailto:leadingham6@marshall.edu)).

Thank you for your contribution to the Howard Dorgan Silent Auction! And, remember, come early and bid often!!!!

## Diversity and Inclusion Report

At the summer retreat, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee made five recommendations, each of which was approved as below:

1. That the conference call be written to intentionally expand beyond the academic community to include artists, activists, K-12 educators, and other community members. The 2016 Program Committee stated their intention to continue to keep a diverse group of participants and presenters in mind as the program committee plans the 2016 conference.
2. That each program committee include a "community liaison" to foster a more inclusive dialogue between the academic conference host and the local community. Emily Satterwhite

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## JAS Editor's News

Having sent the fall 2015 issue of *JAS* to press, the staff is now busy at work with the spring 2016 issue; it will include the first installment of our special forum on sustainable economic development edited by Will Hatcher (Georgia Regents University). The forum will include essays from the internal colonialism model panel organized by Steve Fisher and Barbara Ellen Smith for the 2015 ASA conference; these essays are written by Mary Anglin, Dwight Billings, Steve Fisher, Silas House, Cathy Kunkel, Ada Smith, and Barbara Ellen Smith. In addition, Richard York (University of Oregon) will provide an essay on sustainability and William Schumann (Appalachian State University) will author an essay on regional development in a neoliberal era. Finally, Jody Holland's article on creating local food systems in Appalachian Mississippi will round out the first forum. In addition to the forum, we intend also to publish three or four regular *JAS* articles as well as our usual assortment of book and media reviews in the spring 2016 issue. The deadline for submissions for the second installment of the forum is February 1, 2016. The third and fourth forum deadlines will be July 1, 2016 and February 1, 2017, respectively. It is our hope that the forum will stimulate a variety of conversations and projects that support sustainable economic development in our region. To that end, please share the call for forum papers widely. It is located on the bottom right hand corner of the ASA homepage at <http://www.appalachianstudies.org/> and is located elsewhere in *Appalink*.

In other news, the editorial board has approved my request for a second term as editor of the journal. My second term will start in January 2016 and last for four years, ending at the beginning of 2020. I appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve as editor of *JAS*, and am especially grateful for the opportunity to assist Will Hatcher in seeing the forum through to fruition. We have also added the following new members to the editorial board: Richard J. Callahan (University of

Missouri); Barry Whittemore (University of North Georgia); Martha Billips (Transylvania University); Thomas Alan Holmes (East Tennessee State University); and Wendy Welch (University of Virginia-Wise). Also, Gerald Preher (Institut Catholique de Lille and at the Université d'Angers) has joined our international board of advisors. Longtime board member and past *JAS* interim editor, Edwina Pendarvis, has resigned from the board in order to have more time to devote to family care needs. On behalf of the rest of the board and the *JAS* staff, I would like to thank Eddy for her strong support and tireless efforts in service of the journal. As always, we welcome volunteers from our readership who may wish to serve the journal as reviewers or editorial board members. We have a special need for those with quantitative/statistical analysis expertise in environmental sciences, public health/ drug research, demography, urban Appalachia, and geography.

Now that we are no longer publishing conference papers in the journal, we are piloting a new process for mentoring authors of conference, graduate, and undergraduate papers into full-fledged scholarly articles for *JAS*. Martha Billips, Thomas Alan Holmes, and Wendy Welch have agreed to join the editorial board with special duties as potential mentors to such authors. When a paper is submitted from a student or emerging scholar, the editor will ask the author if s/he would like to be assigned a mentorship to prepare the manuscript for review. If so, one of our mentors will work with the author until the article is ready for peer review. The response to this program has been enthusiastic and we are already a bit over-taxed. Therefore, we welcome scholars who are interested in joining the editorial board as mentors to contact either Shaunna Scott at [Shaunna.scott@uky.edu](mailto:Shaunna.scott@uky.edu) or Chris Leadingham at [leadingham6@marshall.edu](mailto:leadingham6@marshall.edu). Please also tell your graduate students and new colleagues about this opportunity to receive extra support for their early work in Appalachian studies.

~ Shaunna L. Scott, *JAS* Editor

## APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNERS

### The Cratis D. Williams/James S. Brown Service Award (2015)

The Williams/Brown Award is given to an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia, Appalachian studies, and/or the Appalachian Studies Association.

**Ron Eller**, University of Kentucky

### Weatherford Awards (2014)

Berea College and the ASA annually present the Weatherford Awards to honor published works that "best illuminate the challenges, personalities, and unique qualities of the Appalachian South."

Non-Fiction:

**Susan Spalding**, *Appalachian Dance: Creativity and Continuity in Six Communities* (University of Illinois Press)

Fiction: **Marie Manilla**, *The Patron Saint of Ugly* (Mariner Books)

Poetry: **Jesse Graves**, *Basin Ghosts* (Texas Review Press)

Special Weatherford Award: **Morris Allen Grubbs** and **Mary Ellen Miller**, eds, *Every Leaf a Mirror: A Jim Wayne Miller Reader* (University Press of Kentucky)

### The Helen M. Lewis Community Service Award (2014)

The Lewis 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.

**Sarah Riley**, High Rocks, leadership program in West Virginia for young women ages 13-25

### Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching (2014)

The Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching—sponsored by the Robinson Scholars Program at the University of Kentucky—honors an individual dedicated to intellectual rigor and pedagogical integrity in constructing

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# ASA ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Anthology of Appalachian Writers Accepting Submissions

Anthology of Appalachian Writers, Nikki Giovanni Volume VIII, is accepting submissions for the upcoming anthology volume. For information, contact Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt at [SShurbut@Shepherd.edu](mailto:SShurbut@Shepherd.edu) or see submission guidelines at <http://www.shepherd.edu/ahwir/anthology-of-appalachian-writers>. The anthology accepts poetry, short fiction, nonfiction memoirs and essays. The deadline for submissions is November 15, 2015.

## Education Committee Seeks Input

The Education Committee would like to solicit preliminary nominations for the Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching. This year the committee will honor both a post-secondary and K-12 educator, a newly created category. To receive a nomination form or seek more information, please contact Theresa Burriss at [tburriss@radford.edu](mailto:tburriss@radford.edu).

The Education Committee sponsors two roundtable sessions at each annual conference. Individuals interested in proposing topics on education and/or Appalachian centers for the 2016 Appalachian Studies Conference, to be held at Shepherd University, can send proposals to Theresa Burriss at [tburriss@radford.edu](mailto:tburriss@radford.edu). After two topics are selected, the Education Committee will issue another announcement to solicit participants for the roundtables.

## See Y'ALL in Shepherdstown

Y'ALL is looking to have lots of events and opportunities at the 2016 conference. We plan on sponsoring a session(s), hosting a meeting, and having a mixer. If you'd like any more information on Y'ALL or the events we'll be hosting this conference, feel free to email Y'ALL co-chairs Jordan Laney and Kathryn Engle at [yall4asa@gmail.com](mailto:yall4asa@gmail.com). See Y'ALL there!

Check out our summer 2015 newsletter at <http://appalachianstudies.org/members/reports/newsletter-yall-summer2015.pdf> to find out about Y'ALL opportunities. Also—be sure to follow us on Instagram (@YALL4ASA) and Facebook.

~ Kathryn Engle and Jordan Laney, Y'ALL co-chairs

## Silent Auction Coordinators Needed!

We are still looking for dedicated individuals to chair the Howard Dorgan Silent Auction Committee. Persons holding this position serve on the ASA Steering Committee and coordinate the auction at each annual Appalachian Studies Conference. If you are interested—or know of someone that might be—please contact Mary Thomas at [mthomas@marshall.edu](mailto:mthomas@marshall.edu) or Christopher Leadingham at [leadingham6@marshall.edu](mailto:leadingham6@marshall.edu).

## Sparta to Premier Exhibition of Appalachian Photography

The Blue Ridge Business Development Center (BDC) will host Looking At Appalachia, an exhibition of 75 images depicting a modern view of Appalachia as seen by a variety of photographers within the region. The exhibit will be displayed on the walls of the BDC beginning on Saturday, September 19, and through the month of October. A reception and panel discussion featuring the exhibit's curator, Roger May, will be held on Saturday, September 26, at 4 pm. The exhibition is being brought to Sparta through a partnership that includes the Blue Ridge Business Development Center, the Alleghany County Chamber of Commerce, the Alleghany Tourism Development Authority, and the Arts Guild of Alleghany County.

The exhibit is free and open to the public beginning on Heritage Festival weekend (September 19) and will be available for viewing six days a week (8:00am-8:00pm Monday-Friday; 10:00am-5:00pm Saturday). Each image will be identified by a caption and include the name of its contributing photographer.

Please contact Dale Caveny at [bdcadmin@blueridgebdc.org](mailto:bdcadmin@blueridgebdc.org) or 336-372-1525 for additional details.

## Debbie Zorn is ASA President-Elect



Note: This post first appeared in the Urban Appalachian Community Coalition's Blog at <http://uacvoice.org/2015/05/debbie-zorn-is-asa-president-elect/>. For additional information about the Urban Appalachian Community Coalition please see their website at <http://uacvoice.org/>.

The Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) was founded in the 1970s to provide a way for activists and academics to cooperate in regional understanding and advocacy. Since then urban Appalachians have played prominent roles in the Association – Mike Maloney was one of ASA's founders, the Urban Appalachian Council sponsored the Association's 1997 conference in Northern Kentucky, Phil Obermiller brought the 2006 conference to Ohio, and Dayton's Carol Baugh served as ASA president in 2009. Pauletta Hansel and Tom Wagner have served as ASA conference program chairpersons, and many Southwestern Ohio and Northern Kentucky community leaders, organizers, poets, novelists, musicians, educators and researchers have participated in the 38 conferences the Association has organized.

The tradition of urban Appalachian involvement in the ASA continues with the selection of Debbie Zorn as ASA president-elect for 2017 and conference organizer for 2018. Debbie was involved

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with the former Urban Appalachian Council for 15 years, serving as chair of its research committee then as its board president for five years. She's now an active member of the core team developing the new Urban Appalachian Community Coalition.

Her roots are in the Wells and Cottle families of Appalachian Kentucky's Morgan County. Living on the side of what passes for a mountain in Colerain Township, she enjoys gardening and hiking in the woods every chance she gets. Her husband, Phil, is a court magistrate and may be one of the few bluegrass aficionados in the Hamilton County court system.

Debbie has spent a career at the University of Cincinnati and for the last 19 years has provided assessment and evaluation services to schools and community-based organizations as a Senior Research Associate and Director of UC's Evaluation Services Center. It was this professional work that brought her into contact with groups working in Appalachian neighborhoods such as the East End Heritage School, the Lower Price Hill Environmental Leadership Coalition, and the Urban Appalachian Council.

Although relatively new to the Appalachian Studies Association, Debbie represents the best in ASA – she understands academia, is well-grounded in neighborhood issues and concerns, and is proud of her Appalachian heritage. Her approach to organizational leadership is both practical and unpretentious – she admits to “having a lot to learn.” While admitting that there is a lot more to ASA than putting on a conference, she is determined to boost grassroots involvement. “The 2018 conference will be a community effort,” she says. “We’ll be doing it together.” She also views the conference as an opportunity to bring greater attention to urban Appalachian concerns in the Greater Cincinnati community.

To that end Debbie welcomes ideas and participation from across the urban Appalachian community. Contact her at [ZORNDL@UCMAIL.UC.EDU](mailto:ZORNDL@UCMAIL.UC.EDU).

~ Phil Obermiller

will establish a community liaison on the 2017 program committee and report back to the Steering Committee whether this position should become formalized.

3. To establish up to ten free registrations for local activists, artists, and community leaders. These ten individuals would register as attendees and that the registration fee would be waived.
4. To establish a separate scholarship stream to support more active involvement by artists, activists, and K-12 educators. These groups are not currently precluded from applying for scholarship funds, but often most scholarships go to students. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will investigate the possibility of additional scholarship funding for these specific groups, in collaboration with the Fundraising Working Group and the Scholarship Committee.
5. To offer, at each conference, continuing education/professional development opportunities for K-12 educators and others. Steering Committee and Program Committees are tasked with this responsibility.

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee also asked that all ASA members actively reach out to individuals in other associations and disciplines to invite their participation in Appalachian studies and the conference.

~ Susan Spalding, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair

## Scholarship Report

### Challenge to ASA Members

Each year the ASA awards a number of scholarships to those that need assistance in attending our annual conference. Unfortunately we did not have enough funding to cover all of the scholarship applications that were submitted for the 2015 conference at ETSU. We received 181 registration scholarship applications that amounted to \$23,250 in requests. Scholarship donations were down this year and we raised only \$14,051 of the funding requested. Unfortunately we were unable to award 30 non-student, non-presenting applicants—though 78 students and 73 non-student applicants were awarded. ASA was left with a deficit of \$4,699 and to cover the shortage Conference Chair Chris Green and President Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt solicited additional funding. We raised \$2,181, and, after subtracting declined awards, cancellations, and no shows, were able to more than cover the final deficit of \$1,149. In total, we funded 59 students and 62 non-student attendees. All funds remaining will be applied to 2016 scholarships.

ASA is finding it difficult to obtain adequate funding for community attendees, who often are less likely to have institutional support for registration. ARC, as a result, allowed us to reallocate unused student funds to cover non-students. For future years, we will request that ARC continue to allow us more flexibility in allocating the \$10,000 annual award.

### THE CHALLENGE TO ASA MEMBERS—HELP US KICK-UP SCHOLARSHIPS

**BY MAKING A DONATION.** You may do this by adding a donation to your conference registration (see [www.appalachianstudies.org](http://www.appalachianstudies.org)) or mailing it directly to ASA. Please make checks payable to ASA and mark scholarship in the memo.

The ASA is deeply appreciative for the support of our scholarship funders who make it possible for those without support to attend our annual conference. We continue to need your help.

~ Mary Thomas, Executive Director

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

## CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

### **\*NEW\* Gates-Carawan Artist Award**

The Gates-Carawan Artist Award recognizes an individual for artistic potential or artistic contributions to Appalachia in the realms of visual, oral, musical, literary, or other arts. With this award, the ASA seeks to recognize and cultivate artists who are working in the spirit of the award's namesakes, independent filmmaker Bob Gates and activist musicians Guy and Candie Carawan—socially conscious artists who supported and encouraged the work of other regional artists.

The winner will receive a physical award produced by a regional artist and either a \$500 stipend (for artistic contributions) or the guidance of a mentor (for artistic potential). Nominations may come from any ASA member. Nominators of a winning candidate with artistic potential will be strongly encouraged to develop a mentoring plan with the winning artist.

Nominations may come from any ASA member. Submission requirements are detailed on the ASA website. Send nomination materials to Scott Goebel, Gates-Carawan Artist Award Selection Committee Chair, [badbranch3@gmail.com](mailto:badbranch3@gmail.com), by December 1, 2015.

### **Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching**

The ASA Award for Excellence in Teaching—sponsored by the Robinson Scholars Program at the University of Kentucky—seeks to honor individuals dedicated to intellectual rigor and pedagogical integrity in constructing and delivering inclusive knowledge about Appalachia and its people. This year there will be two awards: one for college or university teaching and one for public school teaching. The winners in each category will receive \$250. Candidates may be nominated or may self-nominate.

Nomination packets must be submitted in a single PDF file as an attachment to an e-mail to the chair of the ASA Education Committee, Theresa Burriss, at [tburriss@radford.edu](mailto:tburriss@radford.edu), by January 31, 2016. Selection of the award winners will be made by the ASA Education Committee. Current members include Theresa Burriss, Katherine Ledford, Sylvia Shurbutt, Tom Wagner, Katherine Engle, Briana Kirker (K-12), and Mary Dickerson (K-12). A short preliminary nomination form is required initially; full criteria and documentation requirements for the award are available at [www.appalachianstudies.org](http://www.appalachianstudies.org).

### **The Carl A. Ross Appalachian Student Paper Competition**

This competition is open to students in two categories: middle/high school and undergraduate/graduate students. Middle/high school papers should be eight to fifteen pages in length. Undergraduate/graduate papers should be fifteen to thirty pages in length. The authors of the winning papers will receive \$100 each. All papers must adhere to guidelines for scholarly research. Students who wish to present their papers at the conference must also submit a conference proposal following the submission guidelines. The cost of attending the conference is the responsibility of the winners.

Submissions should be sent in Microsoft Word attachments via e-mail to the selection chair, Casey LaFrance, at [TC-LaFrance@wvu.edu](mailto:TC-LaFrance@wvu.edu) by January 15, 2016. Papers submitted to the undergraduate/graduate competition must have been completed during the current or previous academic year and must include proof of student status during the current or previous academic year; documentation may consist of a letter from a faculty advisor (including faculty advisor's e-mail, phone, and address), a schedule of classes, or a transcript.

### **The Cratis D. Williams/James S. Brown Service Award**

The Cratis D. Williams & James S. Brown Service Award is given to an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia, Appalachian studies, and/or the Appalachian Studies Association. The selection process consists of two steps: 1) Nominations should include a statement regarding the individual's specific contributions to the region and/or the individual's c.v./résumé. 2) Following a review, the committee will request additional information about one or more finalists before selecting the award recipient. Send nomination materials to John Hennen, Associate Professor of History, Department of History, Philosophy and Legal Studies, 354 Rader Hall, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY, 40351 or email [j.hennen@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:j.hennen@moreheadstate.edu) by January 15, 2016.

### **The 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

*continued on page 9*





accredited institution within the past seven years are eligible to apply. This award will be presented in 2017 or when investments allow for the full amount to be awarded.

## CALL FOR OFFICER AND STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Your nominations are needed for ASA officers and Steering Committee members. The ASA bylaws call for the annual nomination and election of officers. Any member of ASA may nominate a fellow member to serve. Self-nominations are also accepted. ASA is seeking nominations for the following elected positions:

**Two At-Large Members (2016-2020)** are elected by the membership for four-year terms. There are currently six at-large members on the Steering Committee with two being elected each year for four-year terms. The Steering Committee members transact any necessary business, form standing committees, and approve the annual budget. The Steering Committee meets twice a year for face to face meetings and has several additional meetings as needed by telephone.

**One At-Large Student Member (2016-2018)** serves for two years and is expected to attend all Steering Committee meetings. There are two at-large student members who work closely with and support the duties of the President and Past President and act as co-chairs of the ad hoc Young Appalachian Leaders and Learners Committee.

**Vice President/President Elect (2019 Conference Chair, southern region)** chairs the nominating committee (2016-2017) and negotiates for conference support at the southern region site

(Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Mississippi). As the 2017-2018 president, this person presides at all meetings, directs fundraising, serves as a spokesperson, serves on the Steering Committee as Conference Chair for one year after his or her term as president (2018-2019), and remains on the Steering Committee for an additional year as Past Conference Chair (2019 - 2020).

**Vice Program Chair/Program Chair Elect (2018 Conference Program Chair, for conference to be held in Ohio/Northern Kentucky)** assists the chairperson, helps organize the next conference (2016-2017), and negotiates for conference support. The following year this person becomes Program Chairperson (2017-2018) and, with the Program Committee, oversees the operation of the annual conference in cooperation with the Local Arrangements Chair and committee. Following his or her term, the Program Chairperson serves one year on the Program Committee (2018-2019).

**Four Program Committee Members (for 2017 conference at Virginia Tech)** help prepare the call for participation, review submitted abstracts, and compile the 2017 conference program. The Program Committee includes four at-large members who serve for one year (2016-2017) and are elected by the ASA membership.

**How to Make a Nomination:** Make sure the nominee is willing to serve and understands the commitment involved. Write a 100-word biography of the nominee that includes his or her involvement in Appalachian studies and/or ASA. This paragraph will be included in the spring Appalink that includes the ballot. Self-nominations are welcome. Send your nomination(s) to Debbie Zorn, ASA Vice-President/President Elect: [Debbie.Zorn@uc.edu](mailto:Debbie.Zorn@uc.edu) by November 15, 2015.

~ Debbie Zorn, Vice-President/President Elect

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### ASA Award Winners continued from page 5

and delivering inclusive knowledge about Appalachia and its people.

**Amy D. Clark**, Professor of English, UVA-Wise

#### The Jack Spadaro Documentary Award (2014)

The Spadaro Award recognizes the best film, video, radio, television, or other media presentation on Appalachia or its people.

*The Johnson City Sessions 1928-1929: Can You Sing Or Play Old-Time Music?*

by Ted Olson

#### The Carl A. Ross Student Paper Award (2015)

No award given.

#### The e-Appalachia Award (2014)

The e-Appalachia Award honors an outstanding website that provides insight on Appalachia and its people, or provides a vital community service to Appalachians.

**Looking at Appalachia**, <http://lookingatappalachia.org/> by Roger May

#### Gates-Carawan Artist Award

This new award honors an individual for artistic potential or artistic contributions to Appalachia in the realms of visual,

oral, musical, literary, or other arts. See <http://appalachianstudies.org/awards/> for additional details. First award to be presented in 2016.

#### Wilma Dykeman Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship (2015)

The Wilma Dykeman Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship Award provides \$4,000 to support research related to gender, race, and/or ethnicity in Appalachia.

**Meredith McCarroll**

**ANSWER TO CRYPTOGRAM: Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains to bring it to light.**

# Journal of Appalachian Studies

## Special Forum



### CALL FOR PAPERS

The *Journal of Appalachian Studies* announces a special two-year forum on sustainable economic development in Appalachia, starting with the journal's spring 2016 (Vol. 22, No. 1) issue and ending with the fall 2017 (Vol. 23, No. 2) issue. We invite the submission of manuscripts dealing with practices relevant to sustainable economic development in Appalachian communities. We will consider a wide-range of scholarship from a variety of disciplines and applied fields. Manuscripts focusing on economic development theory, empirical and/or applied research, or narrative essays on development issues will be welcome. We also seek research which compares Appalachia to other regions in the world.



Scholars are encouraged to submit papers addressing, but not limited to, the following topics:

Tourism and development  
Social capital, trust, politics, and development  
Infrastructure  
Broadband and technology  
Education, labor, capital, and development  
Funding community and economic development  
Entrepreneurship  
Place-based development  
Local food movements  
Downtown development  
Local currency  
Out- and in-migration and development  
Social change, policy and movements

Land ownership  
Gender and development  
Taxes and development  
The creative class in Appalachia  
Vision-building  
Public participation methods  
Health care and its effects on development  
Globalization  
The Commons  
Privatization and neoliberalism  
Cooperatives, non-profits, employee-owned business  
Credit, access to capital  
Environmental capital and sustainable development

The deadline for manuscripts to be considered for publication for the fall 2016 issue is February 1, 2016. Please see our website for additional deadlines.

Articles should be submitted electronically to the JAS online manuscript submission portal at [www.appalachian-studies.org/journal/submissions.php](http://www.appalachian-studies.org/journal/submissions.php). Direct questions to JAS Editor Shaunna Scott at [shaunna.scott@uky.edu](mailto:shaunna.scott@uky.edu) or the forum's special editor, Will Hatcher, at [wihatcher@gru.edu](mailto:wihatcher@gru.edu).



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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Thirty-Ninth Annual  
Appalachian Studies Conference  
March 17-20, 2016**

Shepherd University  
Shepherdstown, West Virginia

**VOICES FROM THE MISTY MOUNTAINS:  
DIVERSITY AND UNITY, A NEW APPALACHIA**

Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt  
Conference Chair  
[sshurbut@shepherd.edu](mailto:sshurbut@shepherd.edu)

Rachael Meads  
Program Chair  
[rmeads@shepherd.edu](mailto:rmeads@shepherd.edu)

**Fortieth Annual  
Appalachian Studies Conference  
March 9-12, 2017**

Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, Virginia

**EXTREME APPALACHIA**

Anita Puckett  
Conference Chair  
[apuckett@vt.edu](mailto:apuckett@vt.edu)

Emily Satterwhite  
Program Chair  
[satterwhite@vt.edu](mailto:satterwhite@vt.edu)