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Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER



VOL. I, NO. 4

DECEMBER 1, 1979

A NEW FACE FOR THE ARCHIVES NEWSLETTER

Commencing with our next issue of the Newsletter (Vol. II, No. 1), the Archives of Appalachia Newsletter will enjoy a new face. Indeed, a few of our readers may find themselves privy to our re-designed letterhead in this issue. The art work comes from Dennis Pelletier of our staff. We want to take this opportunity to congratulate Dennis for his fine work both on the new letterhead and on his museum displays. His programs for January through March are described herein.

THE ARCHIVES TO BEGIN OUTREACH PROGRAM

The most important event for the Archives of Appalachia during the last quarter of 1979 has been our successful application for a grant to underwrite an archival outreach program. The origins of the program stem from a desire on the part of the Archives staff to make our materials more accessible to the general public, while at the same time protecting them from wear-and-tear and environmental deterioration. We recognize that most people are not trained to analyze archival materials and hence to draw from them a narrative line. In addition, many people in the greater community cannot visit the Archives during regular operating hours or due to road and weather conditions, etc., find it difficult to reach East Tennessee State University's main campus in Johnson City.

The Archives staff has therefore devised an outreach program which will bring our holdings to the community in a form that they could appreciate and enjoy. Thanks to a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Tennessee Committee for the Humanities, totalling nearly \$23,000, our program is approaching realization. With this financial support, we plan to employ a program coordinator who will work with the Archives's production team to create multi-media programs based upon Archives's holdings. (At the time that this Newsletter went to press, we were still in the process of selecting our Program Coordinator. News of the appointment and other project information will appear in the next issue). The basic program format will be slide-tape, but use of video-tapes, films, and lecture/demonstrations are also anticipated. Once produced, these "shows" will circulate in the community free of charge.

Until we appoint our program coordinator, we cannot actually begin more detailed project planning. At this time, we expect to produce ten programs during 1979-80 by the production team. The themes of these programs will vary widely and will include such topics as quilting, historical agencies and public history, railroads, country inns, and mountain medicine. Any public or private agency (e.g., public libraries, museums, historical societies, community centers, churches) may request access to our programs. We supply the materials, bring them to you, and show them to your people! Because of the nature of the grant, we will be restricted in our first year of operation to Tennessee. But as we continue the program, we plan to serve all of Southern Appalachia.

Needless to say, a project of this nature and scope requires substantial human resources. Dr. Ted Cobun (ETSU) will serve as media consultant and Dr. Richard Blaustein (ETSU) will serve as ethnographic consultant for the project. In addition, we enjoy the advice and counsel of a five-member advisory board, including: Anne LeCroy, Harvey Dean, Susan Tannewitz, Jim Stokley, and Joyce Newman. If you wish to participate in our program, either by providing us with materials for inclusion in our shows or by serving as the local sponsor for one of our programs, please contact: Richard M. Kesner, Director, Archives of Appalachia, ETSU, Johnson City, TN 37601.

APPALACHIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE AT ETSU

MARCH 21-23, 1980

On November 5, 1979, the Programming Committee of the ASC met at ETSU to put the finishing touches on what is sure to be one of the most exciting conferences held in the region in some time. Our readers are already aware that the theme of the conference is "Appalachia/America: A Comparative Approach." The response to the call for papers has been marvelous. As a result, some eighteen panels have been selected. These sessions deal with such diverse topics as health care, economic development, unionization, literature and linguistics, oral history, and film making. All are couched in terms of a comparative (either regional or international) perspective. The papers themselves, it is hoped, will also appear in print as an anthology of ASC proceedings.

In addition to all of the formal sessions, a wide range of related activities are being planned by the Archives. Appalshop plans to debut two new films: "Oaksie," and "Strip Mining: Energy, Environment, and Economics" on the first evening of the conference. The Johnson City Road Company will provide a full performance of their new play, Energy. The conference exhibition hall will sport book displays, craft demonstrations, and information booths on various Appalachian organizations. Nor have the arts been neglected. The Reece Museum and the Archives will sponsor a photographic exhibition on the Appalachian farm at the turn of the century, and the renown Dixie Dew-Drops will appear in concert.

In our March issue we will reveal much more, including the identity of our keynote speaker. WATCH FOR IT!!! Those interested in receiving registration materials for the ASC 1980 meeting should write: Martha McKinney, Program Director, c/o Appalachian Consortium, 202 Appalachian St., Boone, N.C. 28607. Register as soon as you can; don't miss such a memorable Appalachian experience!

TENNESSEE ARTS COMMISSION PROVIDES GRANT FOR ENERGY

The Johnson City Road Company will perform its latest production, Energy, during the Appalachian Studies Conference next March. In an effort to keep the cost of the conference as low as possible, we have sought grants to subsidize this performance. The Tennessee Arts Commission has already come forward with partial support for Energy. We hope to raise the remainder by curtain time, March 22, 1980!

NEW ENERGY COMES TO THE INSTITUTE FOR APPALACHIAN AFFAIRS

The Institute for Appalachian Affairs will coordinate East Tennessee State University's participation in the program "Energy and the Way We Live: A National Issues Forum." ETSU will serve as a community forum institution leader in the national program,

which is sponsored by the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the United States Department of Energy. Utilizing a nationwide series of public forums and town meetings, the program is designed to examine special interest and regional issues relating to the national energy problem. In addition to the public forums, WTBS-TV in Atlanta will televise a national prime-time phone-in program in March 1980. The broadcast will feature internationally-known energy experts responding to the questions of national cable viewers via a toll-free telephone system.

ARCHIVES FUND ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE ETSU FOUNDATION

As any reader of the Archives of Appalachia Newsletter is undoubtedly aware, the Archives provides a wide range of services to the community. All of these activities are expensive and while the University underwrites all major operating costs, and grants provide for special projects, the Archives needs further financial support if we are to function effectively. For example, we lack the resources to purchase books and copies of theses and dissertations that will serve to supplement our manuscript materials. The opening of our photographic archive will mean a large supply order. The stacks and reading rooms require audio-visual drapery to shield out harmful ultra-violet light, and we also need a fumigator and map cabinets to clean and store collections.

It is with these many needs in mind that we have taken the necessary step of establishing an Archives of Appalachia Fund within the ETSU Foundation. This account will serve as the focus for our fund raising efforts in the region. We do not wish to charge for Newsletter subscriptions or for any of our other educational services. Rather than tax knowledge, we ask you, our friends and colleagues, to contribute as you can to the Fund. All gifts to the Archives are deductible for income, estate, and gift taxes. Contributions should be made payable to the ETSU Foundation and designated for the Archives of Appalachia.

Those who do contribute to the fund will be acknowledged in our Newsletter and larger donations can earn for the donor special honors and distinctions from the University. Your gift, no matter its size, will be a great help in building our program. You need not contribute cash; remember gifts of materials and equipment are also tax deductible. Whatever you decide, your gift will allow us to continue to serve you and your fellow citizens. Many thanks.

MUSEUM DISPLAYS AT THE ARCHIVES

Dennis Pelletier of our staff has planned the following exhibits for the first quarter of 1980:

January: Micrographics and Research: An exhibit of the types of microform records available at the Sherrod Library and the equipment employed to view and copy from them. The exhibit will emphasize the research applications of these materials, where they are to be found in the Sherrod Library, and how to use them.

February: Abraham Lincoln Month: Important events in the career of this prominent American statesman and president will be depicted through the use of photographs, political cartoons, and manuscript materials.

March: Appalachian Farm Life Display: This exhibit draws upon the outstanding photographic materials found in the Archives's Appalachian Farm Life Collection and

is scheduled to coincide with the annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Conference which will be held at ETSU on March 21-23, 1980. Only a small portion of this collection will fit into our exhibition windows. The remainder will be shown in the Pioneer Room of the B. Carroll Reece Museum, located right next door to the Sherrod Library.

Speaking of the Reece Museum, the Archives will continue to display materials related to the monthly showings at the Museum. The far exhibition case, next to the exit leading to the Museum from the Library has been set aside for this purpose. Dennis is responsible for these displays as well as those prepared for the Archives.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CONSULTANT VISITS ARCHIVES

As we reported in our last issue of the Newsletter, the American Association for State and Local History recently awarded the Archives of Appalachia a consultant's grant so that we could bring a specialist in photographic materials onto ETSU's campus. On November 8, 1979, Ms. Nancy Malan of Educational Programs, National Archives and Records Service arrived on campus for a two-day visit. During her stay, Ms. Malan reviewed all aspects of the operation of our photographic and audio-visual materials department from accessioning and storage, to cataloging and preservation, to display and user services. In addition to touring our facility, she also examined our display areas and our photo lab. Thanks to Ms. Malan and the AASLH grant that made her visit possible, we anticipate enhanced control over our photographic and a/v materials, and more comprehensive and speedier user services. By January 1, 1980, we expect our photographic archives to be fully operational and therefore ready to receive those photographic collections that we have heretofore delayed in accessioning.

APPALACHIAN FARM LIFE COLLECTION COMES TO ARCHIVES

This unique collection comprises one-hundred-and-one photographs depicting various facets of rural Appalachian life during the 1920's, 30's, and 40's. Included in the collection are pictures of community hoedowns, weddings and festivals, soap making, hide tanning, sorghum making, and early farming methods. Though not entirely processed as yet, these pictures are of such high quality that Heritage Federal Bank of Johnson City has arranged through the Institute for Appalachian Affairs (ETSU) for a display of these materials in their new office building in North Johnson City. As we develop our photographic holdings, we hope that these materials will be widely available to many more regional agencies and organizations.

THE COMMUNICATION WORKS OF AMERICA

JOIN THE ARCHIVES FAMILY

Mr. Calvin Patrick, Director for the East Tennessee-Kentucky Region of the Communications Workers of America has donated the first installment of what will become in time an extensive collection of records relating to the activities of the CWA in Southern Appalachia. The collection includes correspondence, grievances, newsclippings, National Labor Relations Board briefs and hearing transcripts, and contracts concerning the CWA's recent organization drive at Northern Electric Company here in Johnson City, as well as materials dealing with the relations between the union and other firms in the region. Mr. Patrick was also kind enough to arrange for Richard Kesner to speak before the local AFL-CIO Council. This meeting has already resulted in one major collection coming to

the Archives. We are most grateful to Mr. Patrick for showing such interest in our program and for taking time from his busy schedule to assist us in our collection development activities.

ETEA REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO THE ARCHIVES

On October 24, 1979, Richard M. Kesner, Director, addressed the Executive Board and Officers of the East Tennessee Education Association on the subject of regional educational resources and the role of the Archives of Appalachia in documenting the history of education in the region. He observed that East Tennessee State University began as a Normal School in 1911 and has continued to serve the Eastern Tennessee community as a trainer of teachers and as a resource center for wide-ranging educational activities. Dr. Kesner went on to express the hope that the ETEA would continue to associate itself with the Archives and that its members would assist the Archives in identifying the papers of important regional educators and educational institutions for possible disposition in the Archives. Following his presentation, the Executive Board of the ETEA voted unanimously to transfer all non-current records to the Archives and to thereafter retire all important ETEA materials to the Archives on a regular basis. Before leaving the meeting, Dr. Kesner joined the ETEA on behalf of the Archives, establishing a formal link between the organization and its official depository.

COLLECTIONS OPEN FOR USE*

*Unless otherwise indicated all collections housed at the Archives are open to all scholars and students of Appalachia without restriction. Each collection has its own finding aid which provides the user with useful background information, a description and file-folder inventory of collection contents, and an index to the collection. These guides are available in the Archives Reading Room and at the Reference Desk on the second floor of the Sherrod Library.

Mrs. S.E. Miller Collection (3 folders) 1967-69. Genealogical notes compiled by Mrs. Miller and members of her family. Jonesboro Women's Christian Temperance Union Collection (1 folder) 1895-1899. Constitution and minutes of the Union. Also a few news-clippings. Ernest Seeman Collection (3 folders), the original manuscript of his study "Tumbling Creek, Its Past and Its People." The Rinehart and Ellis Family Collection (1 folder) 1893, a narrative of the history of these two East Tennessee families as dictated by Elizabeth Ellis Rinehart to her sons, James H. Rinehart and Henry Rinehart. The Shelby Family Collection (1 folder) 1959. The collection contains a brief genealogical and military sketch pertaining to six members of the Shelby family.

Model Valley Industrial Development Corporation Collection (1 folder) 1970-1978. This collection includes the organization's articles of incorporation, by-laws, newspaper clippings, photographs, and various publications pertaining to this non-profit corporation located in Claiborne and Campbell Counties, Tennessee, and Bell and Whitley Counties, Kentucky. Washington County, Tennessee Board of Education Collection (1 folder) 1871-1888. Minutes of the Board of Education, County Superintendent reports, circulars to county teachers from the Superintendent, and rules governing teacher/student relations. Urban Appalachian Council Collection (4 folders) 1974-1978. This collection contains UAC publications, working papers, reports and annual reports. The Council was established to

assist Appalachian migrants in Cincinnati and later, in other urban centers of Ohio and the Midwest in obtaining educational and job training, and employment.

PARKING PROBLEMS?

Patrons of the Archives are encouraged to park in either blue or yellow parking spots on Campus wherever they find them. If any non-ETSU patron receives a parking ticket due to this practice, that person is asked to please mail or give it to an Archives staff member. The Director will deal with them. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause our patrons. The University's parking program is part of overall traffic management on campus. We do not want it to turn into a deterrent for those seeking access to Archives's materials. Please let us know if you are having any problems in this regard.

STAFF NEWS AND NOTES

The Archives benefits from the services of many fine ETSU undergraduate and graduate students who carry on a wide range of useful functions for our program. Needless to say, we could not do all that we do without their assistance. Some of our workers have completed their training and have moved on. Martha Smith, for example, is now in Duke University's Physical Therapy Program, and Rebecca Willis has entered the world of business administration. We wish them all well and thank them for all of their time and effort on behalf of our program.

New additions to the staff include: Wanda Keith, Catherine Kee, and Jennie Stonecipher, who do much of our typing and who will soon do much of our inputting as we go over to an automated system for the indexing and retrieval of our collections. Lewis Cox, E.C. Ostermeyer, Dennis Kenner, and Debbie Maxey have also joined our staff as collection processors, responsible primarily for preliminary processing and inventories. In addition, Ann Sims has just come aboard as our newest graduate assistant and processor. Ann is a product of the archives and conservation training courses offered through the ETSU History Department and taught by the Archives's Director.

E.C. Ostermeyer of our staff has published an article entitled: "Some Observations on the Life History of Megaselia Scalaris Loew (Phoridae), with Special Reference to the eclosion pattern, Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Sciences 55,1 (January, 1980): 4-5.

Richard M. Kesner's Automation, Machine-Readable Records and Archival Administration: An Annotated Bibliography has been accepted for publication by the Society of American Archivists and will be issued around the first of the year. In addition, his article "Conservation and Community Action: Bringing the Message Home," will appear in Georgia Archives this spring.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE SHERROD MEMORIAL GENEALOGICAL COLLECTION*

Robert V. Ahrens, HISTORY OF THE R.V. AHRENS AND ANNIE E. HOWELL FAMILIES. Elsie Staples Burkett, ROCKWOOD'S CENTENNIAL YEAR, 1868-1969. Horace F. Cost, A GENEALOGY OF THE COST AND RELATED FAMILIES. Belva Marshall Counts, UNTO THESE HILLS....SOME HILLMANS AND OTHERS. Paul Buford Fancher, THE JOHNSON FANCHER FAMILY OF SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE. Elizabeth J. Harris, FAMILIES OF BRINKLEY DAVIS, DAVID FAULKENBERRY, JOSEPH ADAMS HARRIS, AND JAMES HEROD. Willa Avery Heady, THE WHEREABOUTS OF KENTUCKY'S WATERCOURSES. Walter

Marvin Hunter, THE HUNTERS OF BEDFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA. Lorand V. Johnson, SELECTED REFERENCES RELATING TO JOHNSTON OF CASKIEBEN, CRIMOND AND CAIESMILL. Richard S. Lackey, FRONTIER CLAIMS IN THE LOWER SOUTH. May Wilson McBee, ANSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: ABSTRACTS OF EARLY RECORDS. Dixie L. McCrary, THE ELLIS LINE FROM SURRY - SUSSEX IN VIRGINIA. May Ross McDowell, HONOREES: PATRICK-HENRY ALLIED FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA, INC., 1952-1978. North Carolina, 1850 FEDERAL CENSUS OF STOKES COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. Lee Leeper Powers, CAPTAIN THOMAS JARNAGIN, 1746-1802. A.M. Prichard, MEAD RELATIONS. Dora Hurst Reilly, THE TENNESSEE D.A.R. GENEALOGICAL RECORDS, VOL. I. William Kenneth and Anna Clay Rutherford, GENEALOGICAL HISTORY OF OUR ANCESTORS (2 vols.). Rollo P. Stovall, STOVALL CONNECTIONS. Ervin Charles Tipton, WE TIPTONS AND OUR KIN. Bernice Carpenter Williams, CARPENTER, 1774-1976. Jeffery A. and Florence L. Wyand, COLONIAL MARYLAND NATURALIZATIONS.

*We would like to encourage our friends and patrons to contribute genealogical and family history materials to our genealogical collections. Books will be housed in the Genealogy Library and manuscript materials in the Archives itself. All gifts are tax deductible and donors will be duly acknowledged for their thoughtful contributions.

A CLOSING THOUGHT

This is the last issue of the Newsletter for 1979. In looking back over the past year, we are quite proud for all the things accomplished by our program. We are also most grateful to our many friends both here at East Tennessee State University and throughout Appalachia who have provided us with so much help over the course of this year. To all of you, we would like to extend our best wishes in this holiday season, and health and prosperity in the years to come.

HOT OFF THE PRESSES!!!!

We are extremely pleased to inform our readers that Judge Darrell V. McGraw, Supreme Court Justice for the State of West Virginia, has agreed to serve as the keynote speaker for the Appalachian Studies Conference, March 21-23, 1980. Judge McGraw is a vigorous defender of human rights in Appalachia and has repeatedly spoken out on topics of vital interest to the ASC. We expect that his address before the Conference on Friday evening, March 21, will serve to energize all the sessions and events that follow. Don't miss it!!!!

**SUPPORT APPALACHIAN STUDIES
GIVE TO THE ARCHIVES FUND!!**

**All contributions are tax
deductible.**

**Please send your gift to
the Archives c/o the ETSU
Foundation.**

