

East Tennessee State University

## Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University

---

Archives of Appalachia Newsletter

Magazines & Newsletters

---

1980

### Archives of Appalachia Newsletter (vol. 2, no. 4, 1980)

East Tennessee State University. Archives of Appalachia.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/archives-newsletter>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

East Tennessee State University. Archives of Appalachia., "Archives of Appalachia Newsletter (vol. 2, no. 4, 1980)" (1980). *Archives of Appalachia Newsletter*. 8.

<https://dc.etsu.edu/archives-newsletter/8>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Magazines & Newsletters at Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Archives of Appalachia Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ East Tennessee State University. For more information, please contact [digilib@etsu.edu](mailto:digilib@etsu.edu).

# Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER



VOL. II, NO. 4

## ARCHIVES TO HONOR TOM DANIEL

On August 1, 1980, The Archives of Appalachia and the East Tennessee State University community lost a good friend when Thomas Nance Daniel died unexpectedly. Tom served as chief photographer for ETSU from 1964-1977. In that capacity, he made the first concerted effort to preserve the photographic history of ETSU and indeed, acted as the predecessor to the Archives in that area. As a professional photographer his work is well known and respected in the Tri-Cities. Both he and his wife, Mary Vivian Haines Daniel, have served the community in many constructive ways. Tom in particular was interested in the history of the region, and in our effort to preserve its photographic records. We at the Archives would like to remember in a small way Tom's own contribution as a documentor of East Tennessee State University's history as it evolved from a four-year college to a full university with a medical school.

The University and the Archives of Appalachia therefore plan to establish a special account within the Archives Fund at the ETSU Foundation in Tom Daniel's memory. Tax-deductible contributions to this fund will be used to purchase essential supplies for the preservation of the Archives' photographic collections (many of which were donated to us by Tom) and for the mounting of photographic displays based upon archival collections. The Archives believes that this step is very much in keeping with the goals and objectives to which Tom devoted his years at ETSU. We encourage Tom's friends to send their contributions to the Archives of Appalachia Fund, c/o the Director, Archives of Appalachia, The Sherrod Library, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN 37614. All gifts will be acknowledged in our NEWSLETTER. In addition, all contributors will be invited to the official dedication of the Tom Daniel Photograph Collection at the Archives this spring.

## AASLH AWARDS ARCHIVES ITS SECOND CONSULTANT'S GRANT

The American Association for State and Local History has awarded the Archives its second grant under the AASLH Consultants Program. The grant program provides for the services of an outside expert to assist historical agencies in developing some aspect of their operations. Our last grant brought Nancy Malan from the National Archives and Records Service here to assist us with the development of our photographic archives. We are now at the stage where we need to make some hard decisions concerning our slide-tape programs. In particular, we must respond to the many requests by other institutions for copies of our programs. We also need to devise study guides and other educational tools to accompany our slide-tape productions into the community. AASLH agreed to provide us with a consultant to advise us in the area of slide-tape distribution and study guide development. Ms. Elsie Freivogel, Director, Education Division (NARS) has been appointed for this purpose. We look forward to her visit and intend to share her views with our readers in the next issue of the NEWSLETTER.

## TOM DAVENPORT AND HIS FILMS COME TO JOHNSON CITY

Not too long ago, friends of the Archives asked us why we had never invited Tom Davenport to our campus to show his films built around Appalachian persons and settings. This suggestion sparked a series of inquiries that in turn led to our holding a Tom Davenport Film Festival on the campus of East Tennessee State University in November. On Sunday, November 16, the Archives in conjunction with the James Agee Film Series and the Friends of the B. Carroll Reece Museum hosted three films, IT AIN'T CITY MUSIC, BORN FOR HARD LUCK, and the newly released BEING A JOINES: A LIFE IN THE BRUSHY MOUNTAINS. Mr. Davenport was on hand to introduce each production and to answer audience questions following the showings. The next day Mr. Davenport took his films to Johnson City's Science Hill High School where he showed HANSEL & GRETEL: AN APPALACHIAN VERSION; RAPUNZEL, RAPUNZEL; THE SHAKERS; and BORN FOR HARD LUCK. In both instances Mr. Davenport was warmly received by his audiences.

The Davenport Film Festival was made possible by a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission with matching funds provided by the Junior Service League of Johnson City. The reception following the evening program was provided by the Friends of the B. Carroll Reece Museum. The staff of the Archives would like to thank all of those people who contributed to the staging of this important cultural event in our community.

## WSJK-TV: GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

As some of our readers may already be aware, the educational television station, WSJK-TV, formerly located on the main campus of East Tennessee State University closed its doors this September. We all regret the loss of WSJK as a creative and educational enterprise located in Upper East Tennessee. But thanks to the thoughtful efforts of many people, some of the most important programs produced locally by the station will be preserved. Jack Higgs and Ed Tucker of the ETSU English Department alerted the Archives to the fact that the station had in its video-tape holdings a series of programs about the history and culture of the region. The Archives obtained the right to copy these programs for preservation purposes. Mr. W. Hanes Lancaster, Jr., Executive Vice President of WJHL-TV (Johnson City, Tennessee), then came forward with a generous financial contribution which allowed the Archives to purchase the raw video-cassette stock needed for duplication of the originals. In addition, Sandhi Kozsuch of WJHL-TV agreed to prepare duplicate user copies. Thus, thanks to the kind assistance of Messrs. Lancaster and Kozsuch, the Archives now has a "WSJK-TV Collection."

This collection includes a number of programs produced by Pat Alderman, the noted Unicoi County historian. The Alderman programs feature: Nancy Ward ( a program about the Cherokees of the Appalachians), the Overmountain Victory Trail, Tilson's Mill, the Four Seasons of Unicoi County, Unaka Springs, and the "First 200 Years" (a history of East Tennessee). Other tapes include interviews with Ray Hicks, Sherwood Anderson, Jesse Stuart, Pat Alderman, John Fox Jr., and the brother of Tom Wolfe. One copy of each video tape will be stored in the Archives audio-visual collections vault for preservation purposes. The second (users') copy will go to ETSU's Instructional Materials Center for public access. The Archives staff wishes to thank the many people who have worked together to insure the preservation of these materials and especially, Hanes Lancaster for his crucial financial support.

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

The First Tennessee-Virginia Development District has agreed to place its minutes, non-current files, reports and publications with the Archives as part of a special agreement naming the Archives as its official depository. The FT-VDD serves as a resource and research agency for the counties of Upper East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. Among the primary services of the Development District is to assist county and municipal governments in the planning of roads, water and sewage systems, industrial parks and commercial centers. For well over a decade, the agency has participated directly in the economic and infrastructural growth of the region. At the present time, the unprocessed papers of the FT-VDD total some forty linear feet of material but these holdings will grow annually as the Development District retires more of its files and transfers them to us.

The Congregation of B'nai Sholom has also designated the Archives of Appalachia as their official depository. The synagogue recently celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary and decided that the time had come to take action to preserve the documentary heritage of the Jewish community in the Tri-Cities. The records of B'nai Sholom include correspondence, newsletters, congregation and executive board minutes, financial records, and ephemeral publications pertaining to the educational and cultural activities of the Congregation. At present the collection entails approximately ten linear feet of material. Many of the records of B'nai Sholom, however, remain out of custody. Anyone who has or knows of relevant materials should contact the Director, c/o the Archives.

The Helen Lewis Collection is actually an extensive set of 35 mm slides taken of coal miners and mining in the Southern Appalachian region. This collection will be of particular interest to researchers studying modern coal mining practices. We have already employed many of the slides in one of our slide-tape programs, entitled: "Come All You Miners," which relates the history of coal mining in the region as seen through the eyes of coal miners and their families and as expressed in mining camp songs and ballads.

Tom Christy has contributed to the Archives in many ways. He served as a consultant in the development of our successful NEH application for funds to preserve our audio-visual collections. He has also worked as the sound technician for our slide-tape programs. Mr. Christy has now contributed papers, photographs and video tapes relating to his work as production coordinator for Broadside Television, Inc., the papers of which are processed and available for use at the Archives. Among the video tapes are "Smithfield Fiddlers Contest, 1975," "The Crossroads Boys," and a study of the popular evangelist program "Malone and Wells." In addition, Mr. Christy has donated the audio recordings of his popular radio program "Appalachian Digest," broadcast weekly on WETS-FM (Johnson City, Tennessee). These materials include a great deal of information on the cultural and artistic life of contemporary Southern Appalachia.

## NEWLY OPENED COLLECTIONS

Two of our largest collections to date, the papers of the CONGRESS FOR APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT, and the CLINCHFIELD RAILROAD, are nearing completion. Three of our processing archivists as well as three student assistants have devoted most of their time to these holdings. We anticipate that both collections will be available for research use early in the new year. The processing of the Clinchfield Collection in particular would not have been possible without a generous grant from the Clinchfield Railroad. Articles on both of these major research collections will appear in our next NEWSLETTER.

The Tennessee Congress of Parents and Teachers Collection (1929-1946, predominantly 1929-1939), 2 linear feet, 10 scrapbooks. Organized in Nashville on January 24-25, 1911, the Congress worked for the closer cooperation between parents and teachers in an effort to expand the educational opportunities for all children in Tennessee. The papers of the Congress reflect the activities of its state conventions, executive committee, board of managers, and its day-to-day administrative and financial operations.

The Charles C. Sherrod Collection (1925-1939), 55.5 linear feet. The Sherrod Collection includes all of the surviving official papers of Charles C. Sherrod, the second president of East Tennessee State University. Dr. Sherrod devoted his entire life to education and school administration in the state of Tennessee. While he held many offices within the state college system, his most important post was that of President for the East Tennessee State Teachers College (now ETSU) from 1925 to 1949. His official papers deal with all aspects of school operations over this twenty-five year period, including: educational programs, building construction and administration, personnel files, minutes, memoranda, and general correspondence. The collection is of primary interest for the information it contains pertaining to the history of higher education in Tennessee and of the development of East Tennessee State University.

Once processed, most collection at the Archives of Appalachia are available to scholars and students without restriction. The Archives reading room is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. All Archives collections are registered with the Library of Congress and appear in LC's National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections.

## DISTINGUISHED GUESTS STUDY ARCHIVES PROGRAM

During the month following the Society of American Archivist meeting in Cincinnati, no less than six groups of fellow archivists and librarians have visited the Archives of Appalachia to examine our procedures, services, and facilities. Two of these groups, those from Southern Methodist University and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, came specifically to see the Archives' microcomputer system (MARS) and to discuss the possibilities of using a similar computer configuration in their own shops. An archivist from Pat Quinn's program at Northwestern University appeared on our door step inquiring about our folklore collections, their treatment and management. Finally, representatives from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and the Troup County (Georgia) Archives visited the Archives of Appalachia to learn from our experiences as they prepare historical records programs in their own communities. We were very glad to have all of these distinguished guests and welcome visits from other organizations planning archives programs. Indeed, we are anxious to foster the growth of archival agencies in the Appalachian region to insure the preservation of the region's documentary heritage.

## ARCHIVES DISPLAY SCHEDULE

Stephanie Dixon our photographic archivist has planned a full calendar of exhibits for the Archives display area adjacent to our facility. Her schedule takes us into the new year and it appears to be a most promising one for the Archives. In December, we will feature a series of historical photographs of Elizabethton, Tennessee taken near the turn of the century. In addition we will have Mildred Kozsuch's historic map of Carter County (TN), a history of Elizabethton and a brief reading list for those viewing the exhibit. January will be devoted to the "People of Appalachia: Living Off the Land." This exhibit will also

feature historical photographs of the region but these will depict various mountain industries, farming and arts and crafts. February's display will feature a study of the "Settlement of the West" in photographs and will include regional photographs and drawings of Indian peoples, settlers, ranch hands, farmers, and community life.

## STAFF ACTIVITIES

Mildred Kozsuch spoke before the Elizabethton (TN) Woman's Club, Monday, October 20, 1980 on Dr. Nat E. Hyder (1849-1904) and his historical writings. Mildred also attended the fall meeting of the Tennessee Archivists which was held concurrently with the fall meeting of the Kentucky Archivists in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

David Goodin, Anne Sims, E.C. Ostermeyer and Susan Tannewitz-Karnes all participated in a festival at Bays Mountain Park (Kingsport, Tennessee) during the weekend of October 25-26, 1980. The program featured three of the Archives' slide-tape programs: "Hands All Around," "Harvesting the Hardwoods," and "Country Music in the Tri-Cities."

Henry Alexander Kesner. Due to activity previously unreported in this NEWSLETTER, Henry Alexander (7 pounds 12 ounces) was born to Susan Nayer and Richard M. Kesner on October 10, 1980. Henry can currently fill a Hollinger box but plans to fill a Paige box before too long.

Richard M. Kesner presented a series of seven slide-tape programs as part of a month-long series at the Bristol Public Library during November. Richard's article "MARS: Progress Report" will appear in the February issue of Automatic Data Processing in Archives. He has also been named to a twelve-person national panel considering the role of automated indexing and retrieval systems in archives. The project is funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Richard is currently at work on a book with his colleague Don Hurst for Greenwood Press. The tentative title is "Microcomputer Applications in Libraries: Meeting the Information Management and Administrative Challenges of the 1980's."

## CLINCHFIELD PROVIDES FURTHER ARCHIVES GRANT

Just as the NEWSLETTER went to press, we received word that the Clinchfield Railroad Company has agreed to provide the Archives with a further grant of \$2000 to support the processing of the Clinchfield Railroad Collection. We are most grateful to have such a fine manuscript collection in our Archives and equally pleased that the management of the Railroad has continued to so generously support our efforts. The work on the Clinchfield Collection is progressing and we hope to have the collection completely processed and ready for use in the spring. Look for a complete report on the Collection in the next issue of the NEWSLETTER. But we do want to thank our friends at the Clinchfield for all their generous help,

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

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.

