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Fall 1997

News CASS: Newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (summer/fall, 1997)

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News CASS

Newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services • East Tennessee State University



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SURVEY RESULTS PROVIDE POSITIVE INPUT FOR CENTER

If you are a Center member, you're likely to be a highly-educated, female baby boomer from one of the 13 Appalachian states, and you generally appreciate the work the Center does. That seems to be one of the conclusions of a recent Center survey.

Working on the premise that the Center can better serve its members if it has a clear picture of who they are, Center staff conducted the survey last January. Some 21 percent of Center members returned a questionnaire designed with the invaluable assistance of the membership advisory committee.

Approximately 59 percent of the respondents are female. Eighty-six

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Photo by Henry Wilson

Photographer and author Jeanne Rasmussen's collection is one of several featured in an article on photography collections in the Archives of Appalachia. See page 7.

ARCHIVES RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION

Mary H. Bogart, of Erwin, already a strong supporter of the archives' program, recently made a gift of \$1,000 to the Archives of Appalachia. Earlier, Mrs. Bogart donated the papers of her father William Cary Hattan, chief engineer in the construction of the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railway, to the archives. The addition of this collection enhanced the significant holdings of the archives on the history of railroads in the region. Mrs. Bogart is the co-author with her

husband Frank of the war reminiscence, *Till War Us Do Part*.

"The Archives of Appalachia has benefited from Mrs. Bogart's generous gifts over the years. Her father's papers, which she donated earlier, contain wonderful photographs which researchers will find most valuable for documenting the history of railroad development in the region," said Norma Myers, archives head. "Her financial gift will be equally important in helping the archives fulfill its mission of service to Appalachia."

The Center and the archives want to extend a special "thank you" to Mrs. Bogart. ♦

Survey, continued from page 1

percent are over 35 years of age, with 30 percent checking off the 35-49 year category, followed closely by 29 percent falling into the 50-59 year range, and 26 percent who were 60 and over. More than 90 percent are currently living in an Appalachian state. More than 50 percent gave Tennessee as their state of residence.

As noted earlier, Center members appear to be a highly-educated group. More than 90 percent are college graduates; almost 65 percent have advanced degrees. Majors listed range from the arts to engineering. The majority of majors were concentrated in education, the social sciences, and the humanities. More than a fifth majored or double-majored in English, American Literature, or Comparative Literature.

There was a range of occupations. Responses included veterinarian, storyteller, minister, insulator, reporter, chiropractor, homemaker, and artist, just to

name a few. The leading response, at 20 percent, was "faculty member," and most of these faculty members are employed by colleges and universities located in the region. Twelve percent of respondents are retired.

Considering the substantial number of faculty members, it was not surprising that nearly 30 percent of the respondents are employed in some capacity by a college or university. The second highest response was

NewsCASS, the joint newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, the Archives of Appalachia, and the Reece Museum at East Tennessee State University, is published three times a year. Center members receive *NewsCASS* as part of the benefits of membership.

CENTER STAFF

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Jack Tottle, Director, Bluegrass Program
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Now & Then

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Nancy Jane Earnest, Slide Curator
Lisa Erwin, Secretary
Harold F. Stewart, Sr., Installation Supervisor
Blair H. White, Asst. Director/Curator

All survey respondents who supplied their names and contact information had their forms placed in a yellow-and-blue, genuine ETSU bookstore bag. ETSU student worker Debbie Walker drew out the slips of the five fortunate winners of a year's free Center membership. And the winners are ...

Aubrey Lee
Johnson City, Tenn.

Bill Muller
Bristol, Tenn.

Toumonava Nelson
Unicoi, Tenn.

Bruce Steinbicker
Asheville, N.C.

Greg Wallace
Bluff City, Tenn.

Greg Wallace, special projects producer at WCYB-TV5 in Bristol, Va., was particularly elated. "I've never won anything before in my life," he exclaimed. May this be just the beginning of a long, long streak of good luck.

the 15 percent who listed themselves as "self-employed." Approximately 76 percent of the respondents who chose to report household annual incomes make over \$35,000.

Comments regarding Center programs were overwhelmingly positive. "You're doing a great job in your focus on and study of Appalachia and Appalachian heritage," wrote one member. "*Now & Then* is excellent, and CASS is a model program" was the opinion of another. "Carry On!," instructed a third.

Thanks for your words of encouragement and your cooperation. ♦

THE IMAGE OF APPALACHIA: PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES OF APPALACHIA



Photo from Appalachian Photographic Archive

"Child of the Past Looking Forward"

SEPTEMBER PICNIC SET FOR FORM MEMBERSHIP

On Saturday, September 13, Friends of the Reece Museum (FORM) will host a membership party. The event will honor long-time and new members of FORM with food, fun, and festivities. The ETSU Bluegrass band will provide entertainment, along with **Stevan Jackson** performing Celtic music. The Scottish Country Dancers will demonstrate a variety of traditional Scottish dances; members of the audience are invited to join in the action.

Ample barbecue, side orders, and beverages will be provided, all contributed from area restaurants and other businesses, and door prizes will be presented to five fortunate FRIENDS. The picnic will give FORM members the opportunity to mingle with each other, as well as meet members of the FORM board and the museum staff.

FORM provides valuable support to the museum through monetary contributions to general support and

The image of Appalachia is often distorted and stereotypical. Photographs can help define more accurately the nature of life in the region. Many collections in the Archives of Appalachia contain such useful photographs. The following is a guide to some of the more important sources for researchers seeking to discover a more honest image of Appalachia.

Various manuscript collections contain photographic images of the region as prints, negatives, or slides. Scenes of local history are found in collections of such professional photographers as the **James Garvin Ellis Negatives Collection**, which consists of over 7,000 negatives taken by Ellis while serving as chief photographer for the *Johnson City Press-Chronicle* and includes scenes depicting life in the Johnson City, area (1958-60) related to a variety of topics and individuals; the **Burr Harrison Photographs Collection**, containing prints and negatives taken or collected by this Johnson City, photographer during the first half of the 20th century, whose images depict area scenes, individuals, and businesses; and the **Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs Collection** of negatives and prints examining Johnson City and Washington Co., individuals, scenes, and structures related to life in the area, c. 1940-86.

The **Elizabethton Star Negatives Collection** contains a large collection of newspaper photographs of the area and its people between 1956 and 1968. The **Kyle Huddle Photograph Collection** consists of photographs depicting industry, churches, and civic leaders of Kingsport, in the period 1910-30. Likewise, the **Kelly and Green Company Collection** has prints and negatives made by this Bristol, Va.-based photographic company depicting Bristol, Tenn.-Va. schools, churches, and businesses (1905-40). The **Mildred S. Kozsuch Photograph Collection** contains prints revealing various scenes,

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to the FORM Art Scholarship endowment. Members of FORM also serve as volunteers and docents and provide other assistance throughout the program year. FORM members receive advance notification of events, copies of *NewsCASS* and *Now and Then* three times annually, and reduced rates on FORM Discovery Tours and workshops.

For more information about the FORM barbecue, or on becoming a member of FORM, please call the Reece Museum at 423-439-4392. ♦



Dr. Jesse White, Federal Co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission and Advisory Board member, welcomes the group to the ARC headquarters.

The Advisory and Editorial boards for the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* met recently at the headquarters of the Appalachian Regional Commission in Washington, D. C. The following photographs capture some of the highlights of the meeting.



Advisory Board member Noah Adams of National Public Radio offers a suggestion, as novelist Lee Smith and Dr. Gordon McKinney, director, Appalachian Center at Berea College, listen.

DRAWING TO PROGRESS ENCYCLOPEDIA

Dr. Ron Eller, director of Appalachian Center, University of Kentucky and Editorial Board member, confers with Jennifer Siler, director of the University of Tennessee Press, which will publish the encyclopedia.



Photos courtesy of Marvin T. Jones & Associates



Encyclopedia co-editor and Center director, Dr. Jean Haskell Speer reviews plans for the project with board members.

THE CENTER: CONTINUES ON OF APPALACHIA



Advisory Board members Wilma Dykeman, noted author and lecturer, and Ross Spears, director of the James Agee Film Project, share stories at the meeting.



Mike Epley, executive director of the Appalachian Consortium, gives a report to the Administration Committee when the Center hosted the winter meeting of the regional association at ETSU. The Consortium unites 19 colleges, universities, governmental and nonprofit agencies from the Appalachian region for purposes of research and service to the region. The Consortium has endorsed the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* project.

ARCHIVES

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

CHARLES GUNTER, JR. COLLECTION

1997. 21 audiotapes. Addition.

Consists of oral history interviews by Gunter's students with individuals on subjects such as moonshining, childhood in the mountains, family histories, change in East Tennessee, Butler, Tenn., Ripshin Mountain, gathering ginseng, antique dealing, and Sycamore Shoals. Donated by Charles Gunter, Jr., Department of Geography, Geology, and Geomatics, ETSU.

EDWIN W. KENNEDY PAPERS

1897-1932 and undated. 1 ft.

Consists of papers of ETSU's first professor of history and includes notebooks with notes and essays on various historical topics, correspondence, index cards of historical notes and bibliographies, and an 1897 yearbook of the Women's College of Baltimore (later known as Goucher College). Donated by Kennedy's niece, Mrs. Dorothy Kennedy Whitlock Wood, Jonesborough, Tenn.

MARY MANNING INTERVIEW

1996. 2 items.

Consists of two audiocassette recordings of an exit interview with Mary Manning, Department of English, ETSU, conducted by Marie Graves. Manning discusses her life and work at the university. Donated by Marie

Graves, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, ETSU.

RICHTER H. MOORE, JR. PAPERS

1956-70. 1 ft.

Consists of papers of former ETSU professor of history and political science and includes campaign literature, newsclippings, pamphlets, brochures, and correspondence relating to such subjects as the Young Democrats Club of ETSU and campaign activities of the local and state Democratic Party, as well as politics in Johnson City, Tenn., and Yancey Co., N. C. Donated by Carolyn Moore, Jonesborough, Tenn.

SOUTHERN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT RECORDS

1986-93. 3 ft. Addition.

Consists of correspondence, donor lists, activity reports, agreements, training materials, meeting minutes, and financial records related to operations and training activities for community activists. Donated by June Rostan, Maryville, Tenn.

STONEY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH RECORDS

1841-73. 1 item.

Consists of a photocopy of a typed transcript of the minutes of the Stoney Creek Baptist Church in Carter Co., Tenn. Donated by Dr. Chesla Sharp, Department of English, ETSU.

The archives thanks the following for donations of materials to the department recently: Lexie Blackburn, Kristine Harper Bowers, Dr. Thomas Burton, Dr. Ronnie Day, Allen Ellis, Dr. Ellen Garrison, John Goodin, Frank H. Maynard, Charles Moore, Teri Sloat, Edward G. Speer, J. Allen Thomas, Lori Hofmann Thomas, Western Historical Manuscript Collection (University of Missouri-Rolla), and Dr. Frank B. Williams, Jr. ♦

Archives of Appalachia

Members are invited to make donations of materials having historical and cultural significance for Southern Appalachia and its people, as well as financial contributions to the Archives of Appalachia Fund and to the Tom Daniels Memorial Fund (for archives media projects). For further information, phone (423) 439-4338 or write Archives and Special Collections, at the address below.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Archives of Appalachia Fund | Amount | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tom Daniels Memorial Fund | Amount | _____ |

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Please make checks payable to the specific fund named and mail to Archives of Appalachia, ETSU Box 70665, Johnson City TN 37614-0665.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM SET

ARTSPLOSION, the popular after-school arts program designed to supplement the arts instruction of the school system, returns to the Reece Museum beginning in September. Under the able instruction of Kathy Deakins, the program is offered to grades 1-4 on Tuesday afternoons. On Thursdays, classes are open to students in grades 5-8.

The Tennessee Association of Museums recognized the Reece Artsploration program at its 1997 annual meeting with an Honorable Mention in the Publications- Special or Novelty category. Plans for the 1997-98 series of classes include photography, painting, animation, drawing, silk screen design, and much more.

Class size is limited to afford each student ample time for individualized instruction. Instructional supplies are included in the class fees of \$35 per four-week session. Enroll your child early to ensure participation in these exciting and artfully informative classes. ♦

"*Mesches and Jazz After Dark*," the April 10th gala fund-raising event for the endowment of the Friends of the Reece Museum Art Scholarship, was an evening to be remembered. Response was good, with ticket sales bringing in more than \$3,300. The sale of advertisements in the printed program netted \$850, for a total of over

MUSEUM'S FUND-RAISING EVENT PROVES A SUCCESS

\$4,150 to be added to the endowment fund.

The FORM Art Scholarship was established when funds were no longer available for the Deborah Jean Brightly Art Scholarship, which had been awarded annually since 1969. Not only has the new endowment been augmented through fund-raising events but also by the Friends of the Reece Museum, which voted to donate half of all membership dues collected for a three-year period to the

endowment fund.

With 80 patrons in attendance, as well as exhibiting New York artist Arnold Mesches, the event proved to be both exciting and educational. A scavenger hunt in which guests were required to scan Mesches' paintings for obscure details, set up an atmosphere of competition for the grand prize, an evening in Abingdon, Va., which included Barter Theatre tickets, dinner at the Starving Artist Cafe, and a night at the Martha Washington Inn. Mark and Kay Sirois were the lucky winners. Numerous door prizes were awarded after Mr. Mesches talked briefly about his work. The evening included marvelous hors d'oeuvres and desserts and the smooth sounds of Doug Bennett on the Reece's Steinway.

In its mission to bring the best of exhibits and educational opportunities to our campus, community, and region, the Reece Museum is fortunate to have the generosity and support of its patrons. This support was evidenced in the many hours our "Friends" spent

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Image, continued from page 3

individuals, and aspects of life in the Johnson City/Jonesborough area, c. 1860-1940.

Useful images, though not clearly identified, will be found in the **Erlene Ledford Photographs Collection** depicting individuals, families, landscapes, and other scenes primarily of the East Tennessee region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The **Robert Bell Collection** examines in photographs lumber operations in the Limestone Cove area of Washington and Unicoi counties in the early part of this century, while the **Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Edwards Photographs Collection** studies operations of the W. M. Ritter Lumber Co. in Virginia and West Virginia, 1904-46. The **Charles C. Tiller Photographs Collection** depicts operations of the Ritter company in southwest Virginia, 1924-38.

Several collections depict the construction and operation of railroad lines in the region. Scenes often illustrate depots, engines, rail lines, rail crews, etc. These include the **Henry Blackwell Photographs** showing the 1940 flood in Western North Carolina and its effects on the Linville River Railway; the **James T. Dowdy, Sr. Photographs Collection** with images relating to three Appalachian railroads: the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina, Linville River, and the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio. The **James A. Goforth Collection** includes photographic negatives and prints depicting railway construction and views of rail routes on the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio Railway in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, 1906-15.

Important collections of contemporary photographers include the images of **Kenneth Maynard Murray** relating to the land and people of southern Appalachia,

including individuals, landscapes, and such subjects as agriculture, coal mining, crafts, and music, among others. The **Jeanne M. Rasmussen Collection** includes photographs and negatives related to Rasmussen's career as a photographer and writer and reflects her interests in coal mining, life in the Appalachian coal fields, the Buffalo Creek, W. Va. flood of 1972, and images from her Smithsonian-sponsored exhibit, "Appalachian Faces."

Other collections depict specific places and periods of the region's history. The **Norris Dam Construction Photographs** depict the early construction work (1933-36) on Norris Dam, the first of the Tennessee Valley Authority dams constructed in the Tennessee River basin. The **Pressmen's Home Photograph Collection** shows the land and buildings of the Pressmen's Home of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America in Hawkins Co., c. 1907-76. The **Sing Along With Appalachia Collection** contains images taken in the 1930s to preserve aspects of life in areas now part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park before it was changed forever. Similarly, the **Kenneth C. Spaulding Photographs** preserve rural scenes and life in the areas of Rabun Gap, Ga., Ocoee, and Newfound Gap, Tenn./N.C.

In addition to individual collections, the archives houses two extensive photographic archives arranged by subject: the **APPALACHIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE**, containing images related to many topics and individuals connected with southern Appalachia and the **UNIVERSITY PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE**, housing extensive photographic prints, negatives, and slides revealing the history and development of East Tennessee State University from its opening in 1911. ♦

REECE LUNCH BREAK RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

Lunch Break at the Reece, which takes place the third Thursday of each month during the regular academic year, will resume on September 18 with lunchtime entertainment for one and all. Established as a means of giving the public a chance to attend concerts of local performing groups, musicians, writers, and other creative talents in a casual atmosphere, Lunch Break has no admission charge. Visitors are also welcomed to bring their lunches and enjoy the entertainment while they eat.

Lunch Break has been a showcase for such regional talent as The Brother Boys, Roger Bailey and the Sophisticated Gentlemen, The Wildwood Dulcimers, Jim and Cheri Miller, Tim Mutschlecner and Anne Cook, Anndrena Belcher, and Lynn Rice-See. Jo Carson, Johnson City author and playwright, has read from her work to the delight of children and adults. Storytellers, folk musicians, instrument makers, and classical and jazz musicians have made their way across our stage as audiences take a break from a busy workday to relax and tap their toes or laugh with glee. The hour-long performances fit easily into lunch schedules; visitors come and go as time allows.

Friends of the Reece Museum (FORM)

supports the mission of the Carroll Reece Museum through monetary contributions as well as through the volunteer services of its members. FORM funds acquisitions for museum collections, improvements to facilities, public receptions and lectures, and art scholarships. FORM volunteers assist in museum education programs.

FORM members receive Museum and CASS publications, a membership card, discounts on FORM-sponsored events, and preferred seating at FORM-sponsored lectures and public forums.

<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Student	\$5
<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Individual	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Family	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Supporting	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Patron	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Sustaining	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> FORM Benefactor	\$500 or more

(including private benefactors, business, and industrial patrons)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Please make checks payable to FORM and mail to Reece Museum, ETSU Box 70660, Johnson City TN 37614-0660.

Mark your calendars this fall for Lunch Break at the Reece. The **noontime** entertainment will take place the third Thursday in September, October, and November. Groups are most welcome; however, it is suggested that a representative call the museum beforehand to reserve tables if the members will be bringing their lunches. Performances usually take place downstairs in the museum's Frontier Gallery, which is handicap accessible. Join the fun. Bring your lunch to Lunch Break at the Reece. ♦

REECE EXHIBIT CALENDAR OFFERS VISITORS VARIETY

Opening August 28th is the Southern Graphic Council 1996 Traveling Exhibition, followed by "Hallowed Ground: Preserving America's Heritage," and "Formulations: A Metals Invitational," which open September 4. These exhibits will run through October 12. The Annual Alumni Exhibit and winners of the *NOW & THEN* Photography Contest are to be displayed next, opening October 23 and continuing through the end of the year, closing December 21.

The 38 prints from members of the **Southern Graphics Council** offer the viewer a cross section of contemporary printmaking, illustrating a wide range of approaches to image making, from the representational to the non-objective. Included are traditional prints, such as etchings, relief prints, monotypes, and lithographs, as well as prints using photographic and digital processes.

"Hallowed Ground" is a photographic exhibition of selected images from the book by the same title written by **Rudy Abramson**, former Washington, D. C. correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times* and co-editor of the projected *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. Abramson's book provides a comprehensive historic tour of Virginia's northern Piedmont. This tour of people, place, and history is richly illustrated with photographs by Kenneth Garrett and Jack Kotz. The photographs were exhibited at the Smithsonian Institution from September 1996-February 1997 and are traveling to other venues.

The metals invitational, "Formulations," is guest curated by **David Logan**, chair of the ETSU Department of Art and Design. Invitations for this exhibit were extended to metalworkers who have made significant contributions to the field of art metals over the past four decades. Many of these metalsmiths continue teaching in university programs and producing new works as well.

The Annual Alumni Exhibit features the paintings of **Bill Nickels** and photographs by **Larry Smith**. Nickels' exhibit will include selections from the "View From West Poplar Street..." series, a collection of works which he began in 1991. Larry Smith has been making photographs at ETSU for twenty years, having begun with University Relations as a student worker. His exhibit includes images reflecting these years at the university. ♦

Memberships in the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services

MEMBERSHIPS GIVE YOU NOW & THEN AND MUCH MORE

Membership in the Center provides public recognition of your generosity and your support for our work in the Appalachian region. No matter what size the investment, a contribution to the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services through membership brings important returns. Your benefits of membership are:

- Members receive three issues of the Center's magazine, **Now & Then**, to keep you abreast of Appalachian issues and the best in Appalachian writing and photography.
- Members receive the Center's newsletter, **NewsCASS**, three times a year. Members are publicly acknowledged in the newsletter once each year.

- Members receive special member rates and discounts on books, recordings, and other publications or productions, study tours, study abroad, conferences, and programs.

In addition, your membership provides the Center with these benefits:

- Memberships help us conduct the Center's multiple programs and projects in teaching, research, and service in the Appalachian region.
- Members have opportunities for participating in Center projects as volunteers.

Center Membership/Now & Then

- CASS Student Associates \$ 10**
(for undergraduate and graduate students)
- CASS Friends \$ 15**
- CASS Institutional Affiliate \$ 20**
(libraries, etc.) ___ Payment enclosed ___ Please bill
- CASS Contributors \$25**
- CASS Associates \$50**
- CASS Partners \$100**
- CASS Patrons \$250 or more**
- CASS Corporate Partners \$500 or more**

Donations in excess of \$15 may be tax deductible.

Friends of the Center are also encouraged to support specific programs with special funds already established for them.

YES! I'd like to make an additional contribution of \$_____ to:

- Appalachian Studies Curriculum
- Appalachian-Scottish & Irish Studies Program
- Country and Bluegrass Music Program

Other ways to contribute to the center:

Scholarships • Fellowships • Memorials & Honor Gifts • Gift Memberships • In-kind and Special Gifts • Employee Matching Gifts • Bequests by Will • Retirement Plans and IRAs • Gifts of Stocks • Gifts of Archival Value, Art, Historical Artifacts

Thank you for your support. Make checks payable to ETSU/CASS and send to CASS, ETSU Box 70556, Johnson City TN 37614-0556.

Please fill out the information below:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

- New** **Renewal**

Please send a gift membership to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Gift card should read: _____

The year 1997 has thus far been a remarkable one for the ETSU Bluegrass and Country Music Program and its alumni:

- Three top-selling bluegrass albums reported in *Bluegrass Now* magazine bore the imprint of faculty and alumni of the program-- *Wind To the West* featured **Tim Stafford**; *Now That I've Found You: A Collection* featured **Adam Steffey**, **Barry Bales**, and Stafford in work with Alison Kraus and Union Station; and *It's A Long, Long Road* featured Stafford, with the title song composed by program director, Jack Tottle.

- Alumna **Beth Stevens** and her sister, **April**, made their debut on the nationally-televised portion of the Grand Ole Opry. Their recent debut album, *Sisters*, featured the pair as vocalists and composers. Beth played banjo on the album, and Tottle wrote the liner notes.

- The 1997 Grammy Awards show presented a prime-time television tribute to **Bill Monroe**, the father of bluegrass music, by Vince Gill, Alison Kraus and Union Station (including Steffey and Bales), and Patty Loveless. **Adam** and **Barry** also shared the 1997 Grammy awarded to Gill and Kraus and Union Station for their collaboration on *High Lonesome Sound*.

- Alumnus **Kenny Chesney** scored a national #1 country hit as reported by *Radio and Records* and *The Gavin Report* with his recording of "When I Close My Eyes." The album on which it appears, *All I Need To Know*, recently went "gold," meaning total sales in excess of half-a-million.

- Two highly impressive new albums sure to attract considerable national attention were recently released: *So Long, So Wrong* by Alison Kraus and Union Station (with Steffey and Bales), the first album of newly-recorded material from the group since 1993, with Steffey doing some

lead singing; and **Rob Ickes'** *Hard Times*, featuring Stafford, Steffey, and Bales, with liner notes by Tottle.

- Along with extensive regional media coverage of the program's activities, national exposure has come in interviews and articles in *Acoustic Guitar* (in an article called "Bluegrass U") and the *New York Times*. *Bluegrass Music Cookbook*, a new book from John F. Blair Publishers of Winston-Salem, N. C., features recipes from Stafford, Steffey, Bales, and Tottle and includes a section on the ETSU program.

- In the past, any student seeking to qualify for a music

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BLUEGRASS NOTES

"HERITAGE CORRIDOR" TO BE STUDIED BY PARKS CONFERENCE

The theme of this year's Linear Parks Conference, Sept. 11-13 at Lake Junaluska, N. C., will be "**A Blue Ridge Heritage Corridor: Celebrating Our Past, Creating Our Future.**" Historians of the southern Appalachian region know that the original route for the Blue Ridge Parkway was pushed hard to come through Tennessee and enter the Smokies from Gatlinburg. Today, the Blue Ridge Parkway hosts more than 20 million visitors a year. It is a major industry, a major cultural heritage, and has a major impact on the region.

The conference is interested in developing the dialogue for the future of those institutions that have the same kind of impact as the Parkway. Because it was originally the result of the social climate of the nation... in what is now a growing forest of second-homes... the corridor's future, the future of areas around it, and the future of any project modeled after it, have historical and political implications. Citizens, local officials, business, and educators all have a stake in the preservation as well as the packaging of cultural heritage (the Blue Ridge or any other)—the umbrella theme of the conference.

Conference sessions will present topics such as: Cultural Heritage; Economic Development; Ecotourism; Heritage Tourism; Natural Resources; Design, Management and Protection; Scenic Resources; Partnerships; Local, Regional and State Agencies and Organizations.

Now & Then magazine's recent issue on "Conserving Appalachia" (Vol. 13, No. 1, Spring 1996) dealt with many of these topics. With the ongoing debate about social engineering, these topics are of concern for action in Jonesborough or Asheville or Gatlinburg (or Johnson City or Kingsport) as well as the Blue Ridge Parkway corridor. As a charter member of the Appalachian Consortium, which organizes the conference, ETSU and its Center for Appalachian Studies and Services feel that the discussions about the future of the Parkway are important to Appalachia, East Tennessee, and for other regional studies.

Sponsored by the **Appalachian Consortium** (704-262-2064), Boone, N. C., the conference is open to the public for a charge. ♦

Now & Then Seeks Issue Submissions

Now & Then seeks submissions for its upcoming issues. For the spring of 1998, we will produce the issue that managing editor and master chef Nancy Fischman has long been anticipating: **Food in Appalachia**. We want to cover the subject of food thoroughly—from recipes, to articles about the role certain foods have played in Appalachian life, to a survey of the foods people from various parts of the region miss the most when they move away. The deadline is **November 1, 1997**.

We will use the **Appalachian Poetry** in the summer 1998 issue to try to do justice to the wonderful poets and poetry (largely unpublished) in the region. We won't just be publishing poems. We'd like to have the poets provide the kind of context that they do in readings which help the words spring from the page into something living. We'd like to talk with and about the great Appalachian poetry teachers, investigate poetry slams, and explore poetry centers in the region. Use your imagination! The deadline is **March 1, 1998**.

Now & Then, published by the Center, examines in each issue a facet of life in Appalachia. Articles and fiction should not exceed 2,500 words; book reviews should be no more than 750 words. If a self-addressed, stamped envelope with sufficient postage is enclosed, work not selected will be returned. Send submissions and written queries to *Now & Then*, ETSU, Box 70556, Johnson City TN 37614-0556; call 423-439-5348; or send e-mail to woodsidj@etsu-tn.edu. A sample copy of the magazine is available for \$4.50.

Now & Then Themes: Now, Why Didn't We Think of This Before?

In January, we sent out a survey to all current Center members to find out who you are and what you are thinking. One member instructed us to "let Center members have input on the themes chosen for *Now & Then*."

What a good idea ...

We are now in the process of setting themes for the years 1999 and 2000. If you have a theme that you think would work well for the magazine, drop us a line. You can mail it to **Jane Woodside**, Editor, *Now & Then*, ETSU/CASS, Box 70556, Johnson City or send e-mail to woodsidj@etsu-tn.edu. ♦

**The man who does not read good books
has no advantage over the man who
can't read them.**

...Mark Twain

WETS Expands *Acoustic Revue* Music Format

WETS-FM has expanded its acoustic music format. *Acoustic Revue* can now be heard from 12:30-5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. The expanded program is a mix of bluegrass, traditional and contemporary folk, and other acoustic styles.

"We're happy to be able to present more of the traditional music of our region," says station manager Wayne Winkler. "Program director Phil Leonard has done an outstanding job of developing a format that presents a blend of the traditional with the contemporary." In addition to Leonard, regular program hosts include George Hammond, Bob Hoffman, and Mike Strickland.

Featuring a diverse mix of recorded music, *Acoustic Revue* continues to feature live, in-studio performances. Recent on-air guests have included Ras Alan, performing his unique Appalachian reggae; Dave MacKenzie and Adie Gray; Disappear Fear; and Tony Furtado.

If you haven't yet heard the program or aren't aware of its new start time, be sure to check out *Acoustic Revue* every Tuesday through Friday afternoon on WETS-FM, 89.5 MHz. ♦

Bluegrass, continued from page 10

scholarship at ETSU had to play classical repertoire. This has now changed. The **Benny Sims Scholarship Fund** for bluegrass and country music students has been fully endowed at \$10,400 by the **Birthplace of Country Music Alliance (BCMA)**. Funds were raised in part at concerts paying tribute to bluegrass pioneer **Sims** and regionally popular bandleader **Leon Kiser**. A ceremony with BCMA officers and ETSU President Paul Stanton received prominent media coverage. A subsequent fund-raising event, "**Red, White, and Bluegrass**," was held at ETSU by the University Advancement office. Headlining the evening were **Blue Highway** and the **Stevens Sisters**, who donated their services to support the Sims scholarship. ♦

Fund-raiser, continued from page 7

soliciting door prizes and food, selling advertising, and organizing the evening down to the smallest detail. The unflagging spirit of excitement and cooperation evident in every committee meeting resulted in an event which proceeded smoothly from the guests' arrival to the last door prize announcement. Museum staff thanks all FORM board members, volunteers, and area businesses who donated items, services, or time in order to make the event a success. We could not have done it without you. ♦

Newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies
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