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# Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER



VOL. III, NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 1, 1981

## ARCHIVES OUTREACH ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE WITH AWARD OF MAJOR NEH GRANT

On June 22, 1981, official notice reached the Archives of Appalachia regarding the award of \$40,640 from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This grant comes to the Archives from the Museums and Historical Organizations Program of the NEH's Public Programs Division. The grant will assist in the continuation and expansion of our highly successful outreach activities. More specifically, the Archives staff is now in a position to enlarge the geographical region served by our slide-tape series to include East Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, East Kentucky, West North Carolina and West Virginia. As our readers will recall from previous NEWSLETTER reports, these audio-visual programs address the general theme of the transformation of Southern Appalachia since the turn of the century and how these changes have affected the lives of mountain people. Each slide-tape presentation draws upon the unique photographic, oral history, manuscript, artifact, and book collections of the Archives. Representative subjects in the series include: "Country Music in the Tri-Cities," "Harvesting the Hardwoods: Appalachian Logging Camp Life," "Long Steel Rail: Southern Mountain Railroads," and "Hands All Around: Social Aspects of Quilting."

Unlike our earlier outreach efforts, the approach in this project will progress through two different stages. In the first place, we do not expect to do any original production work under the grant. Instead, we plan to refine and sharpen the ten programs already available. Our primary concern during the initial stage of the project will be the development of study guides and other learning tools. The project staff will develop these materials in conjunction with Ms. Elsie Freivogel who coordinates the education programs for the National Archives and Records Service in Washington, D.C. Each education package will be tested on representative audiences ranging from junior high school students to university students and out-of-school adults. A number of the Archives' friends in the East Tennessee community have come forward and offered to serve as testing groups and audiences for our materials.

Once the packages are ready for wider distribution, the project team will work with area school systems, colleges, universities, and community service organizations in sharing these programs and their accompanying study tools with regional audiences. In this second stage of the project, we would hope to reach a cross section of the area's population. During the last year, we have shown our programs to well over 4,000 people in East Tennessee. Through a more organized and determined campaign, we plan to make a notable improvement under this grant from the National Endowment. By the end of the grant year, both the programs and their educational materials should be of a high enough quality for us to consider duplication, so that schools and community centers may acquire copies of individual programs which complement their own offerings and presentations made with their own hardware. Future issues of the NEWSLETTER will report on this project's progress. If you wish to have your school or organization considered as a site for our outreach series, contact the "Outreach Coordinator," c/o Archives of Appalachia, The Sherrod Library, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN 37614.



## POSITION AVAILABLE: OUTREACH PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Archives seeks to fill a one year, full-time, NEH funded position to develop study guides and related materials for a series of slide-tape programs dealing with the history and culture of Appalachia, and the distribution of these materials throughout the immediate five-state region within one hundred miles of Johnson City, Tennessee. Applicants should hold both a B.A. and an M.A. with a major in a humanistic field. In addition, it is preferred that applicants have training and experience in archival administration, education, and public programming. A familiarity with Appalachian people and a willingness to travel throughout the region to present programs is desirable. Good writing and people skills are essential. The position includes a competitive salary and good benefits. Review of applications will begin July 15, 1981, and continue until the position is filled. Applications should include a resume that contains biographical information, evidence of qualifications, employment record, and professional references. Please send your application to: Personnel Office, East Tennessee State University, P.O. Box 24,070A, Johnson City, Tennessee 37614.

## THE CHARLES FAULKNER BRYAN COLLECTION: A STUDY IN COOPERATION

Charles Faulkner Bryan was born on July 26, 1911, in Warren County, Tennessee. His natural talent as a musician led him to take up formal study at the Nashville Conservatory of Music in 1930. After his graduation in 1934, he conducted a study of the music and musical heritage of the Appalachian region and used this information as the basis for his own compositions. In 1935, he became chairman of the Music Department at what was to become Tennessee Technological University. He later completed a Master's Degree at George Peabody College in music and went on to study under Paul Hindemith at Yale. He ended his career as the composer in residence and music master at the New Indian School for Boys at Helena, Alabama, an institution devoted to the education of gifted students. Bryan remained in this position until his untimely death at the age of 43 in 1955. Until recently, his writings and compositions have gone unnoticed. However, the country is currently experiencing a Bryan revival with public performances and commercial recordings of his compositions.

Tennessee Technological University will shortly open a new Fine Arts building. It will be named in Charles Faulkner Bryan's memory. In conjunction with that event, his widow, Mrs. Edith H. Bryan has donated his papers, scores, and recordings to Tennessee Tech. However, Tech has neither an archives nor an archivist. They therefore contacted Cleo Hughes of the State Archives who along with people at Tech developed a National Endowment for the Humanities grant application to process the Bryan Collection. In this proposal, the Archives of Appalachia serves as the agency that will process the papers and prepare the guide; the State Archives will microfilm the collection (which is in fragile condition); and Tennessee Tech will take custody of the Bryan Collection. The Bryan papers along with various artifacts will reside in a small museum within the new Fine Arts building at Tech. The Research Collections Program of the Research Programs Division of NEH has just announced that the project will be funded. For our part, we are both glad and proud to play a part in this cooperative effort and would like to acknowledge the fine work of Cleo Hughes, Jim Wattenbarger, Jerry Ayers, and Edith Bryan without whose efforts the Bryan Collection might have been lost to posterity.

## MICROCOMPUTER RESEARCH PROJECT UPDATE

Don Hurst and Richard M. Kesner have completed work on their project, "The Application of Microcomputers in Archival Information Retrieval and Administration," which was made



possible through a grant from the Research Programs Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities (RC-10018-80-1376). While there is much left to do, the project staff is satisfied that they have provided their colleagues with a firm basis upon which others may build. For a detailed account of the early stages of the MARS (Microcomputer Archives and Records Management Systems) project, see Richard M. Kesner and Don Hurst, "MARS: A Development Report," Automatic Data Processing in Archives (ADPA) 3,2 (1980): 11-20; and "Microcomputer Applications in Archives: A Study in Progress," Archivaria 12 (1981): 3-20. Both Don and Richard will present final reports on their research as papers at the Society of American Archivists meeting in Berkeley in September. If all goes well, they also plan to conclude their session with a series of demonstrations on both Apple and Radio Shack microcomputer configurations. A version of their final report will appear in the proceedings of the Congres International Informatique et Sciences Humaines in 1982. They are also seeking a professional journal in the U.S. for dissemination of their results.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE ARCHIVES

APPALACHIA/AMERICA: THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1980 APPALACHIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE is now available. The volume includes a collection of outstanding essays on the history, development, and current problems of the region. The analytical approach taken by most authors is comparative casting new light and revealing fresh data about Appalachia and its people. Among the many contributors are some familiar names: George W. Hopkins, Helen M. Lewis, Myles Horton, Rick Simon, Betty Justice, Stephen L. Fisher, and Mary Harnish just to name a few. The volume is ideal for Appalachian studies courses or workshops. Individual copies are available to libraries and Appalachian studies centers without charge. The remainder are available on a first come, first serve basis at \$4.00 per copy. Checks should be made out to the Archives of Appalachia and sent to the Director, c/o the Archives.

APPALACHIAN FOLK CULTURE AND REGIONAL HISTORY: A GUIDE TO AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS describes the contents of four important audio-visual collections housed at the Archives. These include the Burton-Manning Folklore Collection, the Broadside Television Collection, the Charles Gunter Local History Collection, and the WSJK-TV Collection. All of these recordings pertain to the music, history, crafts, and culture of Central Southern Appalachia. The GUIDE includes a speaker/performer index, a song title index, and a subject index. While this finding aid is of great service to those desiring greater intellectual access to our audio-visual holdings, it is also of interest as a model for other guides in this problematic area of archival administration. Thanks to the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities (Research Programs Division), we are in a position to offer this GUIDE free of charge to interested scholars and institutions. Write Kathryn Wilson, Reference Services, c/o the Archives for your copy today.

COUNCIL ON APPALACHIAN WOMEN PUBLICATIONS. As part of the Council on Appalachian Women Collection, the Archives received the Council's back inventory of publications. These include: (1) MAW (A Magazine of Appalachian Women) Nos. 1, 4, and 5; (2) Appalachian Women Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 2; (3) the Council on Appalachian Women Membership and Resource Directory; and (4) The Appalachian Woman: Images and Essence: Abstracts from A Series of Forums Sponsored by the Council. Quantities vary but the overall quality of these materials is consistently high. The Council's publications would make ideal study materials for Appalachian studies courses and/or women's study courses. The Archives would like to sell these materials at a very nominal cost to any interested party or parties. Contact the Director, c/o the Archives for details.



## RECEPTIONS AND TOM DANIEL FUND REPORT

The month of June was a time of celebration in the Archives. On June 4, nearly one hundred people crowded into the main reading room of our facilities to toast the opening of the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railway Collection. Much of the Collection was on display as were copies of the one hundred and seven page guide prepared by Michael Shandor and Susan Tannewitz-Karnes of our staff. Among those in attendance were many of the C. C. and O. officials responsible for the Collection coming to the Archives in the first place. The night's program included a showing of "The Long Steel Rail: Southern Mountain Railroads." This slide-tape presentation draws upon materials found in the Clinchfield Collection as well as papers and photographs from other Archives' railway holdings.

One week later, on June 11, the Archives staff officially opened the Tom Daniel Audio-Visual Collections. The Archives' audio-visual facilities are now named in memory of Mr. Thomas Nance Daniel, former ETSU photographer and friend of the Archives, who died on August 1, 1980. Many of Tom's friends and family were in attendance. The program included a showing of "Johnson City Album," another of the Archives' slide-tape presentations which includes many photographs originally taken by Mr. Daniel. In addition to the formal naming ceremony, the Archives Director, Richard M. Kesner, discussed the Tom Daniel Memorial Fund and how contributions to the fund would assist in the development and preservation of the photographic and audio visual collections at ETSU.

Our readers are encouraged to contribute to this worthy cause. Remember that your contributions are tax deductible. Make your check payable to the Archives of Appalachia Fund c/o the ETSU Foundation and send it to the Director, c/o the Archives. During the past quarter, we received and would like to acknowledge the generous contributions of the following people:

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fey Rogers	Mr. William K. Frazier
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Cuthill	Mrs. H. H. Ellis
Mr. and Mrs. Vassie Wilson	Ms. Betty Humphreys
Mr. and Mrs. Irving H. Smith	Mr. and Mrs. James H. Byrd
Ms. Edith Keys	

## THE BUMPASS COVE CITIZENS GROUP, INC. TO DEPOSIT THEIR PAPERS IN THE ARCHIVES

On July 11, 1981, a number of representatives from the Bumpass Cove Citizens Group, Inc. met with the Director of the Archives to discuss arrangements for the deposit of their papers. Among those present were Irma Turner, President of the Citizens Group, Gene Turner and Russell Rogers, board members, Judy Smith, Jerry Walls, Penny McLaughlin, and John Vale. After a thorough discussion of the Citizens Group's concern over security and access to the organizations papers, it was generally agreed to name the Archives as the official repository for the Group.

The Citizens Group came into existence a few years ago when questions arose pertaining to dangerous toxic chemicals buried at a landfill located in the Bumpass Cove community. The controversy has only intensified over time. Until the court cases are settled, this extremely important collection of papers will be closed to researchers. The collection will be processed according to regular Archives procedures and access to the papers may be obtained through special permission grant by the Bumpass Cove Citizens Group, Inc. Contact the Director, c/o the Archives for details.

This collection represents a vital aspect of Appalachian history and culture - grassroots community action. It is our hope to attract similar records of activity in our region. Before too long the Bumpass Cove Collection will be ready and available for research to scholars without restrictions.



## NEW ACQUISITIONS

Council on Appalachian Women Collection (approximately 37 linear feet and a series of audio recordings). In our last NEWSLETTER, we reported that the Council on Appalachian Women had named the Archives as its official repository. The papers have now arrived and the staff is in the process of preparing them for research use. The Collection includes the official minutes, correspondence and financial records of the organization as well as recordings of Council meetings and a complete set of Council publications, newsletters, brochures, and memoranda. In addition, the papers include the files of MAW (A Magazine of Appalachian Women), later renamed Appalachian Women. Perhaps the richest aspect of the Collection is the great body of accumulated information on the activities of women's organizations and on women's issues collected by the Council over the years. In serving as a clearing house function in these areas, the Council brought together an outstanding body of data on women and the problems they face in contemporary Appalachia. The Collection should be open for research use by January 1982.

William E. Ryan Collection (approximately 5 linear feet). In October 1974, Colonel William E. Ryan gave his papers and books to ETSU's Kingsport University Center Library. His papers were transferred to the Archives this summer. Colonel Ryan commanded the Holston Ordnance Works in Kingsport Tennessee from 1942 to 1956. He retired from the Army Corps of Engineers in 1956 and died in 1979. His papers deal with a number of civil works projects including the development of Pittsburgh and the surrounding area during WPA in the 1930's.

Jeannette McLaughlin Collection (approximately 50 photographs). The Archives has received the first group in a series of historical photographs collected by Ms. Jeannette McLaughlin pertaining to the history and development of the Embreeville/Bumpass Cove area located in Upper East Tennessee. Our readers may recall that Bumpass Cove is where a highly controversial landfill is located. Ms. McLaughlin prepared the slide-tape program on Embreeville for the Archives and is currently engaged in research that will lead to an Ed.D. dissertation dealing with the history and development of this fascinating East Tennessee community.

Arthur H. DeRosier, Jr. Collection (approximately 1 linear foot and a series of audio recordings). Dr. DeRosier served as the fifth president of ETSU (1978-1980) and since his activities are of such recent origin, the great majority of his papers remain in the active files of the President's Office located in the Dossett Administration Building. The papers and tapes in this Collection relate to the planning of his inauguration and the activities that took place during inauguration week, April 20-24, 1978.

Charles Tiller Collection (approximately 100 photographs and 100 slides). This extraordinary photographic collection captures the early activities of the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company during the first half of the Twentieth Century. Noah Tiller, Charles' father, was a Ritter Company superintendent. Many of the photographs in the collection were taken by Noah himself and depict working conditions in the lumber camps and in the company towns of that era. The geographical focus of the collection is Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee.

## COLLECTIONS OPEN FOR RESEARCH

First Tennessee-Virginia Development District Collection (35 linear feet and a series of rare maps; 1966-present; the maps date from the turn of the century). The official papers of the FT-VDD are perhaps the best single source of information concerning the recent economic development of Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. The Collection includes the minutes of the Development District Board and the office subject files. Researchers will find the files filled with information pertaining to the operations of the Development District and all of the projects in which the Development District participated. Formal research and development reports comprise the final series of the Collection. Though not



directly related to their own activities, the FT-VDD had in their possession a series of maps that depict the Northeast Tennessee/Southwest Virginia area at the turn of the century, well before the Development District was established as an outgrowth of the Appalachian Regional Commission. These, too, have been turned over to the Archives for safe keeping.

Watauga Historical Association Collection (2 linear feet; 1796-1891 but predominantly 1796-1835). This Collection consists of documents from the Carter County (Tennessee) Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, such as articles of agreement between early settlers regarding purchases and rent of land, land improvements and crops. Researchers will also find a wealth of information about early economic activity in the county including data on prices, estate management, and the collection of debts. A few court cases relating to social issues may also be found in this Collection.

Anne W. Armstrong Collection (.25 linear feet; circa 1945). This small collection is a series of unpublished autobiographical fragments dealing with a wealthy young woman's image of Knoxville, Tennessee between 1885 and 1902. Ms. Armstrong's published works include: The Seas of God (1915) and This Day and Time (1930).

## FALL EXHIBITS SCHEDULE

We have planned a varied program for our exhibit cases this fall. September will feature a display of photographs, drawings and maps dealing with the early history and settlement of the Americas. We plan to place special attention on the settlement of Virginia and North Carolina, the two original colonies who claimed that portion of the hinterland wilderness which became Tennessee. In October, our colleagues and neighbors at the Medical School Library have planned an exhibit drawn from their holdings and emphasizing the history of medicine in Upper East Tennessee. When the display area returns to the Archives in November, we will feature an exhibit of the Charles Tiller Photograph Collection which depicts the history of logging and logging camps in East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. The Archives' exhibit area is located on the first floor of the Sherrod Library.

## STAFF ACTIVITIES

Michael Shandor, Jeannette (Penny) McLaughlin, and Richard M. Kesner conducted showings of the Archives' slide-tape programs during the past quarter. The "Long Steel Rail: Southern Mountain Railroads" and Embreeville" have been in great demand recently. "Long Steel Rail" will be one of the main features during the Unicoi County Apple Festival this October.

Jeannette (Penny) McLaughlin has returned to the staff of the Archives as the administrative assistant to the "Outreach Project Coordinator" (see pages 1 and 2 of this NEWSLETTER). Penny is currently at work on an Ed.D. here at ETSU with special emphasis on museum education and public history programs in the schools. Her dissertation will focus on the history and development of Embreeville.

George Jackson, a graduate student in the history program here at ETSU, has joined the staff of the Archives as the processor of Charles Faulkner Bryan Collection under a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities to Tennessee Technological University. (See page 2 of this NEWSLETTER for details).

Mildred Kozsuch is busy putting the finishing touches on two local history and genealogy publications due out in the coming year. Mildred has been traveling through North



Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee completing her research.

Richard M. Kesner has just published a number of essays on his microcomputer project research (see "Microcomputer Research Project Update" in this NEWSLETTER) in conjunction with Don Hurst. Richard and Don will also publish an article in the mid-year proceedings of ASIS dealing with microcomputer applications in libraries. Richard also has two articles that will appear in the forthcoming issues of The Midwestern Archivist and Georgia Archive respectively, and two book reviews in The Public Historian. Finally, Richard is in the process of preparing a chapter entitled "Archives, Records, and Information Management" for the National Council on Public History publication The Craft of Public History: An Annotated Bibliography edited by Dave Trask and Bob Pomeroy.

## A SPECIAL LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

During the past three years, I have had the pleasure and honor of directing the archives program here at East Tennessee State University. As a reader of this NEWSLETTER, you are well acquainted with the many accomplishments of our program. For me personally, it has been a time of deep personal fulfillment. One aspect of my own interests, as you well know, is in the area of automation and archives. Through the years, this particular concern has tended to dominate my professional activities. I have just received an offer to join a management team devoted to the development of an automated office environment; I cannot allow such an opportunity to pass by, and I have therefore accepted the position.

As of September 14, 1981, I will assume responsibility for administrative systems at F.W. Faxon Company, Inc. as Manager of Office Services. I will leave the Archives of Appalachia with many regrets. Most of all, I will miss the many fine people who have contributed to the success of our program. Kathryn Wilson and Mildred Kozsuch, my professional colleagues, have made and will continue to make an outstanding contribution to the Archives' development. Among my students, some of whom are now practicing the skills learned here in shops of their own, Susan Tannewitz Karnes, Anne Sims, and Michael Shandor stand out. The University, members of the teaching faculty, and my colleagues in the Sherrod Library have also lent their generous support to our program. I am grateful to you all and will miss you very much.

Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of my work here at ETSU has been my close association with the people of the region. As a collector of their records and as a student of their culture, history, and troubles, I have learned a great deal. The rich fabric of Appalachia has yet to be documented extensively. I trust that the Archives of Appalachia and its sister institutions will continue to collect and preserve the documentary heritage of the region. My own position will be filled and I encourage interested parties to send letters of intent, resumes, and references to the Personnel Office, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN 37614. This is a fine program; it deserves fine leadership.

Finally, I wish to thank you - the supporters and friends of the Archives - for all your help over the years. I also wish to urge you to continue. Appalachian studies and the programs that grow from this field have much to offer the people of the region. It is our duty - yours and mine - to see that these services continue for the benefit of the nation as a whole.

*Richard M. Kesner*



## OF BURGERS AND HISTORY

The management of Wendy's on North Roan Street recently remodeled their hamburger emporium. Since Wendy's has always promoted "old fashion goodness," the restaurant's manager, Ray Blake, decided to contact the Archives of Appalachia in search of historical photographs of Johnson City that might complement his remodeling scheme. As a result of his research efforts, Mr. Blake and his staff selected over twenty photographs from our collections. Reprints of these photos, many of them drawn from the Archives' Burr Harrison Collection, now adorn the walls of Wendy's along with a plaque acknowledging our organization and its contribution to the display.

We were pleased that Mr. Blake contacted us and for the part the Archives played in his remodeling work. The Archives would also like to acknowledge the generous financial contribution that Wendy's has made to the Archives' Foundation Account within the ETSU Foundation. These monies will allow us to continue to develop our photograph collections. Mr. Blake plans to call upon the Archives again when he begins work on the other Wendy's location in Johnson City. We are glad to be of service to him and any other member of the business community interested in preparing historical displays for their offices and public facilities.

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