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# Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER



VOL. 111, NO. 4

## ARCHIVES OUTREACH PROGRAM CONTINUES UNDER NEH GRANT

This past quarter has brought much progress with the Archives Outreach Program. Earlier NEWSLETTER articles have described the generous grant from the Museums and Historical Organizations Program of the National Endowment for the Humanities' Public Programs Division which has helped to fund the continuation and further development of the Archives Outreach activities. This NEH-funded phase of the Outreach Program began on September 1, 1981. At this time Margaret Counts, the Outreach Coordinator (see page 2), and Penny McLaughlin, Administrative Assistant, joined the staff of the Archives and began to carry out the objectives of the first phase of the project.

This first phase includes refinement of the existing slide-tape programs and the development of study guides and other learning tools to accompany the programs. The end results of these efforts will be educational packages suitable for distribution to area schools, colleges, universities, and community service organizations. Under the terms of the NEH grant, the staff is now able to take the slide-tape programs to audiences within a one-hundred mile radius of Johnson City. To arrange for a showing for your group, call the Outreach Coordinator (615-929-4338), and she will work with you to set up a date and time for the program.

The slide-tape programs all address the general theme of the transformation of Southern Appalachia since the turn of the century, and include such subjects as "Country Music in the Tri-Cities," "Hands All Around: Social Aspects of Quilting," and "Long Steel Rail: Southern Mountain Railroads." Each presentation draws upon the various collections of the Archives.

Other recent developments in the Outreach Program include the appointment of Dr. Jean Flanigan, Director of ETSU's Instructional Materials Center, to replace Richard Kesner as the Outreach Project Director. We welcome Dr. Flanigan to the project and know that she will continue to bring able leadership to the project staff.

In October, Ms. Elsie Freeman, of the Education Division of the National Archives and Records Service in Washington, D. C., visited the Archives as a consultant for the Outreach project. During her three-day return visit to the Archives, Ms. Freeman met with the project staff to discuss the progress of the project and to advise the staff further about the development of the educational support materials to accompany the slide-tape programs.

The Archives has received equipment purchased under the NEH grant and now owns the entire configuration necessary to present the slide-tape programs. We would like to thank ETSU's Division of University Relations for their kind assistance in loaning the Archives their slide-tape equipment to enable us to show the programs before our own equipment arrived.

## MARGARET COUNTS APPOINTED AS OUTREACH COORDINATOR

After a thorough review of applications, the Archives selected Margaret L. Counts as Outreach Project Coordinator. Ms. Counts, a native of Kingsport, TN, is a graduate of East Tennessee State University, with a B.S. in Sociology and Anthropology. She also holds a M.A. in Folklore from the Folklore Institute of Indiana University. Her undergraduate and graduate studies both included a concentration on Appalachian culture, and prior to coming to the Archives staff, Ms. Counts worked for the Blue Ridge Institute of Ferrum College, the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress, and directed projects administered by the Mountain Heritage Center of Western Carolina University. She is a recognized authority on traditional southern mountain dance and the vernacular architecture of the South Central Appalachian mountains, and has spoken widely on both subjects. In addition, she is interested in all traditional crafts and arts, and in the history and culture of the Southern Appalachian region. We welcome Ms. Counts to the Archives staff.

## REPORT ON THE SEARCH FOR DIRECTOR OF THE ARCHIVES OF APPALACHIA

Applications for the position of Director, Archives of Appalachia and Special Collections, continue to be received in the Sherrod Library. All applications are on file in the library office for preliminary review by the search committee. Review of applications has been moved to commence on October 30, 1981, and then will continue until the position is filled. The review postponement was required because of delays in advertising in select periodicals. Publicity for the position opening has been sent to colleges and universities, the American Association of State and Local History, the Society of American Archivists, and invitations for nominations have been sent to archivists. Advertisements for the position have been placed in History News and the Chronicle of Higher Education. The search committee will be notifying applicants about the progress of the search after October 30.

## CHARLES FAULKNER BRYAN COLLECTION: UPDATE

The cooperative effort by the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Tennessee Technological University, and the Archives of Appalachia to process the Charles Faulkner Bryan Collection is well under way. On August 28, Mrs. Cleo Hughes of the State Archives delivered the Bryan papers to the Archives of Appalachia. The papers are being processed by Norma Thomas with the assistance of a volunteer, Mrs. Lucy Gump. Their part in this project should be completed by January of 1982. The musical scores are presently at Tennessee Tech and Dr. Jim Wattenbarger will be processing these materials during December. The tapes and discs from the Bryan collection have been taken to Nashville to be processed by Danny Hatcher at the Country Music Media Library and Archives. All materials will be taken to the State Archives for microfilming before finally being returned to Tennessee Tech where they will be housed in the new Fine Arts building. The Archives of Appalachia will receive a microfilm copy of the papers.

## MARS, MICROS AND THE SAA

The Archives of Appalachia's microcomputer system was on display at this year's annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists. Richard M. Kesner, along with Don Hurst, Vickie Fornicola-Jones, and Glenn Polin served as members of a panel that discussed microcomputer applications in archives and records management programs. The MARS (microcomputer archives and records management system) was conducted as part of an open house following the session.

The panel presentation began with a slide show, prepared by Richard Kesner, dealing with the microcomputer, its components, related hardware, operating principles, and potential applications. Vickie Fornicola-Jones then discussed strategies for justifying the acquisition of a small computer as part of a records management/archives program. Don Hurst concluded the series of formal presentations with a consideration of selection criteria for microcomputer equipment and software. Glenn Polin, an education specialist employed by Apple Computers, Inc., commented on the panel papers and made a series of his own observations regarding the direction of the microcomputer industry and how uninitiated archivists might involve themselves in the process.

Richard conducted a series of demonstrations following the session. These demonstrations employed the Apple microcomputer configuration owned and operated by the Archives. Among the data bases exhibited during the open house were: (1) the Archives' Accession Files; (2) the Archives' Lead Files; (3) Researcher Registration Forms; (4) the Fund Raising data base developed specifically to assist in the establishment of an endowment for the Archives; and (5) an accession list for the B. Carroll Reece Museum (ETSU). Richard carried out searches on each data base to illustrate the retrieval capacity of the system. He also showed his audience how easy it is to establish a formatted screen on the terminal and to conduct complex boolean searches.

The SAA session marks the end of this particular phase in the Archives' work in the area of microcomputers and archival administration. The project was made possible in part due to the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities and to the continuing support of the Sherrod Library (ETSU) and the Archives of Appalachia Fund. A final report on MARS will appear in the spring 1982 issue of the AMERICAN ARCHIVIST. The staff of the Archives of Appalachia would like to express their appreciation and thanks to all of those who have labored on the project.

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

The Knights of Pythias Collection In August, Terry Arthur of Lenoir City, Tennessee, donated the collection to the Archives. According to Mr. Arthur, Ironclad Lodge # 73 of the Knights of Pythias was originally located in Morristown, Tennessee, and was a fraternity of Black doctors who were active in the early 20th century.

Dowdy Collection 120 black and white prints with negatives (ca. 1880-1960, predominantly 1920-40) For nearly forty years, Mr. James T. Dowdy, Sr. has collected photographs of steam engines, railroad cars, railroad buildings, and work scenes along railroad lines. He has concentrated on the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad line but his collection also includes Clinchfield, Southern and even Ritter Lumber Company engines. This collection represents the best of Mr. Dowdy's Collection. It is particularly noteworthy for its scenes of once thriving communities along the ET&WNC line that no longer flourish. The steam engine and railroad car photographs are also striking in their variety and quality. For researchers interested in the economic and transportation history of Central Southern Appalachia, this collection will prove most useful. To those interested in the history of railroads, this collection will be a real pleasure to view.

## RECENTLY PROCESSED COLLECTIONS

D. P. Culp Presidential Papers, (1943-1972) predominantly 1968-1972, 38 linear feet. Dr. D. P. Culp was the fourth president of the University from 1968-1977, and this collection is a portion of his papers. The remaining papers are yet to be received by the Archives. Prior to coming to East Tennessee State University in 1968, Dr. Culp was president of Livingston State College and Alabama College in his home state. His professional experience included work with the Alabama Polytechnical Institute, Alabama Department of Education and with the Butler and Chilton County, Alabama, School Systems. His official papers deal with the operation of the University, including curriculum, educational programs, conferences, salaries of teachers, budgets, athletics, accrediting associations, Tennessee colleges and universities, buildings and grounds, land purchases, inauguration of Dr. Culp and correspondence with administrative officials, faculty, alumni, students and educational leaders. Because this collection shows the growth and development of the University, the information it contains is important to the educational history of the area and state.

William E. Ryan Collection 1.5 linear feet, 3 oversized folders, predominantly (1956-1965) This collection contains the papers of Colonel William E. Ryan and reflects his work with the United States Army Corp of Engineers on the river and harbor projects in the Pittsburgh District. The researcher will find plans, maps, photographs, cost estimates, and correspondence concerning the Corp of Engineers' civil works projects on the Ohio and Monongahela Rivers.

The Archives largest collection is the Court Records of Washington County, Tennessee. Processing of this large collection has begun. Time will be a tremendous factor in completing a finding aid for this collection, but we are very pleased to report a small beginning has now become a reality.

## STAFF ACTIVITIES

Margaret Counts and Penny McLaughlin have conducted showings of many of the Archives' slide-tape programs during the past quarter. Audiences have included several University classes and community groups.

Margaret Counts attended the Annual Meeting of the American Folklore Society in San Antonio, Texas, in October. Her attendance at this meeting afforded an opportunity for national recognition of the Archives of Appalachia Outreach Program. The meeting also included several forums and panel sessions which addressed many of the concerns of the Outreach Program and of the Archives as a whole.

Mildred Kozsuch attended the New England Historic and Genealogical Society's Seminar Program in Asheville, North Carolina, which featured Dr. James Bell and his staff on genealogical sources. In November Susan Tannewitz Karnes and Mildred presented a program at the Children's Museum in Oak Ridge, Tennessee on the preservation of family papers and photographs.

Norma Thomas, a graduate student in history, has joined the staff of the Archives and is processing the papers of the Charles Faulkner Bryan Collection.

## 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 Kathryn Wilson, 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 Kathryn Wilson, c/o the Archives for details.

<p>SUPPORT APPALACHIAN STUDIES GIVE TO THE ARCHIVES FUND!!</p> <p>All contributions are tax deductible.</p> <p>Please send your gift to the Archives c/o the ETSU Foundation.</p>
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