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Archives of Appalachia
NEWSLETTER



Vol. XIV, No. 2

Spring, 1993

**COAL EMPLOYMENT RECORDS
PROCESSED**

In April 1989 the Board of Directors of the Coal Employment Project voted to place their records at the Archives of Appalachia. (See Spring/Summer, 1990 Archives of Appalachia Newsletter.) CEP officials Cosby Totten, Madeline Rogero and Shirley Harkins made three separate donations of records to the archives between April 1990 and January 1992. The processed collection consists of 190 audio and video tapes; seven ledgers; and 142.5 linear feet of paper documents and photographic materials. Included in the 142.5 linear feet of materials are 2,394 black and white and color photographic prints, 567 slides and 378 negatives. These different types of media document the activities of CEP in the years from 1968 through 1992.



Woman miner with child. (From Coal Employment Project Records)

Originally founded to fight gender-based discrimination in the hiring of women as coal miners, CEP over the years has expanded its scope to include investigations of allegations of sexual harassment of women miners; advocacy of mine safety; and sponsorship of support groups and workshops for women miners. Originally located in Oak Ridge, Tenn., CEP maintained its office in Knoxville for a number of years.

The CEP records are divided into 10 series which center on different aspects of CEP's activities. Included, for example, are CEP office records, grant records, and consultants' records, together with files from the annual women's miners conferences sponsored by CEP and files from CEP-sponsored workshops. Also part of the collection are audio and video tapes of workshops and conferences; CEP newsletters; and bulletins and newsletters of organizations which relate to mining and women's issues and concerns.

The CEP Records are open for research to both lay and scholarly researchers. For more information on the CEP collection, please contact the archives at 615/929-4338.

MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS

The archives thanks the following individuals for donating a variety of items relating to Appalachian culture:

Brian Chisom
Helen Whittaker
Charles E. Price

Deanna Riffey
Mary Beth Spina
Robert Nave

STAFF NEWS

Norma Myers, director of the archives, served as program chair of the March 1993 Appalachian Studies Conference, held at East Tennessee State University. She also was appointed by Governor Ned McWherter to the Historical Records Advisory Board for the 1993-94 term. Her review of Dory: Woman of the Mountains appeared in the Journal of East Tennessee History (Number 64, 1992).

Scott Schwartz, technical services archivist, presented a paper "Nirvana and the Appalachian Fire Handler: Music's Adaptive Role During th Achievement of Spiritual Anointment," to the March 1993 Appalachian Studies Conference held at East Tennessee State University. His article, "Music of the Serpent Handlers," was printed in the book Serpent Handling Believers, written by Thomas G. Burton and published by the University of Tennessee Press (1993).

Marie Tedesco, public services and audio-visual archivist, presented a paper, "Freedman and Slave Owner: The Strange Case of Adam Waterford," to the March 1993 Appalachian Studies Conference held at East Tennessee State University. Her article, "Appalachia Becomes Mainstream: From Down-Home Baseball to the Rookie League in Johnson City," was published in the most recent Journal of East Tennessee History (Number 64, 1992).

Student Workers

Michele Saas, a second-year graduate student in English, is the new graduate assistant. She received her B.A. in English from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1989. Her master's thesis will focus on the role of children in selected novels of William Faulkner.

Michael Gates, a freshman from Chilhowie, Va., intends to become a teacher after completing his bachelor's degree.

L'Juan Hale, a freshman pre-med student from Chattanooga, is active in the ETSU Band and aims to become a nurse after completing his undergraduate degree.

Roger Jones, a sophomore business major from Roanoke, Va., intends to become a certified public accountant and a Baptist minister after he finishes his undergraduate degree.

SELECTED RECENT ACQUISITIONS

THOMAS BURTON COLLECTION, 1940-92. 46 audio reel to reel tapes; 57 audio cassettes; 9 video cassettes; 1.5 liner feet, manuscripts; and .5 linear feet of photographs. **ADDITION.**

Consists of master tapes used to produce "Some Ballad Folks," a program on Appalachian folk music traditions; audio and videotapes, photographs, newsclippings and articles used to document the religious services of serpent handling churches in Appalachia; and audiotapes of interviews taken by Burton's folklore students as part of the Grandfather Mountain Project. Donated by Thomas Burton, English department, ETSU.

BURTON-MANNING COLLECTION, c. 1973, 7 reel-to-reel audiotapes. **ADDITION.** Consists of 2 five-inch and 5 seven-inch reel-to-reel audio tapes documenting Appalachian folktales and songs sung and told by Buna and Ray Hicks. Donated by Thomas Burton, Department of English, ETSU.

CENTER FOR APPALACHIAN STUDIES AND SERVICES RECORDS, 1985-93. 3 video cassettes; .5 linear feet of photographs; and .5 linear feet of documents. Contains video tapes on local history presentations; photographs from the Ken Murray Photograph Project and the Michael Joslin Photograph Project; and documents relating to the Roan Mountain Project. Transferred to the archives by Jean Haskell Speer, Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU.

EASTMAN CHEMICAL COMPANY HISTORY, c. 1992, 3 videotapes and 1 published history. Consists of three vhs videotapes and a published history of Tennessee's Eastman Chemical Company between 1920 and 1990. Donated by Dr. Roy S. Nicks, Office of the President, ETSU.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SACS SELF STUDY RECORDS, 1989-1993, 22.5 linear feet. Consists of 16 boxes containing annual reports, organizational charts, publications, catalogs, financial statements, yearbooks, telephone directories, TBR meeting minutes, faculty rosters, and surveys that were compiled by the ETSU SACS Committee for the 1993 institutional self study and accreditation. Transferred by Mary Cradic, SACS Self Study Office, ETSU.

CLARENCE W. HOBSON COLLECTION, 1992, 1 file folder. **ADDITION.** Consists of one photocopy of a diary describing the personal activities of Hobson as a youth growing up in western North Carolina during the 1920s and 1930s. Donated by Clarence Hobson, Johnson City, Tenn.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS TRAINING OFFICE RECORDS, c. 1965-1987, 33 linear feet. Consists of 22 boxes of medical records, treatment logs, student athletic files, photographs, correspondence, purchase invoices, and miscellaneous records documenting the activities of the ETSU Athletic Training Office. Transferred by Jerry Robertson, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, ETSU.

OLD-TIME DANCE CONFERENCE COLLECTION, 1991-1992, 36 videotapes. ADDITION. Consists of 31 vhs and 5 U-matic videotapes documenting old-time and modern dance traditions presented at the 1991 and 1992 Old-Time Dance Conferences. Donated by Jane Woodside, Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU.

PRESSMAN'S HOME PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION, 1959, 1 16mm color film. ADDITION. Consists of one 16mm color film entitled, "Partners in Printing," that was narrated by Chet Huntley and produced by the Printing Pressmen sometime during the late 1950s. Donated by Jack Mooney, Department of Communications, ETSU.

GLENN E. ROBERTS, JR. COLLECTION, 1979-1981, 39 cassette audiotapes. ADDITION. Consists of 39 cassette audiotapes documenting music performances at the Wise, Virginia and Elizabethton, Tennessee Bluegrass Festivals. Donated by Glenn Roberts, Wise, Va.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH RECORDS, 1930-1981, 6 linear feet. Consists of vouchers, receipts, meeting minutes, financial statements, correspondence, memoranda, and event programs documenting the financial activities of the St. John's Episcopal Church, Johnson City, Tenn. Donated by Rev. Don E. Johnson, Gary M. Mabrey, and Charles P. Wofford, Johnson City, Tenn.

MARY BETH SPINA FAMILY PAPERS, 1898-1975, 1 linear foot. Consists of diplomas, teaching certificates, newspaper clippings, miscellaneous publications and photographs. The papers document Frederick White's activities during the Spanish-American War and the education of both Frederick and Mary White, the grandparents of Mary Beth Spina. There also are newspapers that document the social events and activities of the residents of Johnson City, Tenn. Donated by Mary Beth Spina, Clarence, New York.

RECENTLY PROCESSED

Archives staff recently have finished processing the following collections: 1) **James William Norris Collection** (1789-1983), 1 linear foot on the Jones, Norris, Haun, McInturff, Swingle, Brown, Kuhn and Sevier families; 2) **Pike Hardwood Lumber Company Ledger** (1905-11), 1 ledger which contains board of directors' meetings minutes and financial transactions of the company; 3) **Maxwell Clan Society Records** (1968-70), 1.5 linear feet of photocopied records which consist of completed genealogy applications, lineage charts, correspondence and family histories of Maxwell Clan Society families; 4) **Johnson City Foundry Site Development Project Collection** (1943-91), .3 linear feet, 162 photographs and 1 video tape relating to a project which evaluated the developmental potential of the foundry site; and 5) **Harrison and Walker Family Papers** (1876-1991), .3 linear feet of documents, including trust deeds, land surveys and warranty deeds which trace the purchase and sale of land between the Harrison and Walker families.

NEWS FROM CASS

The Archives of Appalachia welcomes **Jean Haskell Speer** as the new director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services. She came to ETSU in January from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Va., where she had been the director of the Appalachia Studies Program and a professor in communication studies and humanities. Speer also taught courses in oral history and Appalachian folk culture. At ETSU she has an appointment as a professor in the Department of Sociology/Anthropology.

Speer holds the M.A. in rhetoric and public address, and the Ph.D. in communication/folklore from the University of Texas at Austin. She is active in such professional associations as the Appalachian Studies Association, the Speech Communication Association and the Virginia Folklore Association. Speer also has authored or co-authored books in the field of Appalachian studies, among them The Appalachian Photographs of Earl Palmer and Performance, Culture and Identity.

CASS FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited for Center for Appalachian Studies and Services fellowships. For the 1993-94 funding cycle preference also will be given to projects that focus on one of the following areas: storytelling, media policy, rural health, or public history. **But, any well-developed proposal will be considered for funding.** Budget requests should not exceed \$2000.

Applications and additional information are available from the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, Box 70556, ETSU, Johnson City, TN 37614-0556. Call 615/929-5348, or FAX 615/929-5498. **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 19, 1993.** Awards will be announced by May 19, 1993; funds will available July 1, 1993.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tennessee Publishes Burton's Book

The archives congratulates Professor Thomas Burton of ETSU's English department on the publication of his book, Serpent Handling Believers by the University of Tennessee Press. The book is based on extensive research on serpent handling in religious services in Appalachia. Available in both hard and soft cover, the book can be purchased at the ETSU bookstore, regional book dealers, and directly from the University of Tennessee Press.

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SOUTHEAST ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION ORGANIZES

In November of last year oral history practitioners from the Southeast met in Atlanta to discuss improved oral history coordination in the region. It was decided to form a regional oral history organization to address concerns common to oral history practitioners. Cliff Kuhn of the history department at Georgia State University was named interim coordinator. For information on becoming a member of the organization, contact Kuhn at the History Department, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, 30303.

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