

# NEWS

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APPALACHIAN CENTER  
BEREA COLLEGE

# LETTER

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## Health Care: A Dream Becomes 85-Patient-a-Day Reality

What do you do if you have a brand-new M.D. degree and you have a friend who's just completed his classroom work toward a Ph.D. in administration? Well, if you're both from Left Beaver Creek in Floyd County, Ky., you might decide that what the country needs is a model program for rural health-care delivery and that you two are just the fellows to go about setting one up. And you might promptly establish the East Kentucky Health Services Center, Inc. You might do these things, that is, if your names are Grady Stumbo and Benny Bailey.

There is, of course, a bit more to the story than this. But, according to Bailey (the administrator), he and Stumbo came to believe, as roommates at Alice Lloyd College and participants in ALCOR (an area-wide student outreach program), that people in the mountains would never deal effectively with the region's toughest problems if locally reared persons didn't take leadership roles. No problem was more appalling than the sparseness of medical care and clinical facilities, and Stumbo and Bailey accordingly decided to "assume some of the responsibility for remedying this situation."

Working together, ALCOR and Student American Medical Association's Appalachian Program brought medical and health-science students from across the nation to Eastern Kentucky, where they joined with local students in surveying and assessing the problems involved in delivering health care to the people up the hollows—18,000 of whom were talked to over a three-year period. According to Bailey, many of the people's thoughts and suggestions went into the planning of the East Kentucky center.

During this period, Stumbo and Bailey were also acquiring the professional training that would enable them to launch the dream they had decided on, and the summer of 1972 saw them ready to go. By the end of last year, remarkably, the clinic was receiving patients. Case load is now about 85 a day.

If the program consisted only of a clinic, it would be valuable for the area but would hardly justify the founders' billing of it as a model worthy of nationwide emulation. But Bailey and Stumbo, who are by no means short on confidence, see the clinical work as only a part of the total picture. The clinic team itself includes doctors (a second M.D. has joined the staff), nurses and a dentist, and all these persons are available for the outreach programs too. But two nurses and a team of "community health advocates" are primarily responsible for the operation of outreach activities. The plan is for

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Cratis Williams: "Let's make a better Appalachia"

## Award for a Master Teacher

Cratis Williams, noted cultural historian and leading champion of traditional Appalachian values, has received one of the two 1973 O. Max Gardner Awards given by the University of North Carolina. The awards are made to faculty members of the UNC system who have "made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race." Williams is professor of English and dean of the graduate school at Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C.

Calling Williams the "great exponent and interpreter of the traditional culture of the mountains," the citation credits him with being among the first to conceive of an Appalachian consortium (see CENTER NEWSLETTER, Winter 1972) and with leading in the creation of an Appalachian studies program.

In accepting the award, Williams said, "Recognition in recent years of the problems of Appalachia, acceptance of an emerging concept of pluralism in American cultural traditions and heritage, encouragement of pluralism in American education theory and practice, and the concept of the regional university have supported me in my mission to become a spokesman for the Appalachian man, to help him recover his unique history, to articulate the richness of his cultural heritage, and to reaffirm those ethical and social values which he shares with his rugged forebears."

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the center itself to serve as the link between people in the community and all sorts of special services, non-medical as well as medical (rather as community-action programs were once supposed to do).

The center has already won approval as a field teaching center for the University of Kentucky medical school and has established a similar relationship with the university's college of pharmacy.

The East Kentucky Health Services Center is of immediate practical benefit to the people of Knott County (it is located about three miles from Hindman, the county seat), but it is very much worth watching from a distance, too. Optimism at the start of a program or an activity is by no means rare, in Appalachia or anywhere else. Optimism that stays the course, without departing from its original principles, isn't quite so common—and it could indeed produce a program that is a model where models are badly needed.

## Bascom Lamar Lunsford: "I Found the Song"

Bascom Lamar Lunsford, known far and wide as "the Minstrel of the Appalachians," died on September 4 in Asheville, N.C. He was 91, but in August he had attended the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival which he had founded 46 years earlier, and his memory was clear to the end. It was this prodigious memory that set him apart from his fellow Appalachian musicians, along with his extraordinary understanding and love of tradition. His repertoire was in his head. In 1935 he recorded from his "memory collection" 315 songs for Columbia University, and L. Quincy Mumford, Librarian of Congress, reported that he recorded for the Library of Congress "nearly 750 items of music and commentary during the years 1925-1949." He was a native Madison County, N.C., moun-

Bascom Lunsford: "I just picked a few songs"



taineer (he called Madison County the "center of folk music in this country" and "the last stand of the natural people") who understood the worth of the traditional culture of Appalachian people, and he spent his life working to preserve and extend a portion of it.

He founded festivals in several states, the best known and longest lived being the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival, held in Asheville the first weekend in August "along about sundown" each evening. He sang all over the country, and he represented the United States in Italy at the first International Folk Festival. He performed before King George VI and Queen Elizabeth at the White House, where he noted that the Queen patted her foot to "Sourwood Mountain." He made some thirty commercial recordings of his music in addition to his recordings for scholarly purposes.

He wrote a few songs, such as "That Good Ole Mountain Dew," "The Fate of Santa Barbara" and "Bryan's Last Battle," but his true interest was in the traditional music of Southern Appalachia, which had its origins primarily in the British Isles. He gloated over ballads such as "The Death of Queen Jane" (Jane Seymour, third wife of Henry VIII), "Little Margaret and Sweet William," and "Lord Daniel's Wife," but he also had an immense repertoire of American songs, such as "Jesse James," "Naomi Wise" and "Booth Killed Lincoln." He was master of the five-string banjo and a good square-dance fiddler, but usually when the fiddle sounded he was on the floor dancing.

He was a lawyer by trade, but he was at times a fruit-tree salesman, teacher, newspaper editor, Department of Justice agent and Reading Clerk of the North Carolina House of Representatives. Although he grew up among musical people and thus inherited a repertoire of songs, it was his job as a fruit-tree salesman that started his collecting career. He swapped trees to mountaineers for a night's lodging, and in the evenings he swapped songs with his hosts and hostesses.

He loved to quote verse, and one of his favorites was:

I sang a song into the air  
It came to earth, I know not where  
But long years after, from beginning to end  
I found the song in the heart of a friend.

Someone once asked Mr. Lunsford what it was that he had done to bring him so much public notice. "I told them I had just picked a few songs on the banjo and played a few tunes on the fiddle, and that I had just liked mountain people and liked their traditions."

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## OPINION

### "I Watched a Stream Die"

The Environmental Protection Agency recently held a public hearing on requests by 97 Eastern Kentucky coal mines for permission to discharge waste water into streams. Local citizens and conservation spokesmen expressed doubt not only about such procedures but about the likelihood of effective enforcement of new regulations governing the disposal of mine wastes.

Richard M. Hall (Sierra Club): "The history of enforcement of any standard against the coal industry, especially the surface-mining industry, is one of failure."

James Hamilton (Lookout, Ky.): "I'm tired of seeing cemeteries bulldozed just to get some scab coal miner some money."

## For Teachers: Appalachian Center Offers Course Materials

Berea College's recent workshop in Appalachian Studies (see CENTER NEWSLETTER, Summer 1973) had a very practical purpose--to help the participating teachers develop Appalachian Studies courses for their own schools. Most of those attending were teachers of English and history (or social studies) in high schools, but there was a sprinkling of others--college teachers, a librarian, a guidance counselor, two graduate students. All of these participants prepared course and unit outlines and other valuable materials that together constitute a unique body of models and suggestions for courses in Appalachian Studies. Most of the outlines include suggested course content, bibliographies, audiovisuals, teaching techniques and suggested resource persons. Because these papers ought to be useful to other teachers preparing courses relating to Appalachia, the Appalachian Center is making them available for the cost of Xeroxing (10¢ a page) plus 25¢ for packaging and handling. We are happy to make them available in this way but, as you might imagine, we hope that only those whose intentions are reasonably serious will take us up.

### History and Social Studies

*Appalachian History, Emphasis on Eastern Kentucky*-Grades 10-12, 18 weeks. By Thomas W. Mouyeous. (15 pp.)

*Resource Unit: History of the Southern Appalachian Region*-Grades 8-12. By Alfred James. (15 pp.)

*A Structural Guide for Appalachian History and Culture in American History*-Grade 11. Emphasis on North Georgia. By Lionel Clark. (15 pp.)

*History and Geography of Appalachia and Ansted, West Virginia*-Grade 9. By Roger D. Eades. (10 pp.)

*Appalachian History and Culture in World History*-Grade 10. By William C. White. (9 pp.)

*Life in Appalachia During the Classical Period 1865-1920, with Special Study of Mountain Feuds*-Grade 12. By Charles Hayes. (26 pp.)

*Appalachia: History and Literature*-Grade 7. By David Collins. (16 pp.)

*Resource Unit on the Study of Appalachia*-Grade 6. Edythe Virginia Oleham. (13 pp.)

### English and Literature

*Appalachian Writers: A Teaching Unit*-Grades 11 and 12. By Peggy Mills. (27 pp.)



Berea history professor Richard Drake speaks to members of the summer workshop in Appalachian Studies.

*Appalachian Literature: A Unit of Study*-Grade 9. By Virginia Skelton. (24 pp.)

*Appalachian Writers: A Resource Unit of Eleventh-Grade American Literature*. By Faye Whitaker. (22 pp.)

*An Appalachian Studies Unit: Appalachian Literature*-Grades 11 and 12. By Joy Lynn Davis. (19 pp.)

### Miscellaneous Studies and Units

*Bibliography for Appalachian Studies*. (Books, periodicals, pamphlets, films, filmstrips, records, tapes.) By Mernie Kesner. (30 pp.)

*Some Appalachian Short Stories: A Bibliography*. By Sue E. Watts. (9 pp.)

*Education in Appalachia as Depicted in Major Periodicals*. An annotated bibliography. By Joyce Ramsey. (36 pp.)

*A Bibliography of Appalachian Children's and Young People's Books*. By Pat Edwards. (Offset, 19 pp. \$.50)

*Appalachian Music: A Quarter-Term Syllabus*. By Julie D. Voelker. (32 pp.)

*The Role of Settlement Schools in Southern Appalachia*. By Ellen Friedman. (22 pp.)

*Proposal for the Appalachian Maryland Cultural Center*. By Mark Middleton. (14 pp.)

*What A Man Can Be, He Must Be: A Guide to the Implementation of a Career Guidance Program Designed to Increase the Attainment of Realistic Occupational and Self-Realizational Goals by the Youth of Appalachia*. By Charles Paul Bumgard. (18 pp.)

*Resource Units: Appalachian Studies*. (Includes study of literature, music, art, crafts and culture.) By Mary Auxier Hale. (26 pp.)

*A Cross-Cultural Multi-Arts Inquiry-The Southern Appa-*

Avery Wiley (Prestonsburg/Sierra Club): "Eastern Kentucky is dying. Dewey Lake and Fishtrap Reservoir are dying, and strip mining is the worst polluter of all."

Mike Mullins (Pippa Passes): "I watched a stream die . . . Sometimes it's so thick with coal silt I can scoop it up with my hands."

Joe Begley (Letcher County): "We're against an indecent way of getting coal."

Dean Rivkin (Lexington): "The fact you must face is the history of lawlessness on the part of the mining industry. It has compiled a deplorable record."

Paul Traina (director, enforcement division, Environmental Protection Agency): "I feel we must take the first step."

*lachian Mountains: Her Land and People.* By Ginette M. Patch. (16 pp.)

#### College Courses

*Introduction to Appalachian Studies.* (A January short-term course prepared for Union College, Barbourville, Kentucky.) By Julian D. Mosley. (17 pp.)

*A Course of Study for Sociology 234 at Cumberland College, Kentucky.* (A study of Appalachian culture.) By Charles C. Smith. (17 pp.)

## Rare Books, Watercolors

Collectors will be interested in an exotically named new firm, the Southern Appalachian Rare Book & Watercolor Co., which has recently opened in Bryson City, N.C. The firm is specializing in rare books and manuscripts in the areas of Southern literature, nineteenth-century sport and humor, and the Southern Appalachians generally. Persons wishing to be on their mailing list for catalogues as they are issued should send a card to Box 782, Bryson City, N.C. 28713. If you have any particular wants (especially Southern Appalachian materials, either fiction or nonfiction), the SARB&W Co. will be glad to hear from you.

## Can I (You, We) Go Home Again?

Thomas Wolfe wrote a torrent of words--hundreds and hundreds of thousands of them--but he may be best known for four very simple ones: *you can't go home again*. If you've ever pondered the point (and in a mobile world, it would seem to be inevitable at some time or other), you might be interested in the reflections of two Appalachian natives and residents as they appear in the July-August issue of the *Berea Alumnus*. The reflectors are Betty Payne James and Jim Wayne Miller, and their articles are available at no charge from the Appalachian Center.

## Weatherford Award Reminder

December 31 is the deadline for nominations for this year's W.D. Weatherford Awards. Regular readers of the CENTER NEWSLETTER will be familiar with the awards, but for anyone who is new, here are the basic particulars.

The W.D. Weatherford Awards, which honor the memory of the late Dr. W.D. Weatherford, Sr., are made possible by funds provided by Alfred H. Perrin of Berea and are sponsored jointly by Berea College's Appalachian Center and Hutchins Library. A basic prize of \$500 is awarded to the writer of the work published anywhere

in the United States which best illuminates the problems, personalities and unique qualities of the Appalachian South. This writing may be a book, a short piece of any kind (including fiction and poetry), or a series of pieces. The rules also provide for the giving of a "Special Weatherford Award to honor another work or body of work that makes an outstanding contribution to the understanding of Appalachian people."

Awards have been won by Ben A. Franklin of the *New York Times*; David H. Loeff, author of *Appalachia's Children*, and the editors of *The Foxfire Book*, and in 1973 a Special Award was presented to Robert Coles. To nominate a work, or to obtain further information, write to Thomas Parrish, C.P.O. Box 2336, Berea, Ky. 40403.

## CSM Bibliography Available

Currently available is the 1973-74 bibliography (including listings of records and films) of materials available from the Council of the Southern Mountains bookstore. The bibliography itself costs 25¢ (5¢ for each additional copy). Write CSM Bookstore, C.P.O. 2307, Berea, Ky. 40403.

## Eye on Publications

*American Mountain People*, edited by Robert L. Breeden; Bruce Dale, photographer (National Geographic). You expect National Geographic Society books to be handsome and well produced, and this one is. It covers the mountains from the Appalachians to California, the theme being the "peculiar virtue of mountains." The Appalachian section is by Bill Peterson of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

*Hillbilly Women*, by Kathy Kahn (Doubleday). "If the poor people would stand up, we can run those big shots under the bed"--thus speaks Granny Hager in one of the 19 interviews with Appalachian women that make up this self-portrait gallery. The women are tough, the author angry, the portraits impressive.

*Western North Carolina Since the Civil War*, by Ina W. Van Noppen and John J. Van Noppen, with foreword by Cratis Williams (Appalachian Consortium Press). The first of several projected books to be published by this consortium, which consists of Appalachian State University, Lees-McRae College, Western Carolina, East Tennessee State University, Mars Hill College and several public agencies. The book examines the life and culture of the subject area.

*Growin' Up Country*, edited by Jim Axelrod (Council of the Southern Mountains). This collection of articles, stories, poems and pictures mostly by mountain young people is a "reflective look at growing up in the southern mountains these last twenty or so years."

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