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KENTUCKY HUMANITIES RESOURCE CENTER

SPEAKERS BUREAU

1987-1988
Welcome to the second edition of the Kentucky Humanities Resource Center Speakers Bureau brochure. If you are looking for free, informative, sometimes provocative, always stimulating speakers for your organization's meeting, whether luncheon, dinner, or monthly gathering, consider inviting a KHRC Speakers Bureau speaker to be a part of your program. Speakers featured in this brochure are available through October 31, 1988.

This year, the KHRC Speakers Bureau offers new faces, new topics, and new features. The fifteen KHRC speakers profiled in this brochure are willing to travel to locations anywhere in the state. A new section of the brochure, devoted to additional speakers, presents some of the other topics and titles also available through the KHRC.

KHRC speakers are available to talk with library groups, local historical organizations, museums, civic clubs, professional organizations, senior centers or clubs, homemaker clubs, churches, parent/teacher organizations, arts councils, theatre groups, or any other non-profit out-of-school adult community groups. A minimum audience of twenty adults is required for KHRC Speakers Bureau funding.

Any individual organization can be funded for a maximum of three speakers each year (November 1 through October 31). While the KHRC directly pays each speaker's honorarium and travel expenses, the sponsoring organization is expected to provide suitable overnight accommodations if they are required. If you would like to sponsor a series of more than three KHRC speakers or if you require more funds than are allowed under Speakers Bureau grants, contact the KHRC for information on applying for minigrants of up to $1,000. KHRC speakers are not available for classroom or student programs or to college sponsors.

This brochure contains a thematic list of talks, an alphabetical list of speakers, instructions for applying for a speaker, and application forms (three for your group and three to share with other qualified organizations).

New themes featured this year are:
- **The Minority Experience**, on racial and religious minorities;
- **Reading, Writers, and Works**, on literacy, language, authors and writings;
- **The Constitution and the Commonwealth**, on the origins of the Constitution and its Kentucky connections;
- **The Age of Romanticism**, on the Romantic experience in the arts of Europe and America in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries;
- **Other Places, Other Times**, on cultures or times other than our own;
- **Images of Childhood**, on children as represented in art, in history, and as readers and bearers of culture.
Popular themes repeated from last year are:

- **Kentucky History**

  and

- **Folk Culture.**

To choose a speaker, begin by reading through the thematic list. When you find a talk that looks interesting, look up the speaker’s name. Under it you will find a biographical paragraph, a photograph suitable for reproduction, a description of each presentation, and an address and telephone number where you can contact the speaker. Once you’ve chosen the presentation you want, carefully follow the instructions at the back of this brochure to apply for your speaker.

Because many speakers are eager to participate in the KHRC Speakers Bureau, we are able to profile new speakers each year. However, the KHRC has a roster of many additional qualified and interesting speakers available to make presentations on topics like Kentucky history, literature, issues and ethics, women’s culture, or Appalachian culture. Their talks have intriguing titles —

- Women Who Made a Difference: 20th Century Kentucky Her-story
- Lynch: A Coal Legacy
- A Visit With James Still
- Creative Shaker Women
- Kentucky’s Contribution to Literature
- Jesse Stuart: The Man and His Books
- Stalking the Breckinridges
- The Mountains Have Come Closer
- Civil War Kentucky
- Dude Ranching
- Baseball Fever

— and these are only a few of the presentations available.

While several of these speakers are new to the Speakers Bureau, many of them may already be familiar to you from the 1986-1987 KHRC Speakers Bureau brochure. Therefore, we can offer some new talks as well as some old favorites. These speakers are willing to travel either statewide or on a more limited regional basis to speak to groups. Contact the KHRC to find out which of these additional speakers and topics are available in your part of the state. To invite a speaker featured in a previous KHRC Speakers Bureau brochure or any other speakers in the KHRC roster, you may use the application in this brochure.

If you would like to request a speaker who is not in our roster, contact the KHRC office to see if the speaker qualifies as a humanities scholar within the Kentucky Humanities Council’s guidelines. You must submit a vita for any speaker not already registered with the KHRC; funding is subject to Board approval.
The Minority Experience

African-American Artists of Kentucky
Robert Douglas

Afro-American Art History
Robert Douglas

Contributions of Black Women to America, 1776-1986
Necta Desiree Harkless

The Jewish Experience in Kentucky: A Century and a Half of Jewish Life in the Commonwealth
Lee Shai Weissbach

A Political Use of Art in America: The Cultural Ideology of Racism
Robert Douglas

Reading, Writers, and Works

"Be Careful of Those Americans": Keats’ Letters to Kentucky
Andelys Wood

"The Bread of Faithful Speech": Contemporary Appalachian Writing
George Ella Lyon

English: The Language(s) of America
Richard D. Freed

A Gift of Voice: The Writer and the Community
George Ella Lyon

Kentucky Poets: Visionaries in a Real World
Robert L. Doty

Literacy: Yew Gotta Reed All About Hit
Richard D. Freed

Word From Home: Kentucky Children’s Books
George Ella Lyon

Folk Culture

Cemetery Decoration Customs
Lynwood Montell

"It’s a Family Tradition"
Barbara Allen

Kentucky Ghosts
Lynwood Montell

Vernacular Architecture
Lynwood Montell

Kentucky History

The Antislavery Movement in Kentucky
Lowell H. Harrison

Changing Social Values and the Development of Kentucky’s Economy
J. Larry Hood

John Hunt Morgan: Folk Hero of the Confederacy
James A. Ramage

Kentucky in the New Nation, 1775-1815
Lowell H. Harrison

The Life and Politics of Former Governor Bert T. Combs
Richard D. Freed

Voices from the Past: The Value of Oral History
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What is a Kentuckian? Society in Twentieth Century Kentucky
J. Larry Hood

The Constitution and the Commonwealth

The Constitutional Convention of 1787
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Implementing the Constitution
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American Heroes, American Values
Barbara Allen

George Washington: Man and Monument
James A. Ramage

John Hunt Morgan: Folk Hero of the Confederacy
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"Be Careful of Those Americans": Keats' Letters to Kentucky
Andelys Wood

Bryant's The Prairies: A Vision of the Sublime
Jerry A. Herndon

Children in English Paintings and Poems—or, "How Do You Like Your Blue-Eyed Child, Mr. Death?"
Michael Cohen

Dickens and Ruskin in Venice
Andelys Wood

The French Revolution: Romantic and Other Notions
Lee Shai Weissbach

The Glowing Paintings of the Pre-Raphaelites
Michael Cohen

"Intimations of Immortality": Some English and American Romantics
Jerry A. Herndon

The Romantic Imagination
Jerry A. Herndon

Romantic Poets
Robert L. Doty

Ruskin and Museums
Andelys Wood

African Art History
Robert Douglas

Dickens and Ruskin in Venice
Andelys Wood

Education in Soviet Schools
Bruce Adams

The French Revolution: Romantic and Other Notions
Lee Shai Weissbach

Life in the Soviet Union Today
Bruce Adams

Nubian Pharaohs and Meroitic Kings
Necia Desiree Harkless

Soviet Dissidence
Bruce Adams

Two Thousand Years of Nigerian Art
Necia Desiree Harkless

Childhood in Western Society: A Changing Experience over Two Hundred Years
Lee Shai Weissbach

Children in English Paintings and Poems—or, "How Do You Like Your Blue-Eyed Child, Mr. Death?"
Michael Cohen

Growing Up: Developing Values
Robert L. Doty

Word from Home: Kentucky Children's Books
George Ella Lyon

Heroes

The Age of Romanticism

Other Places, Other Times

Images of Childhood
Bruce Adams is an associate professor of history at the University of Louisville specializing in Russian history. He received his doctorate from the University of Maryland in 1981 having done research for his dissertation in Moscow and Leningrad during 1978 and 1979. Among the other positions he held before coming to Louisville, Adams served two years as a translator on the Washington Moscow Hotline. His research interests and publications have concentrated on the Russian prison system and on war and terrorism in the history of Russia.

**Education in Soviet Schools**

How does a country which seems to be so materially poor produce advanced military hardware, Nobel prize winners, and superb musicians, dancers and athletes? The answer lies in an educational system that is quite different from our own. This talk provides a look at the theory and practice of Soviet education in recent years. Adams' two children attended Soviet schools when his family lived in Moscow.

**Life in the Soviet Union Today**

How do average Soviet citizens live? In some ways their family life, work, housing, transportation and food are similar to ours, but in other important ways they differ significantly. This presentation will provide a brief look in slides at what a tourist might see in the Soviet Union with commentary on what goes on behind the scenes. A question and answer period will provide an opportunity to pursue topics in greater depth.

35mm Carousel Projector with Remote Control
Projector Stand or Table
Projection Screen

**Soviet Dissidence**

After Mikhail Gorbachev and his well dressed wife, Raisa, the Soviet citizens most Americans know best are the dissidents and emigres, like Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Solzhenitsyn. Dissidence in the Soviet Union arises not only from political differences, but also from problems of religion and nationality. This presentation explores what the dissidents believe, how they disagree among themselves and how they are treated by the Soviet government.

Barbara Allen is a folklorist based in Bowling Green. For the past six years she has taught in the American Studies department at the University of Notre Dame. As both a folklorist and an oral historian, she has conducted fieldwork in California, Oregon, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and West Virginia. Allen has written two books and numerous articles, many of them dealing with the relationship between history and folklore. Her other research interests include family folklore, Western history, and oral history. She is a native Californian, transplanted to Kentucky in 1979.

**American Heroes, American Values**

Heroes are more than just remarkable individuals whose actions are seen as admirable. They are human symbols of abstract virtues. Thus the kinds of people we regard as heroic can reveal a great deal about our most cherished values. This presentation offers a survey of American heroes from colonial days to the space age, from presidents to pop musicians, to show how the values that American heroes have symbolized over the past four centuries have remained remarkably constant.

Carousel Projector
Projection Screen

"It's A Family Tradition"

Family history includes more than just genealogy. The stories families tell, the photographs they take and display, the holiday customs they observe, the names they use, the heirlooms they cherish, even the recipes they hand down are all part of family history as well. But these traditions, whether verbal, customary, or material in nature serve not just as a way of preserving the past. They also help to create a sense of identity among family members in the present. This presentation explores some of the most widespread family traditions to encourage people who are interested in family history to pay attention as well to the full range of family traditions as a means of better understanding the family both in the past and in the present.

Carousel Projector
Projection Screen

**Voices From The Past: The Value Of Oral History**

Oral history has enjoyed tremendous popularity in the past dozen years. But it involves more than just setting up a tape recorder and letting someone talk. How can an individual's memories be most fruitfully tapped in an oral history interview? What can those memories tell us about the past? How valuable is the information that is recorded? How can it be critically evaluated as a source of historical data? These are some of the questions addressed in this presentation.
Michael Cohen is Professor of English at Murray State University, where he has been Director of Graduate Studies in English, Assistant Dean, and Director of the Center for Academic Advising. He received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and taught at the University of New Orleans before moving to his present location. He is author of Engaging English Art: Entering the Work in Two Centuries of English Painting and Poetry (1987), and coauthor of The Poem in Question (1983). His articles on English painting and literature of the Renaissance, the eighteenth century, and the nineteenth century have appeared in English Studies, Milton Quarterly, Studies in Iconography, and more than a dozen other journals and books. He is currently working on a book on Hamlet. He lives on Kentucky Lake with his wife and two sons.

**Children in English Paintings and Poems—or, “How Do You Like Your Blue-Eyed Child, Mr. Death?”**

During the Romantic period as well as at other times, English portraits and poems about children have all the expected associations of freshness, innocence, and the Garden of Eden before the Fall; more surprisingly, they also frequently couple images of youth with those of change, transience, and death. Every child in art gives at least an implied contrast between youth and age when an older observer reads the poem or stands before the picture, and every such work is a memorial.

**Carousel Projector**  
**Projection Screen**  
**Lighted Podium or Lectern**

**The Glowing Paintings of the Pre-Raphaelites**
The English Pre-Raphaelites, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, William Homan Hunt, and John Everett Millais, took up the banner of the Romantics and tried to copy nature as faithfully as they could. In jewel-like paintings, they gave life to religious subjects and illustrated scenes from English history. Above all, they gave us meticulously painted views of the English countryside.

**Carousel Projector**  
**Projection Screen**  
**Lighted Podium or Lectern**

Robert L. Doty is a professor of literature at Campbellsville College. His academic area is nineteenth century English literature. His academic training includes a degree in theology from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Doty has been actively involved in humanities programming for more than a decade. He served for a year as one of the first Traveling Humanists for the Kentucky Humanities Council in 1978-79. Doty has a longtime interest in photography as a vehicle for learning and has presented several slide-lecture programs to widely diverse audiences.

**Growing Up: Developing Values**

Doty examines some of the philosophical and social debates of Western thought on the problem of preparing the next generation for its entry into the adult world. From the Apology of Plato throughout history there has been a running debate on the question of providing young people with the knowledge, character, and discipline for the continuation of a healthy civilization. In reviewing the history since Plato, attention could be paid to the first century Christian era debates in the New Testament, to the issues of the Renaissance and Reformation, to the Romantic revolt, and to the American experience of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The program examines broadly historical, and then current local, ideas on the tasks of education in general and on values in particular.

**Kentucky Poets: Visionaries in a Real World**

This presentation features contemporary Kentucky poets whose vision of the world and whose gifts with words help readers and audiences to feel a sense of the special place, or of being in the right place as part of the whole order of the world and of their own lives. Several poets have made significant statements about value, work, and a commitment to live as stewards in a shared land. Writers to be considered may include: Wendell Berry, Woodridge Spears, Richard Taylor, Jesse Stuart, Hollis Summers and others.

**Romantic Poets**

This slide program focuses on the work of English Romantic poets including Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, and others. The program will feature some of the characteristic works that help to identify romanticism in the early part of the nineteenth century. Themes include: nature, justice, the common man, and a glimpse at some ideas of the spiritual world. Slides examine scenes from the Lake District, Tintern Abbey, and Chamonix (Mt. Blanc), France.

**Presenter Will Furnish All Needed Equipment**
Robert Douglas is an African-American cultural specialist. His studies focus on the relationship between visual art and other aspects of African-American cultural forms such as literature and music. He has written on the relationships between African-American visual artists and writers during the Harlem Renaissance and also the interaction between the writers and artists during the Civil Rights Movement and the Black Liberation Struggle. Douglas is an assistant professor at the University of Louisville. He holds a joint appointment with the Art History Department and the Pan-African Studies Department. Aside from teaching Afro-American art and African art courses, he also teaches a course on "Novels into Film" and "Afro-Americans in American Media".

African Art History
This historical survey of African art includes art produced on the African continent from the Paleolithic period to the nineteenth century. The art is placed within the cultural context of the people who produced it. The socio-religious concepts of different African peoples are examined to determine the similarities and differences which prompted the creation of the art and artifacts under discussion.

African-American Artists of Kentucky
Kentucky in general and Louisville in particular have produced a number of outstanding Black artists: Ellis Wilson, Sam Gilliam, Houston Conwill and the late Bob Tompson. This program will feature these artists and others who are not as well known, but whose work is of exceptional quality.

Afro-American Art History
A historical look at artifacts and professional art produced by African people in America. Beginning with slave crafts, this lecture traces the creation of visual art by Black Americans to the present time. Emphasis is placed upon the art produced during the Harlem Renaissance and the Civil Rights era for its similarities and differences.

A Political Use of Art in America: The Cultural Ideology of Racism
This lecture examines the subtle means of promoting racist attitudes through popular cultural forums. Examples from visual art, literature, movies and television are examined to show the continuation of attitudes which can be traced to slavery and to Northern minstrel shows and theater. Recent outbursts of racism can be linked to its continued existence in popular portrayals of Blacks as inferior, and to its acceptability in mainstream American culture.

Richard D. Freed has taught English, including English and American literature and language, for over twenty years. For the past eight years he has taught primarily upper and lower division composition courses at Eastern Kentucky University. As a teacher of writing, Freed developed a strong interest in the relationship between language, ethics and politics (sociolinguistics). He spent an eye-opening year (1985-86) as a faculty/staff member of the Council on Higher Education. Presently he is working on a biography of former governor Bert T. Combs.

English: The Language(s) of America
American English, like every other spoken language in the world, is inevitably complex and diverse. The development of regional differences is both natural and normal. A better understanding of how spoken English changes and develops can lead people to feel better about how they speak (and who they are) and can also make people less inclined to make condescending, negative judgments about others who "talk different." This program focuses on how language variety and diversity, regional accents and dialects, should be appreciated as a source of cultural richness rather than be condemned as a matter of personal or regional inferiority.
As an option, *American Tongues*, a delightful film produced in 1986, can accompany this presentation. A brief introduction would precede this film, and a discussion would follow its showing.

**1/2 VHS Player (if film included in program)**

**TV Monitor (if film included in program)**

**The Life and Politics of Former Governor Bert T. Combs**

Bert T. Combs is widely considered to be one of the most effective governors in modern Kentucky history. He is often singled out as the man most responsible for bringing Kentucky into the twentieth century. At the same time, he has always remained faithful to his heritage as an eastern Kentucky “mountaineer.” Combs’ political career is important; his life is especially interesting.

**Literacy: Yew Gotta Reed All About Hit**

Contrary to popular belief, more people than ever are able to read and write at a basic level; however, the inability of people to think, read and write critically has always been and continues to be a serious problem in Kentucky and in America. Critical literacy gives people a much greater measure of political self-determination and individual freedom.

Necia Harkless is an educator, writer, pianist, and painter. She was Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education at the University of Kentucky and Professor Emeritus at Georgetown College in Graduate Education. Presently a Donovan Scholar at the University of Kentucky, Harkless is now pursuing her lifelong interest in the humanities and cultural ethnography. She also serves on the Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission, the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, the Advisory Board of the Governor’s School for the Arts, and the Lexington Art League. Her study travel includes Nigeria, Egypt, Israel, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and the West Indies.

**Contributions Of Black Women To America, 1776-1986**

The involuntary servitude of African-American women on these shores did not suppress their humanity or creative genius although they could transfer only a part of their traditional culture. Their contributions, while long ignored, are alive and well in art, music, literature, law, medicine, business, sports, civil rights, politics, education and the sciences. We have only to recognize them as models for excellence and growth in our society.

**Nubian Pharaohs and Meroitic Kings**

The mysterious Kingdoms of Kush, mentioned in the Bible and later by the ancient classical writers, have become a historical reality with the building of the High Dam at Assuan in Egypt. This reservoir, which covers 5000 square kilometers of Egypt and the Sudan, displaced “an open museum of culture of millennia.” Yet its legacy to the world is the largest archaeological rescue that the world has seen. This presentation will highlight the military feats, architectural wonders, artistic treasures and cultural traditions of the unknown civilizations of the ancient Nile.

**Two Thousand Years of Nigerian Art**

The government of Nigeria shared two thousand years of its country’s art treasures with Americans in an exhibit displayed at three major American museums. This exhibit was the first time these works had been seen outside of Nigeria before. Nigeria’s museum system is quite expansive, extending over ten major cities for the enjoyment of over 90 million people. The pieces in the exhibit, most of which were uncovered by archaeologists within the last 50 years, lead to a better understanding of the cultural traditions which exist in both of our countries. This presentation will examine artifacts from Nigeria’s three major artistic traditions: Nok culture, Ife-Ile culture and the Bronze culture of Benin.

**Necia Desiree Harkless**

731 West Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508
606-255-0931
Lowell H. Harrison, a native of Russell Springs, Kentucky, received his bachelor's degree at what is now Western Kentucky University. After earning M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history at New York University, he did a year of post-doctoral work at the London School of Economics on a Fulbright award. He taught and held administrative positions at New York University and West Texas State University before joining the history faculty at Western Kentucky University in 1967. Harrison's list of publications includes over 250 books, articles, and reviews. Among his major works are: John Breckinridge, Jeffersonian Republican; The Civil War in Kentucky; George Rogers Clark and the War in the West; A Kentucky Sampler (co-editor); and Western Kentucky University. He speaks frequently to a wide variety of groups.

**The Antislavery Movement in Kentucky**

Slavery existed in Kentucky from the early days of settlement until the 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865. Throughout this period such varied personalities as "Father" David Rice, John G. Fee, Cassius M. Clay and Abraham Lincoln attempted to end "the peculiar institution." This presentation will examine their efforts and attempt to explain their failure.

**Implementing the Constitution**

Drafting the Constitution and securing its ratification were notable achievements, but they meant little unless a viable government could be formed. Thus developments during President Washington's first administration were of vital importance to the new nation. We will examine those major developments and the men who were responsible for them.

**Kentucky in the New Nation, 1775-1815**

This presentation will study the role of Kentucky in the formative period of the new nation. Topics will include the American Revolution, the achievement of statehood, the adoption of the Kentucky Resolutions, and life in the new republic.

Jerry A. Herndon is Professor of English at Murray State University and curator of Murray State's Jesse Stuart Collection. His major teaching specialities are American Romanticism and Southern literature. He has published critical articles on a number of American writers, including Hemingway, Faulkner, Stuart, Warren, Hawthorne, Melville, Emerson, Whitman, and Dickinson. Articles on Caroline Gordon and Edgar Allan Poe are scheduled for publication.

**Bryant's The Prairies: A Vision of the Sublime**

In 1832, William Cullen Bryant traveled to Illinois to visit two of his younger brothers and to spy out the country. He saw the prairies for the first time, and their vast size and beauty impressed him deeply. On his return home, he began to put together a blank verse poem, The Prairies, in which he attempted to evoke the beauty and sublimity of the prairie wilderness. By presenting the Mound Builder legends in the poem, he managed to address the theme of the transience of human life as well, a theme which led him to find a reconciliation of the transient and the eternal in the concept of God's overruling providence.

**Intimations of Immortality: Some English and American Romantics**

This talk examines the sources of the Romantic's conviction of immortality, using William Wordsworth as a starting point, but stressing the argument for immortality presented in the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson.
J. Larry Hood grew up in Louisville, attended Centre College in Danville, received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in United States history from the University of Kentucky, and an M.B.A. from the Business School of Xavier University. He has published works in the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, written essays for newspapers, and given presentations and lectures on Kentucky’s political structure, economy, and culture. He has long experience in state government, having worked as a manager for Kentucky’s Division of Licensing and Regulation before assuming the post of manager of the Department for Social Insurance’s Collection Office. He, his wife, and three children reside in Jessamine County.

**Changing Social Values and the Development of Kentucky’s Economy**
This talk looks at Kentuckians’ cherished ideals and how clinging to those ideals has both benefited and harmed the state. Tradition, a love of the land, the idealization of the family farm, and individualism all help identify what may be called a Kentucky personality. They also may help explain Kentucky’s difficulties in developing a stronger economy.

**Kentuckians’ Understanding of the United States Constitution**
This talk considers the meaning to Kentuckians of a “union of states.” The Kentucky Resolutions, Kentucky’s efforts to stave off civil war, and Kentucky’s reaction to the post-Civil War Constitutional amendments will be considered, with the goal of defining what Kentuckians consider a proper balance of power among different branches of government and different levels of government (state, local, and federal).

**What is a Kentuckian? Society in Twentieth Century Kentucky**
A myriad of paradoxes are illuminated. Kentucky is presented as a land of contrasts, a land of mountains and lowlands, farmers and urbanites, interstate highways and gravel roads, fundamentalism and “sin” industries, great wealth and stark poverty, promise and despair.

A writer and a native of Harlan, Kentucky, George Ella Lyon comes by her interest in Appalachian literature naturally. She is a staff member at Hindman Settlement School’s Appalachian Writers Workshop and, in 1986, led the Highland Summer Conference on Appalachian Literature and Culture at Radford University in Virginia. Lyon has taught creative writing to students ranging from kindergartners to senior citizens and has worked extensively with teachers and students in Eastern Kentucky. Her works include: *Mountain*, a poetry chapbook; *Braids*, a play; *Father Time and the Day Boxes* and *A Regular Rolling Noah*, children’s books; and essays on Appalachian poetry and on Virginia Woolf.

**“The Bread of Faithful Speech”: Contemporary Appalachian Writing**
This presentation can give an overview from James Still to Fred Chappell to Lee Smith, touching on poetry, fiction, and drama; or it can focus on the area which interests the group most. In any case, it will deal with issues of land and family and how they are embodied in rich, funny language rooted in the Bible, the barnyard, and the local video store.

**A Gift of Voice: The Writer and the Community**
When Thomas Wolfe’s *Look Homeward, Angel* was published, a scandalized Asheville, North Carolina, banned it from the public library. Now, long dead and famous, Wolfe is a celebrated native son. Writers and their home places are forever misunderstanding each other. This presentation will ask why. What is the writer’s role in the community—outcast, shaman? What does the community provide for the writer? How might their vital relationship be improved? We will consider models, good and bad, and discuss the questions in a local light as well.

**Word from Home: Kentucky Children’s Books**
We all know how important it is to read to children, to let them hear the magic of language in familiar voice. What if we extend that circle of familiarity a little farther and share with them books from their home state? Kentucky has always been rich ground for writers, and it is as true in the field of picture books as in any other. This presentation will introduce participants to books by James Still, Lillie Chaffin, Rebecca Caudill, Martha Bennett Stiles, and others, and will end with a discussion about the importance of story in making things whole.
Lynwood Montell is Professor of Folk Studies at Western Kentucky University, where he has been employed since 1969. He has written seven books and edited two others. He has read papers on folklore and oral history at local, national, and international conferences, has lectured widely, and has served as a history, folklore, and humanities consultant to numerous federal, regional, and state agencies and institutions.

**Cemetery Decoration Customs**
The focus of this lecture/slide presentation is the things that people do in order to decorate graves, whether these efforts assume the form of floral offerings, choosing and erecting gravestones, constructing small houses of wood or stone over the graves, or erecting fences or walls around burial plots. Epitaphs and motifs carved into the stones are also considered. The ever-changing nature of all these folk customs and practices associated with commemorating the dead affords us an abundance of materials for gauging the popular mood of the times.

**Kentucky Ghosts**
Beliefs in and narratives surrounding the return of the dead as ghosts have been a part and parcel of Kentucky folklore from earliest days to the present. Kentucky's supernatural inheritance derives both from European and African traditions, sometimes with an interesting blending of the two. This program will be based on rich and interesting examples of such beliefs and stories, along with commentary about attitudinal changes in recent times regarding the appearance (or nonappearance) of ghosts.

**Vernacular Architecture**
Vernacular architecture is architecture built without formal plans by local people for local people using local materials in the construction process. Many of Kentucky's houses, barns, and outbuildings built prior to World War II fit this description. Various types of these interesting structures will be described in this lecture/slide presentation.

James A. Ramage, a native of Paducah, is Professor of History at Northern Kentucky University. He earned bachelors and masters degrees from Murray State University and a Ph.D. in history from the University of Kentucky. He served as Assistant to the President at Northern from January, 1972 to 1976. Ramage is the author of *John Wesley Hunt: Pioneer Merchant, Manufacturer and Financier*. His second book, *Rebel Raider: The Life of General John Hunt Morgan* won the Douglas Southall Freeman Award for the most outstanding work in Southern History for 1986. Ramage and his wife Ann and daughter Andrea reside in Cold Springs, Kentucky.

**The Constitutional Convention Of 1787**
The most fateful meeting in the history of the United States was the Convention that John Adams called "the greatest single effort of national deliberation that the world has ever seen." Ramage describes the meeting, analyzes the significance of the issues and evaluates the roles of James Madison, Alexander Hamilton and other Founding Fathers. The disagreements were difficult to resolve, and the damp heat of summer in Philadelphia lay heavy on the spirit. At one point the delegates were on the verge of dissolution, and George Washington regretted that he had come. Benjamin Franklin, fearing that the sun was about to set on the new republic, proposed hiring a chaplain for the meeting. What held the delegates together and made compromise possible, Ramage concludes, was the realization that they were making history in order to win our applause—the praise that only we, their posterity, can grant.

**John Hunt Morgan: Folk Hero Of The Confederacy**
Based on Ramage's award-winning book *Rebel Raider: The Life of General John Hunt Morgan*, this lecture sets forth that Morgan, the Confederate cavalryman from Kentucky, more than any other leader, represented the Southern ideal of the chivalrous knight, the cavalier from the romantic novel come to life. Intuitively adopting the tactics of classic guerrilla warfare and striking behind enemy lines, Morgan won many small victories and the people recognized him as the guerrilla par excellence of the Confederacy; they identified with him as the primary model for guerrilla warfare and they made him a folk hero. Ramage analyzes the origins of the legend, tells how it was greatly strengthened by Morgan's escape from prison, and considers the adoration of Southern women for this romantic hero.
George Washington: Man And Monument
The problem in studying the life of George Washington is that the American people admired him too much. As the years passed after his death in 1799, the flesh and blood disappeared entirely and he became a god-like abstraction, as devoid of life as his marble monument in Washington, D.C. Separating fact from myth, Ramage restores Washington's humanity, and as we come to know the man, we understand why he deserved to be "first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

Lee Shai Weissbach

Lee Shai Weissbach is an associate professor at the University of Louisville, where he teaches courses in social history, Jewish history, and French history. Weissbach received his undergraduate training at the University of Cincinnati, and earned his Ph.D. at Harvard University in 1975. He has written on a wide variety of topics, including Jewish apprentices, New England families, Parisian artisans, and the early settlement of Lexington, Kentucky. Having recently completed a book on child labor reform in nineteenth-century France, Weissbach is now working on a study of small Jewish communities in Western society. His publications have appeared in the Journal of Social History, Business History Review, French Historical Studies, and elsewhere.

Childhood in Western Society: A Changing Experience Over Two Hundred Years
This talk will consider the nature of childhood in the agricultural society of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and in the industrializing society of a hundred years ago. The experience of childhood in times past will be contrasted with the contemporary childhood experience, and the impact on childhood of such factors as gender, class, and residence patterns will be considered.

The French Revolution: Romantic and Other Notions
This talk provides a brief review of the events of the French Revolution, whose bicentennial will be celebrated in 1989, and explores the significance of the Revolution from a Romantic perspective and from other points of view. The importance of the Revolution as an event that set the stage for contemporary politics, social conditions, and intellectual life will be discussed.

The Jewish Experience in Kentucky: A Century and a Half of Jewish Life in the Commonwealth
This talk reviews the history of Jewish settlement in Kentucky and discusses the ways in which Kentucky Jews, as a minority, have maintained their separate identity while becoming integrated into the life of the Commonwealth. The talk will also describe Jewish life in Kentucky today.

Andelys Wood

Andelys Wood is a native of Vermont, where she earned the A.B. at Middlebury College. She completed the Ph.D. in English at Indiana University, and recently studied modern British poetry and social history at the International Graduate Summer School, Exeter College, Oxford. Since 1977, she has taught a variety of courses at Union College, including Romantic and Victorian literature, children's and adolescent literature, and science fiction. She has published articles on Shelley and Yeats.

"Be Careful of Those Americans": Keats' Letters to Kentucky
John Keats' brother and sister-in-law emigrated to America in 1818, and his long letters to them provide a fascinating insight into the poet's activities, ideas, and composing process.

Dickens and Ruskin in Venice
Venice has had a profound impression on travelers for centuries, so that nineteenth-century literary visitors had difficulty finding anything new to write. The talk shows how Charles Dickens and John Ruskin met the challenge.

Ruskin and Museums
Throughout John Ruskin's career, he insisted on the relevance of art to society. The talk examines his ideas about museums as expressed in his works and put into practice in the museum he founded in Sheffield, where it recently reopened as the Ruskin Gallery.

Carousel Projector with Remote Control
Projector Stand or Table
Projection Screen
How to Apply for a Speaker

1. Select a topic and speaker at least four weeks before your program date. Contact the speaker directly to see if he or she is able to address your group on the tentative date and time.

2. Complete and detach the application form in this brochure. The application must be received in the KHRC office at least two weeks before your scheduled program. If your speaker is not already registered with the KHRC, please include his or her vita; funding is subject to KHC Board approval, so allow extra time.

3. Await notification from the KHRC that your program is funded. Do not publicize the event until you receive your grant award letter.

4. Sign and return one copy of the award letter to the KHRC. This letter is your contract with the KHRC and shows that you agree to the conditions of the grant.

5. Once you have received notification of KHRC funding, confirm your arrangements with your speaker. Be sure to specify date, time, and location and clarify equipment needs and any other special requirements, such as meals or accommodations. Complete your arrangements for the program, including room reservations, meals, equipment, etc.

6. Publicize your event to secure the largest possible audience. Please feel free to reproduce the written and photographic material in this brochure for use in your publicity. Possible publicity outlets include news releases to newspapers, radio and television stations, organizational newsletters, flyers posted in community locations and sent out through mailing lists, and telephone campaigns. Arranging for cosponsorship of the program also helps to build audiences. Recipients of KHRC Speakers Grants must acknowledge KHRC support in all publicity and posters. Printed credits should read “This program was funded in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.”

7. One week before your program, call your speaker to confirm all arrangements.

8. When you introduce your speaker, be sure to acknowledge the support of the KHRC and the KHC.

9. Within two days of the program, while it is still fresh in your mind, complete and return the brief evaluation and cost-sharing record that will be sent with your grant award letter. The speaker will be paid directly from the KHRC office.

Media from the Kentucky Humanities Resource Center

You can now complement your KHRC Speaker program with media materials from the Kentucky Humanities Resource Center, run cooperatively by the Kentucky Humanities Council and the University of Kentucky’s Office of Instructional Resources. The KHRC collection draws upon the best of materials funded by the KHC, other state humanities councils, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as other high quality humanities projects. A free catalog is available from the KHRC.

Supplementary programming materials include discussion guides, suggested readings, publicity releases, and ideas for related projects. KHRC materials may be borrowed by any group of out-of-school adults for use in non-profit programming. Your only cost is return postage.

For booking information, contact the Office of Instructional Resources at 606-257-8456 or write the Office of Instructional Resources, Room 102 Scott Street Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506. If you are interested in a particular film or topic, contact Betsy Adler, Coordinator, Kentucky Humanities Resource Center, at 606-257-KHRC and she can help you locate an available convenient source. New KHRC materials will be announced as they become available.
KENTUCKY HUMANITIES RESOURCE CENTER
SPEAKERS BUREAU APPLICATION

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KHRC Speakers Bureau
417 Clifton Avenue
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0414
606-257-KHRC
or
606-257-5932
KENTUCKY HUMANITIES RESOURCE CENTER
SPEAKERS BUREAU APPLICATION

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Name of Program Coordinator

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Phone

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