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WKU Folk Studies Society

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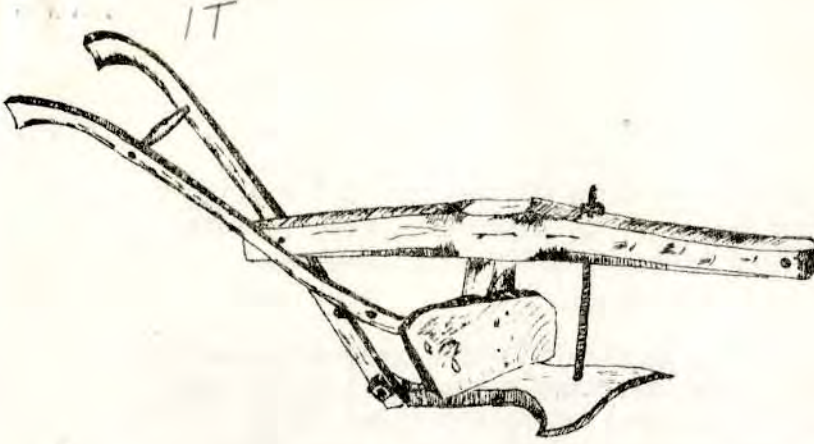


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Vol. 4, No. 2

Western Kentucky University

December, 1976

STUDENT NEWS

Judi Sadewasser has completed her degree requirements and will be awarded an M.A. degree in December. Her thesis is entitled "The Reliability of Selected Weather Beliefs."

Peggy Bulger, a recent graduate of the program, began work in October as coordinator of folk arts for the Stephen Foster Center of folk arts, crafts, and performing arts in White Springs, Florida.

Two graduate students have been awarded Graduate Research Grants for folklore fieldwork. John Hennen's work will center on the esoteric/exoteric factor in lore resulting from the interactions of law enforcement agencies and transplanted southern whites in Cincinnati, Ohio. Barry Taerbaum will be collecting and studying hero legends about Peter Zebich from the Serbian population of southwestern Pennsylvania. Graduate Research Grants are available to graduate students through the Office of Academic Affairs.

On October 21, graduate student Pamela Rogers showed the videotape "A Man and His Barn" to a local senior citizens group at the High Street Community Center. The tape, which featured a member of the Community Center group, was made last spring by Pamela Rogers and David Axler for a class in Applied Folklore.

Several graduate students have had papers accepted for publication. "An Annotated Bibliography of Folklore Materials for Maryland's Eastern Shore," by Clay Schofield, is forthcoming in Free State Folklore, the journal of the Maryland Folklore Society. "Gone but not Forgotten; A Study of a Traditional Tombstone Carver and His Trade," by Mary Helen Weldy and David Taylor, will be published in Keystone Folklore.

Graduate student Marian Krantz assisted staff members of the Kentucky Museum in the design and preparation of a display of scale models of famous Kentucky buildings made by W.P.A. workers in the 1930s. The models are on display in the Helm lobby of Helm-Cravens Library.

Mary Helen Weldy attended the Graduate Student Caucus at AFS and reports that in the future, information of interest to folklore graduate students will

be disseminated through Indiana University's Folklore Newsletter. Information may be sent directly to the Folklore Newsletter or to Mary Helen Weldy, Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.

Mary Helen Weldy will represent Western in the 1976-1977 steering committee for the AFS section on applied folklore. The committee plans to 1) survey the members of AFS concerning their opinions about applied folklore and their participation in applied folklore research and projects, 2) distribute a newsletter to section members, and 3) plan a section meeting and panel for the 1977 AFS meeting in Detroit. The committee welcomes the suggestions of interested persons in designing the survey questionnaire. Opinions and ideas should be sent to Mary Helen Weldy, Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101. Persons wishing to receive the newsletter should contact the same.

We welcome Nana Ferris and Denise Newbolt to the graduate program in folk studies. Both women are graduates of Western Kentucky University. Nana majored in sociology and Denise in library science. Nana and Denise will begin their graduate work in January.

FACULTY NEWS

Lyn Montell recently presented a program entitled "Regional Folk Culture Research" at the Barren River Lodge for the Kentucky Department of Parks and Recreation. On October 30, Dr. Montell and Becky Morse, a graduate student, presented a multi-media program, "Local History in Legend and Song," at the Kentucky Council for Social Studies annual fall conference in Louisville. In addition to these presentations, Dr. Montell taught a special course in oral history for the Lake Cumberland regional librarians this fall.

Camilla Collins presented a program entitled "Women in Factories" to the Warren County Women's Political Caucus on October 12. On October 18, she spoke to the Warren County Democratic Women's Club on the roles of women in Warren County. Cam was MC for a luncheon sponsored by the Heritage Committee of the College of Education at Western on November 5.

Burt Feintuch is serving as co-editor of Studies in Folklore and Ethnicity. He authored a review recently published in Keystone Folklore. Dr. Feintuch's article, "Notes on a Fiddle Run: Formulaic Composition in the Music of an Old-Time Fiddler," has also been accepted for publication in Keystone.

FOLK STUDIES SOCIETY NEWS

On September 22, Dr. Jack Miller of Western's Anthropology Department spoke on language and culture, particularly Creole dialects.

Dr. Sandra Ivey, professor of folklore and English at Fisk University, Nashville, spoke to the Society on September 29. Her topic, "What Is Folklore Today?" dealt with the effects on printed material on folklore and was based on her work with the Melungeons.

Mary Helen Weldy, a graduate student at Western, spoke on October 13 on the use of folklore as a therapeutic tool for geriatric patients. Camilla Collins and Burt Feintuch spoke on the preparation of academic vitae.

On October 27, Linda White, a recent graduate of the program and currently Tennessee State Folklorist, spoke to the Society about her experiences as a state folklorist.

On November 3, Nana Ferris, also a student, spoke of her work last summer for the Tennessee Valley Authority at the Land Between the Lakes living history farm. She showed slides of the farm and outlined the advantages and disadvantages of this type of project.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THESES COMPLETED IN FOLK STUDIES AT WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

- Archbold, Annelen R. "The Beeson Farmstead: A Study of the Functional Aspects of a Black Farm in the Richland Community"
- Beatty, Roger Dean. "Chester Cornett: A Study of the Effects of Culture Change on a Traditional Kentucky Craftsman"
- Boaz, Peggy Bradley. "The Oral Folk History Surrounding the Life of William Bernard 'Big Six' Henderson"
- Bulger, Margaret. "The Carter Family: Traditional Sources for Song"
- Kohn, Ira. "The Use of Architectural Drawing in the Documentation of Log Folk Housing"
- Lyne, David C. "What Are They Saying? A Study of the Jargon of Hilltopping"
- Martin, Charles E. "Parallelisms in Attitude of Vietnam Veterans and Veterans of the Indian Wars Reflected in Memoirs and Oral Traditions"
- Martin, Katherine Rosser. "A Comparative Study of German and Kentucky Moon Beliefs"
- Morse, Michael L. "The Hensley Settlement: An Oral Folk History of Its Material Culture"
- Parker, Ada Carol. "The Cedar Grove Community in Oral Folk History"
- Rufty, Ruby. "The Paper Repertoire of the Students in One Elementary School"
- Sadewasser, Judith. "The Reliability of Selected Weather Beliefs"
- Sheperd, Margaret O. "To Hell for a Heavenly Cause: The Re-Emergence of the Harrowing of Hell Motif in Twentieth Century Literature"
- Stoner, Michael. "If I'd Been Polish, I Guess I'd be Playing Polkas: An Examination of Traditional Irish Music in Rochester, New York"

- Sutherland, David C. "The Little People of Pea Ridge"
- Taylor, Robert Stephen. "Drowned at Turnhole: A Study of Western Kentucky Epitaphs"
- Umberger, Eugene Baker, Jr. "Tobacco Farming: The Persistence of Tradition"
- Walker, Edith C. "Folk Elements in the Fiction of James Still"
- White, Linda C. "I Love to Plough: The Role of Traditional Farm Women in Peytonsburg, Kentucky"
- Willett, E. Henry III. "Baltimore of Mount Pleasant: A Case Study of the Tradition Chanted Sermon in Virginia"
- Zacharias, Dianna. "An Interpretation of the Florida Ex-slaves' Memoirs of Slavery and the Civil War"

SPRING COURSE OFFERINGS IN FOLK STUDIES

462G	Folk medicine	Dr. Feintuch
470G	Museum procedures and techniques (Second bi-term)	Staff of the Kentucky Museum
478G	Folklore in literature	Dr. Clarke
571	Folk narrative	Dr. Clarke
580	Folklore, conversation and communication	Dr. Feintuch

SPRING COURSE OFFERINGS IN RELATED AREAS

Geography		
530	Selected problems in cultural geography: Practicum in folk architecture and historic preservation	Dr. Petersen
Library science		
506	Cataloguing non-book materials	Dr. Guthrie

NOTICES

The editor of Keystone Folklore is seeking manuscripts on material culture and folklore and education. Articles should be submitted to Michael Stoner, Editor, Keystone Folklore, Logan Hall, Box 13, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174.

The editor of the Journal of the Ohio Folklore Society is seeking papers

on traditional architecture, art, craft, and song, ethnic studies, women's folklore, and applied folklore. Manuscripts, and book and record reviews should be submitted to David L. Taylor, Editor, Journal of the Ohio Folklore Society, Ohio University-Zanesville, Newark Road, Zanesville, Ohio 43701.

Barry Taerbaum, a Western Kentucky University graduate student, is interested in any information on narratives pertaining to strong men and heroes, ethnic heroes, and especially Serbian strongman legends. Barry is currently working on an M.A. thesis involving legends he collected in Pennsylvania about Peter Zebich, a Serbian folk hero of incredible strength. Information may be sent to Barry Taerbaum, Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.

THIS NEWSLETTER

This edition of the Folk Studies Society Newsletter was prepared jointly by Vicky Middleswarth, Becky Morse, and Sara Barker. In the future, comments, queries, and suggestions concerning this newsletter should be sent to one of the new co-editors of this newsletter, Becky Morse or Sara Barker, Folk Studies Society Newsletter, Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.

