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WKU Folk Studies Society

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As departing editor of the Folk Studies Society Newsletter, I would like to congratulate Steve Poyser as the new editor of the Newsletter. I am convinced that Steve will do an excellent job; however, he will need the active help and cooperation of all the graduate students in the Folk Studies program in continuing and broadening the quality of the Newsletter. Our newsletter has received many favorable comments from other folklore programs and individual folklorists around the country, and I urge each of you to continue your support.

An orientation meeting for the incoming and continuing graduate students and faculty will be held on Saturday afternoon, August 24th, at 2:00 P.M. All students will be expected to attend this meeting. That evening, there will be an informal get-together to give everyone a chance to meet one another.

Plans are now being made to sponsor a fall meeting of the Kentucky Folklore Society at WKU. The meeting will focus, in part, on the folklore phase-elective courses now offered on the secondary level in the Kentucky school system.
The annual Indiana University Folklore Institute's People's Pig Roast will be held the weekend of May 4th and 5th. For a small fee of $5.00, you get lunch and dinner on Saturday and brunch and feast on Sunday, in addition to all the foamy you can drink, ballgames, continuous music, dancing, hiking, swimming, etc. For further information, contact Steve Poyser.

A Folklore and Popular Culture Conference will be held on Saturday, October 19, 1974 at Salisbury State College, Salisbury, Maryland. Sponsors are the English Department of Salisbury State College, the Maryland Folklore Society, and the Middle Atlantic Chapter of the Popular Culture Association. They welcome papers—including student papers—on regional folklore, popular culture (all aspects), folklore/popular culture criticism, methodology, pedagogy. Please send papers and abstracts prior to Labor Day (September 2) to:

Polly Stewart Deemer
Department of English
Salisbury State College
Salisbury, Maryland 21801

FOLK STUDIES PICNIC:
The Folk Studies Society wishes to thank the Drs. Clarke for donating their farm and efforts for the recent Society picnic. Everyone had a great time.

MASTER'S THESIS:
Guidelines for the Master's Thesis are now available in the Cravens Graduate Center. For more information, contact Chris Jenkins in the Graduate Center.

The following tentative thesis topics were recently announced:
Dave Lyne - The traditional Sport of Fox-Hunting
Steve Poyser - "Coon on a Log" Festival
Steve Johnson - "River of Lost Mills"

TRADITIONAL SONG:
Pege Kohn, Dr. Jim Wayne Miller, and field informants have just completed a program entitled, "The Traditional Folk-song." Early previews of the film show it to be one of the best the department has made to date.

FOLKLORE FORUM:
We still have the following books available for review for the Folklore Forum. Anyone interested in writing a short review for the Forum please see the Newsletter editor. They are:

Linton, E. Lyne. Witch Stories
Bennett, Sir Ernest. Apparitions and Haunted Houses
Spence, Lewis. Atlantis in America
Bardsley, Charles Wareing. Curiosities of Puritan Nomenclature

FACULTY PROJECTS:
The Harvest and the Reapers: Oral Tradition in Kentucky is the title of a volume prepared by Kenneth and Mary Clarke for the Bicentennial Bookshelf series being published by the University Press of Kentucky. The manuscript is now being processed, and the book is scheduled to appear in the fall of 1974.

The work is a brief review of folklore study in Kentucky, beginning with the first organization of Kentucky folklorists in 1912 and extending to the present. The purpose is to acquaint the general reader with some of the principal genres of Kentucky oral traditions and with the people who have collected and studied them.

Dr. Lynwood Montell, besides working on his book on Kentucky folk buildings, is currently engaged in a study of
southern white migrants into the southeastern Michigan area. He is dealing with personal narratives associated with the migrant's decision to leave the South, as well as their initial and subsequent experiences in the city.

FOLKLORE ELECTIVES:

The following courses may be taken as electives under the Folk Studies curriculum:

1. In the fall, Ms. Camilla Collins will be offering a seminar for graduate students. This seminar will meet once a week and will deal with aspects of applying folklore. Interested, enthusiastic students should see Ms. Collins for more information before registration for fall classes.

2. Cultural Geography 430G Dr. Albert Petersen

The course is basically an introductory course in the application of the culture concept to geography. The following ideas are discussed:

1. human cultural and biological evolution—the interrelationship between environment and culture
2. the origins and diffusion of agriculture
3. human environmental perception
4. man as an agent of landscape change

Texts:

Baker, H.C. Plants and Civilization ($3.00)
Tuan, Yi-Fu. Man and Nature ($1.00)
Saarinen, Thomas. Perception of Environment ($1.00)
Gould, Peter. Spatial Diffusion ($1.00)
Lewis, Pierce, et. al. Visual Blight in America ($1.00)

Paper:

One field project to be presented in written form with maps, photographs, etc. (20% of grade).

Field Experiences:

Four or five eating field experiences.
3. Dr. J. Crawford Crowe will offer an evening graduate seminar in Kentucky History. A major portion of the course will focus on major events in Kentucky's history. The course will require one major paper concerning an aspect of Kentucky's heritage.

OTHER NEWS:

Dan Steed is presently assisting Dr. John Oldani at Southern Illinois University with Oldani's folklore courses.

GRADUATING STUDENTS:

Everyone in the department wishes the best of luck and continued success to all of the graduating students in Folk Studies. Please keep in touch and let us know how you're doing.

Also, we wish to thank Annelen Archbold for her efforts in making the Newsletter a success. Ms. Archbold starts work on her Ph.D. at Indiana University in the fall.