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WKU Folk Studies Society

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STUDENT NEWS

Linda White, Michael Stoner, Ira Kohn, and Ruby Rufty completed their degree requirements and were awarded M.A. degrees in August. The titles of their theses are "'I Love to Plow': The Role of Traditional Farm Women in Peytonsburg, Kentucky" (Linda White); "If I'd Been Polish, I Guess I'd Be Playing Polkas: An Examination of the Social Contexts of Traditional Irish Music in Rochester, New York" (Michael Stoner); "The Use of Architectural Drawing in the Documentation of Log Folk Housing" (Ira Kohn); and collection project "The Paper Repertoire of the Students in One Elementary School" (Ruby Rufty).

During the summer, Becky Morse presented weekly campfire programs of traditional music at Mammoth Cave National Park as part of the Mammoth Cave Summer Internship program.

Mary Helen Weldy and David Taylor have had a paper accepted for publication. "The Russellville Girl: A Local Historical Legend" is forthcoming in Kentucky Folklore Record.

David Taylor was recently awarded an NEA Folk Arts Division Grant to produce a long-play record album and descriptive booklet on "The White Eyes Music Club: Traditional Music in Southeastern Ohio."

Four former graduate students will begin full-time jobs this fall. Hank Willett has been chosen to coordinate a folk arts program in the public schools of Decatur, Alabama. David Taylor begins work in September with the Ohio Historical Society as Regional Historic Preservation Officer for southeastern Ohio. David will be conducting a two year survey of local historic sites and teaching a folklore course at Ohio University, Zanesville. Ira Kohn was named Curator of Exhibits at the Kentucky Museum, Bowling Green, in August. Gene Umberger was selected for an internship program in the Rochester Museum and Science Center, Rochester, New York, and will begin work in September.

We welcome sixteen new students into the folklore graduate program this
Their names, undergraduate majors and institutions, and areas of interest are listed below.

Sara Barker
Comparative cultural studies
Goddard College
Plainfield, Vermont
Non-rural folklore; women and folklore; popular culture

Gary Davis
English and folklore
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, Kentucky
Folk housing designs; oral history; folk music

Stuart Downs
History
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampden-Sydney, Virginia
Folk music; consciousness and belief

Libby Hayworth
English
Spalding College
Louisville, Kentucky
Folk literature; oral history

John Hennen
History
Marshall University and West Virginia University
Huntington and Morgantown, West Virginia
Oral history

John Hermanski
German
University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont
Folk music; folk speech

Wayne Howard
English
University of Notre Dame
South Bend, Indiana
Anglo-American folk music; material culture

Lori Kaplan
English
Lewis and Clark College
Portland, Oregon
Folk music; legend

Marian Krontz
Integrated studies
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska
Oral history; museology and folklore
Ed McCurley  
Philosophy B. A.  
Youngstown State University  
Youngstown, Ohio  
Hebrew literature M. A.  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, Kentucky  
Myth and literary criticism; saga and legend

Ronald Morrison  
Biology and anthropology  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Folk technology, folktale

Becky Morse  
English  
Furman University  
Greenville, South Carolina  
Folk music; oral history

Kathleen Marie Nelson  
History  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Folktale; folk medicine

Barry Taerbaum  
Folklore  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, Pennsylvania  
Ethnic folklore (Serbian)

Susan U. Tatum  
History and anthropology  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Legend; herbs and edible plants

Gayle Waggoner  
Spanish and history  
University of Nebraska  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Latin American folklore; oral history

FACULTY NEWS

Lyn Montell attended several folklore-related conferences this summer.  
He lectured on folklore and the job market, oral history research and regional  
folklore, and death and the folk mind at the Seminar in American Folklore  
sponsored by the University of Virginia, and discussed the effect of the urban  
environment on the folklore of transplanted Southern whites at Wayne State  
University's Conference on Ethnicity.  
Dr. Montell also presented a program on
oral legendry at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park and served as consultant for the Alice Lloyd College oral history program.

Lana Flynn, secretary for the Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies for three years, has taken a new position with the Department of English. We wish her the best of luck in the future. We welcome Valerie Kinder, who has been chosen to fill the vacant position left by Lana's departure.

CONVENTIONS AND OTHER EVENTS

The American Folklore Society will hold its annual convention in Philadelphia, November 10-14. Several Western students and faculty members will be presenting papers. Mary Helen Weldy and David Taylor will present "Gone But Not Forgotten: A Study of a Traditional Tombstone Carver and His Craft" in a panel on "Folk Painting and Sculpture." Camilla Collins will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of including videotape experience in the graduate curriculum in a workshop on "Folklore on Videotape." Burt Feintuch will read a paper entitled "Negotiating the Performance Frame: A Musical Example" in a panel on "New Approaches in Folklore Studies." Arrangements for transportation from Bowling Green to Philadelphia will be handled by the Folk Studies Society. Registration fees are $7.50 for AFS members, $6.00 for students, and $8.50 for non-members.

The Tennessee Folklore Society will hold its annual meeting on October 29-30 at Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee.

On Friday, October 15, the University will sponsor a reception for the Western faculty members who have written Kentucky Bicentennial Bookshelf books. Five of the nine authors and illustrators to be honored are former and present folk studies faculty and graduates of the program. Dr. Mary Washington Clarke (former faculty member) wrote Kentucky Quilts and Their Makers; Dr. Kenneth Clarke and Ira Kohn (recent graduate of the program) wrote and illustrated Kentucky's Age of Wood; Dr. Lynwood Montell and Mike Morse (recent graduate of the program) wrote and illustrated Kentucky Folk Architecture; and Drs. Kenneth and Mary Washington Clarke wrote The Harvest and the Reapers. A brochure describing the Kentucky Bicentennial Bookshelf is available from The University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40506.

Margaret MacArthur, a noted performer of traditional music from Marlboro, Vermont, will be performing on Thursday, September 16, at 7:30 P.M. in Garrett Conference Center, Room 103. Ms. MacArthur appears frequently on the east coast circuit and is best known for her dulcimer and harp playing. She will be presenting a varied program which will include regional folksongs from Kentucky and Vermont.

The Kentucky Museum will sponsor a quilting competition for junior and senior quilters during Homecoming weekend. Entries will be displayed on the museum lawn on November 6, and winning entries will be exhibited in the museum November 6-24. Details may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.
FOLK STUDIES SOCIETY NEWS

The Folk Studies Society held its first meeting on Tuesday, August 31. Discussion included possible program topics and reorganization of committees. The group voted to meet on Wednesday evenings; a tentative schedule of this semester's events may be obtained by writing to this newsletter.

On Wednesday, September 22, Dr. Jack Miller of Western's Department of Anthropology will speak on Creole dialects. Dr. Saundra Ivey, professor of folklore and English at Fisk University, Nashville, will lecture to the society on Wednesday, September 29.

FALL COURSE OFFERINGS

477G Folk art and technology Dr. Montell
570 Appalachian folklore and folklife Dr. Miller
576 American traditional song Dr. Feintuch
577 Techniques and materials in folklore Dr. Clarke
578 Fieldwork and oral history Drs. Feintuch and Montell

THIS NEWSLETTER

Comments, queries, and suggestions concerning this newsletter should be sent to Vicky Middleswarth, Folk Studies Society Newsletter, Center for Intercultural and Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.

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