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WKU Folk Studies Society

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FOLK STUDIES SOCIETY NEWS

On October 5 Carl Fleischhauer, Media Specialist with the American Folklife Center, discussed the production of Cold Frosty Morning, an album of traditional tunes from Braxton County, West Virginia, performed by Melvin Wine. Recent research projects of the Center in Georgia and Illinois and the use of still photography were also discussed at this meeting.

Dr. Archie Green presented a lecture on October 12 concerning the historical development of folklore in the public sector. Dr. Green, noted for his book Only A Miner and for his work in organizing the American Folklife Center, is teaching this semester at the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky.

On October 13 Charles Kuralt, CBS News correspondent, presented a university-wide lecture entitled "America Behind the Headlines." In the afternoon prior to the lecture, Mr. Kuralt met in a special session with the folklore graduate students and faculty members to discuss his work as it relates to the field of folklore. He answered questions concerning his methods of locating stories, his views of his relationships and responsibilities regarding the people he interviews, and the availability of his filmed stories for academic research.

FACULTY NEWS

Burt Feintuch and Bruce Green have received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Kentucky Arts Commission for the production of a set of records of traditional music from south central Kentucky. The records will be mainly available for local distribution. Material will be drawn primarily from the WKU Folklore, Folklife, and Oral History Archive. The American Folklife Center is lending audio equipment for use in additional field recording. The grants are being administered by the Bowling Green-Warren County Arts Commission.

Lynwood Montell chaired the session "Folklore Research Among Euro-Americans" at the 25th annual meeting of the American Society for Ethnology held at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel in Chicago, October 13-16. Other sessions at this meeting included ethnohistorical perspectives on Native Americans, Afro-Americans, and related theoretical topics.

On September 20 Dr. Montell participated in a symposium on Oral History sponsored by the Mississippi Historical Society, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the Mississippi Library Commission. He made two formal presentations during the meeting.
Marilyn White was a discussant on the panel for "Folklore and Literature" at the annual meeting of the Association of African and Afro-American Folklorists held at Indiana University in Bloomington on October 20-22. Marilyn also presented a lecture on "Folklore and Genealogy" on September 28 to a campus-wide audience of undergraduates. The lecture was sponsored by McCormack Hall, a women's dormitory on campus.

STUDENT NEWS

Ben Vincent and Gayle Waggoner recently completed degree requirements for an M.A. in Folk Studies. The titles of their theses are "The Price of Folk: The Progression of Two Decoy Makers' Work From Folk to Non-Folk" (Ben Vincent); and "'They Made Us Dance in the Pig Trough': Mrs. Blanche Storey's Oral Accounts of Dating, Courtship, and Related Attitudes in North Central Nebraska, 1885-1910" (Gayle Waggoner).

Two M.A. candidates in Folk Studies were recently employed in folklore related positions. Stuart Downs was named Curator of the James Madison Museum in Orange County, Virginia. Lori Kaplan accepted the position of Interpreter at two of the three sites administered by Sleepy Hollow Restorations in Sunnyside, New York.

Ruby Rufty, a recent graduate of the Folk Studies program, has accepted the position of Folk Arts Coordinator in the Dothan, Alabama public schools.

Marian Krontz, an M.A. candidate, presented a paper, "Leaving No Stone Unturned: Procedures and Techniques of Cemetery Cleaning and Restoration," at the annual meeting of the Pioneer America Society in Akron, Ohio on September 30. Her paper was supplemented by a slide presentation.

Becky Morse and Barry Taerbaun gave papers at the 25th annual meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory during the session for Euro-Americans. Becky's paper was entitled "Utilization of Personal Experience Narratives in Reconstructing Lifestyles in Early Twentieth Century Tinsley Bottom, Tennessee," and Barry's was "Peter Zebich: Contemporary Serbian Folk Hero."

Two students are teaching undergraduate courses in the Intercultural and Folk Studies department this semester. Ed McCurley, an M.A. candidate, is teaching American Negro Culture in the Afro-American Studies curriculum. Dr. Jim Brown, a new graduate student, is conducting a course in Folk and Popular Literature. Jim is a history professor at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

Barbara Taylor, an M.A. candidate, wrote an article entitled "Freeman Kitchens and the Kitchens Collection" which was published in the Spring issue of the Kentucky Folklore Record.

The Folk Studies department welcomes the following students into the graduate program:

LuAnn Bombard
Anoka, Minnesota
B.A. in Anthropology from Ohio State University, Columbus

Jim Brown
Birmingham, Alabama
B.A. from Tennessee Technological University
M.A. and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in History
Special interests: material culture
Molly Collins
Indianapolis, Indiana
B.A. in Integrated Studies from University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Special interests: German-Russian studies, foodways, and Native American Literature

Mary Cook
Beaver Dam, Kentucky
Nursing degree from Brescia College, Owensboro, Kentucky
Special interests: folk medicine and folk religion

Susan Dyer
Richmond, Indiana (current resident of Nashville, Tennessee)
B.A. in Physical Education and Psychology from David Lipscomb College, Nashville
Special interests: material culture

Liz Harzoff
Ann Arbor, Michigan
B.A. in Studio Art and Folklore from Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts
Special interests: folk music and material culture

Denis Kiely
B.A. in English from University of Maryland, College Park
Special interests: folk music, material culture and architecture

Michael Korn
Northridge, California
B.A. in Anthropology from California State University at Northridge
Special interests: Appalachian studies, American folk music, Applied folklore and documentation techniques

Keith Ludden
Lincoln, Nebraska
B.L.A. from Nebraska Wesleyan
Special interests: oral history and folk music

John Marshall
Paducah, Kentucky
B.A. in History and Political Science from Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky

Bob McNevin
Shawnee Mission, Kansas
B.S. in Park Administration and Recreation from University of Missouri
M.Div. from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana

Judy Morgan
Gallatin, Tennessee
M.A. in Spanish from Vanderbilt University, Nashville

Marty Ostrofsky
Brooklyn, New York
B.A. in Economics, English and Computer Science from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York

Judith Schottenfeld
Newark, New Jersey
B.A. in Anthropology from Seton Hall University
OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

The August issue of the North Carolina Folklore Journal is a special issue devoted to the artisans and artists of Southern Appalachia. This issue of the journal is an unbound catalog containing photographs and brief descriptions of traditional arts and crafts as well as the artists and craftspersons.

Two recent projects of the Center for Southern Folklore are American Folklore Films & Videotapes: An Index, and Ray Lum: Mule Trader. The Index is a 350 page soft cover book listing over 1000 film titles, indexed and annotated, with 170 photograph illustrations. Ray Lum: Mule Trader, a multimedia package, includes a film, film transcript, longplaying record, record transcript, essay, and book (forthcoming). For further information, write Center for Southern Folklore, P.O. Box 4081, Memphis, Tennessee 38104.

The next issue of Folklore Forum Bibliographic and Special Series will be a volume on "Sources on Folk Museums and Living Historical Farms." Anyone interested in this volume who is not a subscriber may receive it by ordering directly from Eleanor Wachs, Editor, Folklore Forum, 504 North Fess Street, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47401.

THIS NEWSLETTER

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