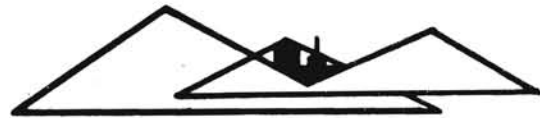


NEWS

LETTER



APPALACHIAN CENTER
BEREA COLLEGE

Loyal Jones • Thomas Parrish, Co-Editors

Vol. 7 No. 4 Fall 1978

Weatherford Alert

The ninth annual W.D. Weatherford Award competition is still under way -- but all nominations must be made by December 31. The \$500 award, sponsored by Berea's Appalachian Center and Hutchins Library, goes each year to the "writer of the work published anywhere in the United States which, in the opinion of the judges, best illustrates the problems, personalities and unique qualities of the Appalachian South." It can be a book or a shorter piece, fact, fiction or poetry. Anybody who can read a book may make a nomination. But time is short. So let us hear from you. You don't have to send the work; just give us the name and source. Nominations go to Thomas Parrish, Chairman of the Award Committee, CPO 2336, Berea, Ky. 40404.

Help for Oral Historians

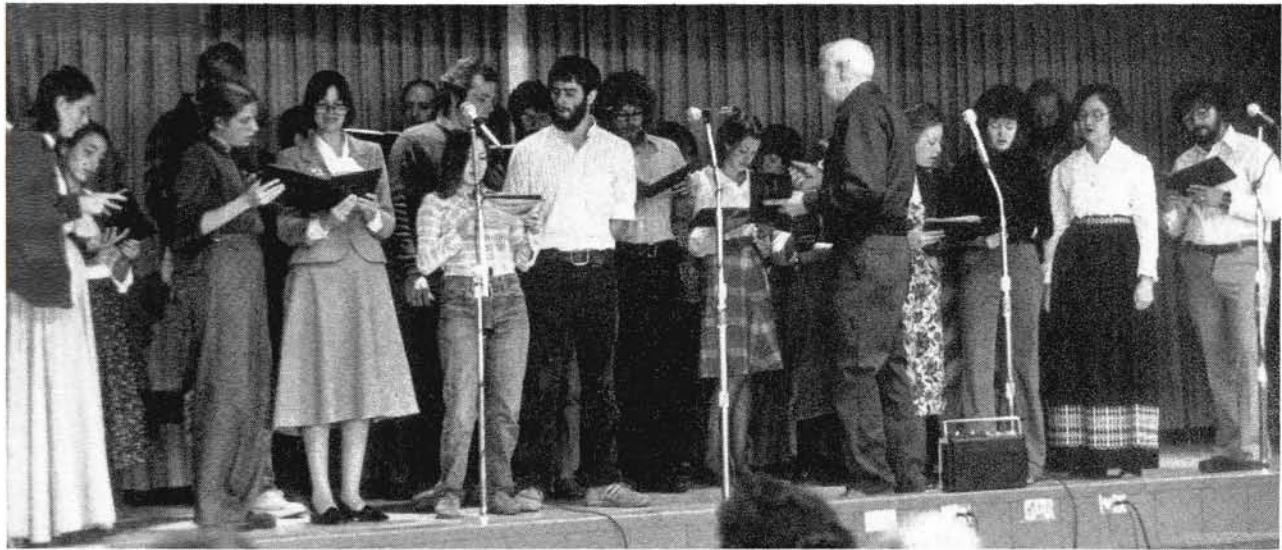
What do *Tsim Tsim*, *Salt*, *Peenie Wallie* and *Mountain Trace* have in common? Answer: They're all student-produced oral-history magazines past to page 3

Mountain Tour

Every year Berea College conducts an enterprise that is drily referred to in official memoranda as the "annual fall staff orientation tour." The purpose is said to be to give new staff members an opportunity to visit several places in Eastern Kentucky and to talk with a variety of mountain people, many of them Berea alumni. Typically, the group visits a clinic, a settlement school or two, a college, a community center, a coal-mining site and various citizens. Behind the stated purpose of the trip is the idea that newcomers to the staff will benefit from beginning to develop a first-hand knowledge of Appalachia and the people who live in it and will not only be able to work more effectively with Berea students but will be more appreciative of the assets that students bring with them to Berea.

The pictures on this page and page 4 were taken on this year's tour, which was held October 14-16. At left, June Buchanan, president of the Caney Community Center (the parent organization of Alice Lloyd College) is shown beside a portrait of herself. At right, Gerald Munoff, a new member of the Berea to page 4





Sunday morning hymn sing

Traditional Music -- Seeing Is Believing

"You gotta see it to believe it!"

That comment, which came from somewhere in the crowd that was pushing its way out of Berea's Phelps-Stokes Chapel after the Saturday night session of this year's Celebration of Traditional Music, seemed to sum up what everybody felt. It was a charged-up crowd, most of its members ready to move on to dancing and jamming sessions across campus and impatient for Sunday's events.

You not only had to see it, of course, you had to hear it too -- but there was something special about being present with the live performers, particularly when they and members of the audience joined together in a fiddling, clogging finale.

This year's celebration, supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, was No. 5 in the series, which already seems to have developed a special standing in the world of traditional music. In

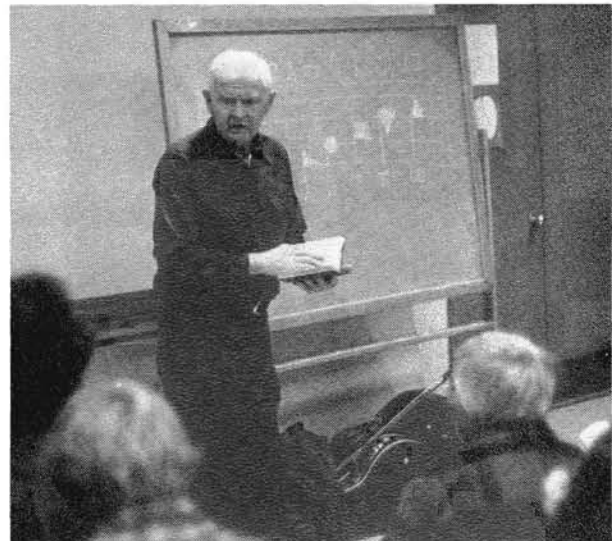
addition to the two musical evenings, the program included workshops (hammered dulcimer, plucked dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle and shape-note singing) and a symposium, "Traditional Roots of Country Music," led by Bill C. Malone, Tulane history professor who is the author of *Country Music U.S.A.* Other events included a concert appearance by blues singer Buddy Moss, folk dancing, varied singing and playing on Saturday afternoon, Sunday hymn singing and a college chapel performance by the Foddrell Brothers.

Special guest performers were Grandpa and Ramona Jones and their daughter Alisa, and pioneer radio country singer Bradley Kincaid. Other performers were Lewis and Donna Lamb, Paint Lick, Ky.; Berzilla Wallin and Dellie Norton, Madison County, N.C.; Elmer Bird, Hurricane, W.Va.; Wry Straw (John McCutcheon, Rich Kirby and Tom

Carroll Best-Mack Snodderly-Leonard Hollifield



Quay Smathers leads shape-note workshop





Bradley Kincaid



Buddy Moss and Grandpa Jones swap musical ideas

Bledsoe), Dungannon, Va.; Cliff Carlisle, Lexington, Ky.; Betty Smith, Marietta, Ga.; Carroll Best and Mack Snodderly, Haywood County, N.C.; Philip Kazez, Oneida, Tenn.; Sheila Rice, Madison

County, N.C.; Jack Wright and Marion Sumner, Letcher County, Ky.; David Morris, Ivydale, W.Va.; and the Dutch Cove Old-Time String Band, Canton, N.C.

from page 1

turned after *Foxfire*. *Tsim Tsim* is published in Haiti, *Salt* in Maine, *Peenie Wallie* in Jamaica and *Mountain Trace* in Parkersburg, W.Va. If you're interested in the last named, you can get a copy for \$2.50 by writing the magazine at Parkersburg High School, 2101 Dudley Avenue (ZIP 26101).

If your interest is deeper than that -- for instance, if you've been thinking about the possibility of launching something like this yourself -- you may be interested to learn that Kenneth Gilbert, one of the advisers of *Mountain Trace*, has written a guide to the whole process. Called *Collecting and Preserving Oral History*, it is available to readers of this NEWSLETTER for \$1.00 plus 25 cents postage. Write us at the address on the last page.

Other help for budding oral historians has come along, too. Columbia University's Oral History Office has recently announced the creation of three oral-history kits, containing articles, brochures, samples, etc. You can write Box 20, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. 10027.

Dance Lady

Sibyl Clark is a lady with one great concern -- to get folks to folk-dance. She's been conducting traditional-dance parties and workshops for 30 years, first in her native England and more recently in the United States. Currently based in the Berea College recreation extension program, with support from the Kentucky Arts Council and the National Endowment

for the Arts, she welcomes applications for one-night parties and week-long workshops. If you'd like to take advantage of a unique opportunity, contact either Mrs. Clark or John Ramsay at CPO 287, Berea, Ky. 40404.

Kazez Memorial Album

A new album of the music of Buell Kazez, Eastern Kentucky preacher and highly acclaimed ballad singer and banjo picker, is available through the efforts of the Appalachian Center and June Appal Records of Whitesburg, Ky. When the Rev. Mr. Kazez died in 1976, Jonathan Greene (Gnomon Press) and Loyal Jones went to work collecting tapes that might be suitable for an album, winding up with 35 tapes and cassettes. Most of the numbers on the album came from recordings by Mark Wilson in Buell's home and at a Seattle concert. Sound and editing is by John McCutcheon, Jack Wright and Jeff Kiser. Generous biographical and musical notes are by Loyal Jones and William Tallmadge, and the design is by Jonathan Greene. The album includes 13 numbers -- long ballads, banjo pieces and hymns, such as *The Lady Gay*; *The Roving Cowboy*; *The Orphan Girl*; *Roll On, John*; and *O, Thou in Whose Presence*. We are proud of this memorial to a fine musician; it is available at \$6.00 postpaid from the Appalachian Center, CPO 2336, Berea, Ky. 40404.

Also available from the Center is *Old Timey Fiddle Music* by the legendary fiddler Marcus Martin (\$3.00 postpaid).



from page 1

library staff, is dwarfed by the immensity of a mining scene. On the back page, tour members chat at Pine Mountain Settlement School with environmentalist Mary Rogers. This year's trip also took in Dr. Paul Maddox's Campton Clinic, the Hindman Settlement School, the Hollybush Old Regular Baptist Church, the Everts Community Center in Harlan County, and visits with a number of residents of the area. One Berea alumnus (Jack Masters -- '58) overtook the tour bus in Cumberland Gap and waved it over, so that he could find out first-hand just how things are back at the Alma Mater. To some tour members, the gesture seemed to symbolize the college's impact in the region.

EYE on Publications

Dialogue With a Dead Man, by Jim Wayne Miller (Green River Press). A republication of a book of poems that first appeared in 1974. The poet, one of Appalachia's more protean literary figures, talks about his youth in western North Carolina.

The New Harp of Columbia, by M.L. Swan (University of Tennessee Press). A shape-note songbook first published in 1867 and based on an even earlier publication. This facsimile edition is introduced by Dorothy D. Horn, Ron Petersen and Candra Phillips.

Daughter of the Hills, by Myra Page (Persea Books). A paperback reissue of a novel originally published in 1950; the author contributes a 1977 preface. The book bears the subtitle "A Woman's Part in the Coal Miners' Struggle," and we are told that the people in the story bear a very definite relationship to actual persons. The protagonist, says the author, was as close to her as a sister.

Harlan Miners Speak (Da Capo Press). Still another reissue, this one of the famous 1932 "Report on Terrorism in the Kentucky Coal Fields Prepared by Members of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners," of which Theodore Dreiser, John Dos Passos and Sherwood Anderson were members.

The Strip Mine Hand Book (Center for Law and Social Policy/Environmental Policy Institute). A slim paperback described as a "citizen's guide to the new federal surface mining law." It is designed to help citizens monitor mining activities under the new interim (till 1980) surface mining control and reclamation act. "The law won't work unless citizens make it work," the authors observe; it gives the public important rights, such as the right to accompany an inspector on mine property.

Tennessee: A Short History, by Stanley J. Folsbee, Robert E. Corlew and Enoch L. Mitchell (University of Tennessee Press). The third printing of a work that first appeared in 1969. Written by historians from three Tennessee schools (respectively, the University of Tennessee, Middle Tennessee and Memphis State), the book chronicles the Volunteer State from the coming of the first Paleo-Indian to the rise of Howard Baker.

Harlan County Flood Report, by Jerry Hardt (Appalachia--Science in the Public Interest). As soon as the water went down after the April 1977 flood, cries were heard that strip mining was largely to blame. The author takes a look at the accusation and says, to put it briefly, that it's so: "the charges of the mountain people that surface mining increased the levels of the 1977 floods have been scientifically examined and proven." He also presents ways to prevent such disasters in the future.

(NOTE: The Appalachian Center does not sell books. If you have any difficulty in obtaining a particular book, we suggest that you contact the Council of the Southern Mountains Bookstore, CPO 2106, Berea, Ky. 40404.)

TO LIBRARIANS: The summer 1978 issue of the CENTER NEWSLETTER incorrectly bore the designation Vol. 7, No. 2. It should have read No. 3.

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