



# American Folklore Society News

DECEMBER 2003/Volume 32, Number 6

## ***AFS Begins Search for the Next Journal of American Folklore Editor***

Elaine Lawless of the University of Missouri, the current editor of the *Journal of American Folklore*, will be stepping down at the end of her term in late 2005. The American Folklore Society's Executive Board thanks Dr. Lawless for her outstanding service to our field, and now invites proposals from candidates for the editorship of the *Journal*.

The *Journal*, published continuously since 1888, is one of the most prestigious and respected journals in the field of folklore. The *Journal* publishes articles, reviews, notes, and opinion pieces on folklore and folklore study throughout the world. The American Folklore Society is the owner of the *Journal*; since 2002, the University of Illinois Press has published the *Journal* for the Society.

*Journal* editors customarily serve for a five-year period, working in concert with:

- Student assistants to help administer the manuscript review and editing process
- An editorial board, chosen by the editor, which provides counsel and outreach to the field
- Four review editors (for books, sound recordings, films and videos, and exhibitions and other public presentations) who are responsible for their parts of the *Journal*
- The AFS Publications Committee, which provides advice on publications policies
- The staff of the Journals Division of the University of Illinois Press, who take the *Journal* from final manuscript to finished publication
- The AFS Executive Board and Executive Director, to whom the editor provides a report each year

The editor has final authority and responsibility for the contents of the *Journal*, including absolute authority to accept, edit, and reject manuscripts. The editor's decisions in this area are not subject to review by any AFS officer or employee.

A successful candidate for the editorship will provide evidence of:

- Excellent writing skills
- Strong editorial experience
- Secure commitments of institutional support for the costs of operating the editor's office, including some appropriate combination of space, equipment, supplies, student assistants, and release time
- Extensive knowledge of the field, and a strong reputation within it
- Strong organizational and deadline-meeting abilities

**Editor:** *Timothy Lloyd*, American Folklore Society, Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 1501 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201-2602 USA; 614/292-3375; fax 614/292-2407; e-mail [lloyd.100@osu.edu](mailto:lloyd.100@osu.edu)

**President:** *Jack Santino*, Department of Popular Culture, 108 Popular Culture Building, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403

**President-Elect:** *Michael Owen Jones*, Department of World Arts and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095

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**Publications Committee:** *Judy McCulloh*, Chair; see address above

**Editor, *Journal of American Folklore*:** *Elaine J. Lawless*, English Department, 107 Tate Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211; [jalf@missouri.edu](mailto:jalf@missouri.edu)

**Membership Dues, Address Changes, or Forms:** *Timothy Lloyd*, see address above

**AFS Services by E-mail:** For all annual meeting, media, membership, subscription, or other inquiries, contact the AFS office at [lloyd.100@osu.edu](mailto:lloyd.100@osu.edu).

**AFS Website:** [www.afsnet.org](http://www.afsnet.org)

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- Excellent communication and persuasive skills, including the ability to be proactive in acquiring excellent submissions for the *Journal*

Candidacies will be strengthened by compelling statements of editorial vision for the *Journal*; confirmation of significant institutional support (e.g., release time for the editor, financial support of a half-time managing editor, and the like); and a clear description of the ways that the presence of the *Journal* will help the institution's folklore program reach its own goals.

The Society provides an annual amount (currently \$3,500) to the *Journal*'s editorial office to help offset operating expenses, including postage, supplies, student assistance, and travel to the AFS annual meeting to do acquisitions work.

The Executive Board has approved an agreement (which it will ask the editorial candidate it selects to sign) that describes the mutual responsibilities of the editor, the Society, and the University of Illinois Press. Candidates interested in reviewing this document, or the Society's present agreement with the University of Illinois Press to publish the *Journal*, should request copies from the AFS Executive Director's office.

We also encourage candidates to contact current editor Elaine Lawless ([lawlesse@missouri.edu](mailto:lawlesse@missouri.edu)) or (to ask about *JAF* business matters) AFS Executive Director Timothy Lloyd (see contact information below) with their questions.

To apply, candidates should submit a letter articulating their vision for the *Journal*, detailing their accomplishments and abilities in the six areas listed above, and describing the commitment of their institution to support of the editorial office. Please include a current CV with this letter, as well as a letter from the relevant institutional official confirming the commitment of resources to the editor's office for a five-year period.

The deadline for submitting applications to AFS Executive Director Timothy Lloyd (Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 1501 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201-2602; [lloyd.100@osu.edu](mailto:lloyd.100@osu.edu)) is *March 1, 2004*. Please submit materials in both hard copy and electronic (Microsoft Word) versions. The AFS Executive Board plans to select the next editor no later than October 2004, to allow for a full year of transition time to the new editorship.

## *AFS 2003 Annual Meeting Summary*

This year's annual meeting, which took place at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque and La Posada de Albuquerque hotels, brought 709 registrants—the largest number to participate in an AFS annual meeting since the Centennial meetings of 1988 and 1989—to New Mexico for 191 paper sessions, plenary events, forums, workshops, film screenings, section meetings and special invited lectures, professional development sessions, receptions, tours, and other special events between October 8 and 12.

This year's meeting featured plenary addresses by New Mexico ethnographer Jack Loeffler, Fellows lecturer Barre Toelken of Utah State University, and AFS President Jack Santino of Bowling Green State University, as well as a plenary session on world perspectives on folklore and intellectual property, featuring presentations by Wend Wendland of the World Intellectual Property Organization, Rhonda Griffiths of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and Gigi Sohn of Public Knowledge. Barry Jean Ancelet, David Hufford, Goffredo Plastino, and Margaret Randall also delivered section-sponsored addresses during the meeting.

The meeting was enlivened by pre-conference Pueblo and Santa Fe tours; by a number of receptions hosted by AFS, by academic programs in folklore, by the *Journal of American Folklore*, and by the National Hispanic Cultural Center; by Saturday night dinner and dance parties held at the M&J Sanitary Tortilla Factory and the historic El Rey Theater, respectively; and by several nighttime musical sessions in the later evening hours.

At the October 12 opening ceremony, Edward D. ("Sandy") Ives of the University of Maine received the first-ever Kenneth Goldstein Award for Lifetime Academic Leadership; Alan Jabbour, formerly of the American Folklife Center, was given the Benjamin A. Botkin Prize; Wanda Addison of the University of Louisiana-Lafayette received the Zora Neale Hurston Prize, and Norma Cantú of the University of Texas, San Antonio, was awarded the Américo Paredes Prize. A number of AFS section prizes were awarded at the meeting; their recipients will be noted in the next *AFSN*.

The participation of many special stipend recipients strengthened our meeting as well:

*Community Scholar Stipend Recipients:* Charles Aguilar, Duane Hollow Horn Bear, Steven Begay, India Comosona, Terri Crissman, Lani Kyea, Ulysses Reid, Christine Sims, Larry Torres, George Tutor, and Philip Tuwaletstiwa

*Gerald A. Davis Travel Fund Recipients:* Aunya Bird, Sharon Clarke, Maria Carmen Gambliel, Elvin Holt, Jing Li, Margaret Magat, Rosaleen Nhlekisana, and Scheri Smith

*Archie Green Student Travel Award Recipients:* Louis Holwerk, Darcy Minter, Tim Prizer, Lisa Rathje Taylor, and Rachel Reynolds

*International Travel Fund Recipients:* Ekaterina Belousova, Olena Boryak, Felipe Ortega, and Mojca Ramsak

The AFS thanks the members of the 2003 program committee (Betsy Peterson and Claude Stephenson, co-chairs; Andrew Connors, Miguel Gandert, Joyce Ice, Enrique Lamadrid, Kathleen E.B. Manley, An Paden, Wade Patterson, and Marta Weigle) for their service well beyond the call of duty; and the AFS Public Programs Section, the Fund for Folk Culture, the Museum of International Folk Art, and the National Hispanic Cultural Center for their generous financial support of various meeting activities. We are grateful, too, for the efforts of all meeting participants—especially session

chairs, special speakers, and section conveners—to make the meeting intellectually stimulating and socially lively.

We have special debts of gratitude to Claude Stephenson for all his extra efforts on our tours and special events; to Betsy Peterson, executive director of the Fund for Folk Culture, and Laura Marcus, program associate at the Fund, for all their work with us to make possible to first-ever set of professional development sessions for students and new professionals held at an AFS meeting; and to the National Endowment for the Arts for providing the funding that made the sessions possible. A great many of you attended or presented in these sessions, and we are now reviewing your evaluations to help us decide what sessions to present next year. We intend to make such sessions a regular part of our meetings.

We also want to add our thanks to the 69 of you (about 10% of those who attended the meeting) who returned our annual meeting evaluation questionnaire (the first of its kind); your responses to our questions and your many thoughtful recommendations will be an important help as we work to improve our annual meeting each year.

Circumstances at the host hotel, the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, made necessary the scheduling of some 2003 annual meeting sessions this year at another hotel one block away. Based on your responses to our post-meeting evaluation, almost no one approved of continuing this practice. Next year in Salt Lake City, all annual meeting sessions will be held in the host hotel, and as we seek out hotels for future meetings we will insist on sufficient meeting space under one roof.

We also experimented this year with an additional, late afternoon block of session time, as a way of avoiding Sunday morning sessions or more sessions at a second hotel. We asked you about this experiment in the post-meeting questionnaire, in the context of a broader question about how AFS should respond to the challenge of reviewing and scheduling the continually increasing number of proposals for annual meeting presentations.

About 45% of those responding suggested that we retain the late afternoon sessions, and about one-third recommended more stringent jurying of proposals, including but not limited to stricter adherence to the “two presentations-per-presenter” maximum that has been on the books for some time but rarely enforced in recent years. The Executive Board and I, along with the 2004 program committee, will be discussing these challenges over the next month. Our goal is to draft new policies and procedures by January 1, to be shared with you for your comments before we finalize them by February for the Salt Lake City meeting next year.

*(Note: Portions of this piece were based on the summary report of the AFS 2003 annual meeting survey returns prepared by AFS office assistant Christy Williams. If you are interested in a copy of her report, please contact the AFS office.)*

Timothy Lloyd  
Executive Director

### ***AFS Again Offers Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award in 2004***

In 2004, the AFS will again present its Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award, given for the first time in 2002 to W.F.H. Nicolaisen of the University of Aberdeen. The award recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement by a living senior scholar over the course of a career. The AFS will honor the awardee at our next annual meeting in Salt Lake City with a prize amount of \$500, a medal, and lifetime membership in the Society. To nominate a candidate for the award, submit four copies of a cover letter and supporting materials detailing the rationale for putting forward the candidate's name no later than *February 15, 2004*, to Timothy Lloyd, Executive Director, American

Folklore Society, Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 1501 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201-2602 USA. Supporting materials should include a CV or a list of degrees; scholarly positions; publications and other scholarly productions; professional and university service; and awards, grants, and honors. Other materials in the nominating package (which should total no more than 25 pages) may include reviews of prominent works, letters and articles from major scholars attesting to the nominee's contributions and achievements, and the texts of awards or honors the nominee has previously received.

### ***AFS Offers Stipends for Travel to Meetings Abroad***

The AFS International Issues Committee announces the availability of two \$500 stipends for AFS members traveling from North America to attend a meeting abroad. Applications are particularly encouraged from members lacking institutional support for travel. Members may receive the stipend only once. Because of the variability of conference deadlines, this year's cycle will cover meetings held between June 30th, 2003 and August 31, 2004 (please note, then, that you may be eligible for a conference you have already attended). Applications are due on *December 15th, 2003*.

The purpose of the stipends is to foster increased international communication, collaboration, and awareness among the AFS membership. In judging applications, therefore, we consider not only how the proposed travel will benefit the individual but also the benefit to accrue to the Society and the field. Stipend recipients are expected to submit a 500-word report on the meeting for publication in the *AFSNews*.

Criteria are flexible, but favor

- Meetings in regions where AFS has had relatively little involvement
- Meetings featuring forms of disciplinary practice that are less familiar to AFS members
- Meetings likely to foster a significant disciplinary contribution to major international issues
- Applicants at earlier stages of their careers
- Applicants lacking significant institutional travel support or frequent opportunities to travel abroad
- Applicants likely to pursue ongoing international collaborations as a result of attending the meeting abroad
- Applicants likely to bring new international participants into the AFS as a result of attending the meeting
- Applicants likely to share what they have learned abroad with colleagues in North America

Your letter (ca. 2 pages) should explain what the meeting is, its date and location, the paper or presentation you will contribute to it, and the relevance of your application to the criteria above. Please send your letter with a brief C.V. (as a Word or .rtf or text attachment) to Dorothy Noyes at [noyes.10@osu.edu](mailto:noyes.10@osu.edu).

### ***Meeting News***

The *Vitas Film and Folklore Festival* Committee invites you to participate in its 2004 Festival Competition, to be held on May 7-8 on the UCLA campus in Westwood, California. The Festival is sponsored by the UCLA Folklore Society and the UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures.

The Festival committee will accept local, national, and international ethnographic films in traditional or unconventional formats. The purpose of the festival is to explore aspects of culture through a variety of lenses, to examine documentary film techniques, and to share these explorations with diverse communities. The deadline for submissions is *January 31, 2004*. Visit our web site at [www.studentgroups.ucla.edu/folklore](http://www.studentgroups.ucla.edu/folklore) for more details.

The *California Folklore Society* will hold its 2004 annual meeting on April 2-4 on the campus of the California State University, Northridge. Please send abstracts of papers for submission to the annual meeting program by *February 15, 2004*, to the CFS 2004 Organizing Committee, Department of Anthropology, California State University-Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330-8244. For information, contact Jaynie Rabb at [sm32646@csun.edu](mailto:sm32646@csun.edu) or 310/396-2998.

For the first time, the *International Society of Contemporary Legend Research* will be holding its annual conference in Wales. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Contemporary Legend conference is going to be held in sunny seaside resort town of Aberystwyth 21-24 July 2004, hosted by the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. Founded in 1872, Aberystwyth was the first university institution to be established in Wales. Today, it has over 7,000 registered students, including over 1,100 postgraduates across eighteen academic departments.

Several special events are being planned during this conference including a day trip to Hay-on-Wye—the bibliophile's Disney World, a gorgeous village which is home to an unbelievable number of used bookstores; a visit to Machynlleth, where Owain Glyndwr built Wales' first parliament and currently houses the Celtica multi-media exhibit; and a tour of the National Library of Wales, with specific attention to its rare manuscript collection. And, as a university town in the UK, there is a never-ending supply of public houses.

The conference fee is set at £50 (£70 for non-members and £10 for registered students), which includes the Conference Dinner. Accommodation has been arranged in Rosser and Penbryn Halls at a rate of £34.75 (en-suite, including breakfast and lunch) or £25.30 (standard, including breakfast and lunch). Other rates may be available upon request. Other accommodation can be arranged independently; visit [www.aber.ac.uk/overnight.shtml](http://www.aber.ac.uk/overnight.shtml).

Proposals for papers on all aspects of “contemporary,” “urban,” or “modern” legend research are sought, as are those on any legend or legend-like traditions that circulate actively at present or have circulated at an earlier historical period. Previous discussions have ranged in focus from the ancient to the modern (including Internet-lore) and have covered diverse cultures worldwide (including our own academic world).

The 2004 meeting will be organized as a series of seminars at which the majority of those who attend will present papers and/or contribute to discussion sessions. Concurrent sessions will be avoided where possible so that all participants can hear all or most of the papers. Proposals for special panels of papers, discussion sessions and other related events are encouraged. Because of anticipated interest in this year's conference participants are advised that we may be unable to guarantee the customary 45 minutes for each presentation and shorter papers will be welcomed.

To participate in the conference please contact Mikel J. Koven ([mik@aber.ac.uk](mailto:mik@aber.ac.uk)) for a registration form, which you must return by *February 1, 2004*. For further information or travel advice, please contact Koven at telephone (01970) 621605.

The *International Quilt Study Center* is planning a symposium titled “Collectors, Collecting, and Collections,” to be held at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, on February 24-26, 2005. We invite scholars and artists to submit proposals for papers and panel presentations that explore the

phenomenon of collecting, and especially collecting quilts and related arts, from a variety of perspectives. These may include but are not limited to psychological, aesthetic, historical, economic, anthropological, museological, and sociological. We encourage papers and presentations that address the urge to collect, the meaning of collections, the ways collecting influences artists' and source communities. We also encourage participants to explore the business of collecting from the perspective of all involved from private collectors to curators, from artists to dealers and gallery owners.

Individual papers should be based on original research, generally illustrated, and 20 minutes in length, allowing 5 minutes for questions. Thematic sessions should include 3 to 4 presenters, and a moderator with a theme based on a particular aspect of the collecting phenomenon or some other theme related to worldwide quilt-making traditions. Speakers' times are flexible; in general, a total time of one and a half hours is recommended. Panel participants must send a copy of their working paper to their session moderator by *December 1, 2004*. Thematic sessions addressing issues related to symposium exhibitions are encouraged. Panel discussions should involve 3 to 4 individuals and a moderator who poses questions to which panelists respond. A total time of one hour is recommended for panel discussions.

Interested individuals should submit abstracts of 150-200 words with a cover letter and brief resume (maximum 3 pages). Moderators of thematic sessions or panel discussions should submit a proposal of 150-200 words, a cover letter and a resume, plus a brief resume (maximum 3 pages) for each participant. Abstracts/proposals should be faxed or postmarked no later than July 1, 2004. (E-mail submissions will not be accepted.)

Submit your abstract/proposal and resume by *July 1, 2004*, to Kathy Moore, 2005 Symposium Coordinator, International Quilt Study Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, P.O. Box 830808, Lincoln, NE 68583-0838; fax 402/472-0640.

## ***Prize News***

The *AFS Folklore and Education Section* is pleased to announce the 2004 competition for the Dorothy Howard Folklore and Education Prize. The \$100 prize will be awarded to the individual(s) or organization whose work most effectively encourages K-12 educators or students to use or study folklore and folkloristic approaches in all school environments. Such work includes, but is not limited to curriculum materials, publications, exhibits World Wide Web sites, videos, audio recordings, CD-ROMs, or articles. Work produced in the two calendar years prior to the annual AFS meeting will be eligible for consideration.

Nominations should identify the author(s) or creator(s), publisher, date of publication and describe why the nomination deserves consideration. Statements should not exceed three double-spaced pages. Anyone may nominate work by submitting three copies of materials, or in the case of unpublished work, three copies of detailed descriptions and any relevant supporting materials to the Chair of the Prize Committee. The postmark deadline for nominations is *August 15, 2004*.

Send nominations to Jan Rosenberg, Chair, Dorothy Howard Prize Committee, P.O. Box 236, Blountstown, FL 32424. Questions regarding the prize should be directed to Rosenberg at the address above; telephone 850/674-7691; or e-mail herjer@gtcom.net.

## ***AFS Datebook***

### **2003**

December 15      Deadline for applications for AFS stipends to support travel to meetings abroad (see story, p. 4)

### **2004**

February 15      Deadline for nominations, AFS Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award (see story, p. 4)

March 1      Deadline for applications for the position of editor of the *Journal of American Folklore* (see story, p. 1)

April 2-4      California Folklore Society annual meeting, Northridge, CA (see story, p. 6)

April 26-30      “Among Others: Conflict and Encounter in European and Mediterranean Societies” Conference, Marseille (see June 2003 *AFSN*, p. 2)

May 7-8      Vitas Film and Folklore Festival, University of California, Los Angeles (see story, p. 5)

June 3-5      Mountain West Symposium on Song, Logan, Utah (see April 2003 *AFSN*, p. 11)

July 21-24      International Society of Contemporary Legend Research conference, Aberystwyth, Wales (see story, p. 6)

August 15      Deadline for 2004 nominations, Dorothy Howard Prize of the AFS Folklore and Education Section (see story, page 7)

September 29-October 3      Oral History Association 2004 Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon (see October 2003 *AFSN*, p. 6)

October 13-17      AFS 2004 Annual Meeting, Little America Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah (see the February 2004 *AFSN* for the Invitation for Participation and the registration/proposal form)

### **2005**

February 24-26      “Collectors, Collecting, and Collections” Symposium, International Quilt Study Center, University of Nebraska, Lincoln (see story, p. 6)



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Submitted by Timothy Lloyd, Editor, September 29, 2003

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