



American Folklore Society News

AUGUST 2006/Volume 35, Number 4

Slate for the 2006 American Folklore Society Election

The AFS Nominating Committee (Sabina Magliocco, chair; Amy Kitchener, Mario Montaña, and Elaine Thatcher, Executive Board liaison) announces the following nominees for Society offices that will become vacant at the end of 2006:

President-Elect (one to be elected for a four-year term: one year as President-Elect, two years as President, and one year as Past President):

Norma Cantú, University of Texas, San Antonio

Elaine Lawless, University of Missouri

Executive Board (three to be elected for three-year terms):

Maria Herrera-Sobek, University of California, Santa Barbara

Lisa Higgins, University of Missouri

Fred Nahwooksy, Indian Country Development Corporation

Anand Prahlad, University of Missouri

Guba Shankar, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress

Patricia Turner, University of California, Davis

Nominating Committee candidates (one to be elected for a three-year term):

Sharon Clarke, Independent Folklorist

Solimar Otero, Louisiana State University

Any member of the Society who wants to add the name of another member to the above slate may do so by submitting a petition signed by at least ten Society members. This petition *must* include the name, complete address, and phone number of the nominee, the office for which she or he is being nominated, and a signed statement from the nominee indicating agreement to run. The nominee *must* also provide a brief biography and a platform statement *of no more than 250 words*.

All materials *must be submitted* in both hard-copy and electronic forms as described below, and *must be received* no later than *September 1, 2006*, in order for the nominee's name to be placed on the ballot, which will be mailed to the membership after the 2006 annual meeting. All candidates will be invited to participate in a Candidates' Forum on Saturday afternoon, October 21, at the annual meeting in Milwaukee. (*continued*)

Remember...The deadline for annual meeting registration at lower pre-registration rates, and for registration for tours and special events, is August 31. The deadline for hotel reservations at meeting rates is September 26. See www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/index.cfm for details.

Send a hard copy of all nomination-by-petition materials to Nominating Committee chair Sabina Magliocco, Department of Anthropology, California State University, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge CA 91330-8244, and an electronic copy of the nominee's biographical information and platform statement to sabina.magliocco@csun.edu We will announce election results after the first of next year on the AFS website and in the February 2007 *AFS News*. Those elected will take office on January 1, 2007.

Former AFS President Nicolaisen Receives Honorary Doctorate

On July 4, 2006, the Scottish University of Aberdeen conferred on Prof. W.F.H. (Bill) Nicolaisen, former President of the American Folklore Society, an honorary doctorate (Doctor honoris causa). As part of his laureate address, the Head of the University's School of Language and Literature singled out the honoree's contribution to name studies and folk-narrative research, especially contemporary legends.

W.F.H. (Bill) Nicolaisen (DHC), distinguished scholar in folklore and contemporary urban legends has been an Honorary Research Professor at the University of Aberdeen since 1992. He is a distinguished scholar, whose interests include folklore and place names. An authority on contemporary urban legends he has also been a Visiting Professor at the Ohio State University, the University of Aarhus (Denmark) and the University of Edinburgh. Professor Nicolaisen is one of the most respected and popular scholars working in onomastics, the study of proper names of all kinds and the origins of names, and is the author of several works on Scottish place-names. In addition to these books, he has published more than 700 articles and reviews.

Ann B. Sullivan

Storyteller, librarian, teacher, and writer Ann B. Sullivan passed away on June 14, 2006, of complications resulting from Myelodysplastic Syndrome. Ann, 61, and C.W. Sullivan III (known to most of us as Chip) had been married for 40 years. To the children of Pitt County, North Carolina, Ann was known as "the story lady." She served there first as an elementary school librarian and from 1994 to 2006 as Children's Outreach Librarian at Sheppard Memorial Library. As a faculty member in Hollins University's master's degree program in Children's Literature, Ann taught courses in storytelling. Not only did Ann teach in the Children's Literature MA program at Hollins, but she also regularly attended the students' annual Butler Conference and met with them outside of her regular duties to nurture their progress in the program. Her own writing blossomed here, as she interacted with creative writers teaching in the program in formal and informal writers' workshops.

A memorial fund, The Ann B. Sullivan Children's Literature Student Conference Fund, is currently being created with a mission to assist students in the Hollins' Children's Literature Program in travel to conferences. The Sullivan Fund will require a \$10,000 endowment before awards can be made to students, which Hollins hopes to raise by June 30, 2007. Gifts and/or pledges to the fund may be made to Alumni/ae and Donor Relations, Hollins University, P.O. Box 9629, Roanoke VA 24020-1629. Pledges may be made for a five-year period. Additional information about the fund may be obtained by writing the director of the Children's Literature Program, Amanda Cockrell, e-mail acockrell@hollins.edu.

American Antiquarian Society Announces 2007-2008 Research Fellowship Program

The American Antiquarian Society (AAS), in order to encourage imaginative and productive research in its unparalleled library collections of American history and culture through 1876, will award to qualified scholars a number of short- and long-term visiting research fellowships during the year June 1, 2007—May 31, 2008.

Several categories of awards are offered for short- and long-term scholarly research at AAS. Funding is available from the National Endowment for the Humanities for four to twelve months' residence at the Society. The John B. Hench Post-Dissertation Fellowship and the ACLS Burkhardt Fellowship provide support up to one year while other categories provide one to three months' support. At least three long term fellowships will be awarded, together with some twenty short-term awards.

Virtually any subject can be fruitfully explored in the Society's collections of American imprints and manuscripts from 1640 through 1876. Scholars of many diverse disciplines are encouraged to apply including but not limited to: American Studies, American History, Literature, American Political Development, the History of the Book, and Visual Culture. Candidates holding a recognized terminal degree appropriate to the area of proposed research, such as the master's degree in library science or M.F.A., are also eligible to apply.

Further information about these fellowship programs including downloadable application packets is available on the Society's web page at www.americanantiquarian.org. Interested parties may also contact the Society by telephoning 508/755-5221, e-mail academicfellowships@mwa.org, or by writing to American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester MA 01609-1634.

Academic Librarian Committee Formed

Members of the Western European Studies Section (WESS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) have recently formed a committee to address the current and long-term shortage of academic librarians. They are particularly interested in advising scholars and teachers with foreign language training and advanced degrees that careers in academic librarianship provide additional options for using their training in an academic setting.

The WESS Committee on Recruitment to the Profession would like to call attention to their website: <http://www.columbia.edu/~klg19/WESS/>. For further information contact Karen Green, Ancient & Medieval History and Religion Librarian, Columbia University, New York NY 10027; 212/854-3031; klg19@columbia.edu.

Position Announcements

Davis & Elkins College is seeking applications and nominations for the Director of the Augusta Heritage Center. The Augusta Heritage Center of Davis & Elkins College, founded in 1972, is a unique, nationally acclaimed program for the promotion of traditional music, arts, and crafts. Year-round activities include workshops, concerts and dances open to the public, Elderhostel programs, a statewide Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program, maintenance of an archive of folk music, audio and video documentation of West Virginia folk life, and a recording company, Augusta

Heritage Records, featuring outstanding West Virginia musicians. For more information on the Augusta Heritage Center go to their website: www.augustaheritage.com.

The successful candidate for this position must demonstrate leadership in fund raising, an interest in the preservation of the Appalachian culture, and appropriate education, training, and/or experience in the folk arts. He or she will have energy and vision to build on the excellent tradition of Augusta, to guide the program in new directions, and integrate the program more fully with the College's academic program. Bachelor's degree in a related field expected; advanced degree preferred.

Davis & Elkins College is a private, liberal arts college founded in 1904 and affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is located in Elkins, West Virginia, a city of nearly 10,000 in the heart of the state's finest outdoor recreation area. The application deadline for the position is **September 1, 2006**. For more information go to: www.davisandelkins.edu.

Fashion Studies is a new multidisciplinary academic discipline at Stockholm University. It considers fashion as a phenomenon from both historical and contemporary perspectives, with disciplinary roots in inter alia esthetics, ethnology, business administration, gender studies, history, cultural studies, media and communication, social anthropology and sociology.

The successful applicant will conduct research and provide doctoral supervision within the graduate program, as well as teach at advanced levels. He/She will be expected to take a leading role in the creation of the new Center for Fashion Studies at Stockholm University, developing and representing the Center, and promoting contacts and cooperation at both national and international levels. The applicant will exhibit a strong record of scientific and educational merits, as well as the ability to lead Center activities and the possession of well-documented interpersonal skills. For this appointment, special weight will be given to the successful applicant's academic expertise. Also of relevance are the applicant's educational expertise, administrative skills and the ability to work in cooperation with people and organizations external to the University, as well as the ability to present research and development findings to society at large. Application must be marked with code SU 611-1259-06 and be sent to Stockholm University, Registrar/PA, SE-106 91 Stockholm, Sweden. by **September 30, 2006** for consideration. Those wishing to apply electronically can send information to registrator@su.se For further information on the application process, contact Peter af Trampe, Head of the Faculty Office, phone +46 8 16 2296.

Meeting News

The Hoosier Folklore Society will hold its annual meeting and folklore conference on November 9-10, 2006, on the campus of Indiana State University. The theme of this year's conference is Fairy Tales and the Creative Imagination. Honorary lecturers are Maria Tatar (Harvard University) and Jack Zipes (University of Minnesota). The conference committee welcomes proposals that consider any aspect of the fairy tale and/or the creative imagination as it relates to traditional forms of expression. Send a 100-word abstract by e-mail to Nan McEntire at Indiana State University (nmcentire@indstate.edu) by September 15, 2006. For more information about the conference or about the Hoosier Folklore Society, also contact Nan McEntire.

Paper proposals are invited for a conference entitled "Living Together, Working Together: African-American Miners and the Coal Culture of Southwestern Pennsylvania, 1870-1970." The

conference is sponsored by the Coal and Coke Heritage Center at The Pennsylvania State University's Fayette Campus in Uniontown, and is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. It will be held March 16, 2007. The organizers have funding to publish selected papers in a conference proceeding.

Papers from all disciplinary perspectives (history, labor history, oral history, literature, American studies, African-American studies, sociology, folklore, etc.) are welcome. Graduate students are encouraged to participate, as are independent scholars and amateur historians. Presentations should be 20-30 minutes in length, and conference participants will be strongly urged to present their subjects in conversational form rather than reading a written text.

Preference will be given to papers with demonstrable relevance to the bituminous coal culture of southwestern Pennsylvania and surrounding areas. However, proposals on all relevant topics and approaches are welcomed. Topics covered might include (but are not limited to): experiences of African-American miners and their families, histories of race and ethnicity in bituminous coal fields and towns, ethnic divisions of labor in the mines and related industries, race and ethnicity in mining and labor histories, oral histories, folk histories, biographies, and family genealogies. Send Inquiries or proposals of 250 words or less by **September 1, 2006** to Gib Prettyman, Associate Professor of English, Penn State Fayette, PO Box 519, Uniontown PA 15401; e-mail: cgp3@psu.edu.

AFS Datebook

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| August 31 | Deadline for nominations, Zora Neale Hurston and Américo Paredes Prizes (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 4) |
| September 1 | Deadline for nominations, Benjamin A. Botkin Prize (see February 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 3) |
| September 1 | Deadline for proposals, Vernacular Architecture Forum, Savannah, Georgia (see June 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 3) |
| September 1 | Application deadline, Augusta Heritage Center Director Application (see p. 3-4) |
| September 15 | Deadline for nominations, Elli Köngäs-Maranda and Alcée Fortier Prizes (see June 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 5) |
| September 30 | Application deadline, Professor of Fashion Studies (see p. 4) |
| October 2 | Deadline for National Endowment for the Humanities 2007 Summer Stipends (see June 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 3) |
| October 4-6 | International Society for Luso-Hispanic Humor Studies Conference, Monterrey, Mexico (see June 2006 <i>AFSN</i> , p. 5) |

- October 9 Deadline for proposals, SIEF Working Group on the Ritual Year Conference, Straznice, Czech Republic (see June 2006 *AFSN*, p. 4)
- October 18-22 AFS 2006 Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (For information, see www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/index.cfm)
- November 1 Deadline for submissions, *Jewish Cultural Studies- Jews at Home: The Domestication of Identity* (see April 2006 *AFSN*, p. 2)
- November 9-10 Folklore Conference and Annual Meeting of the Hoosier Folklore Society, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana (see p. 4)

2007

- March 16, 2007 African-American Miners and the Coal Culture Conference, The Pennsylvania State University's Fayette Campus, Uniontown, Pennsylvania (see p. 5)
- April 20-22, 2007 Folklorists in the South Retreat, 20th Anniversary, Palm Key Resort, Ridgeland, South Carolina

American Folklore Society News

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