



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

APRIL 2015

"Think twice before you speak, because your words and influence will plant the seed of either success or failure in the mind of another."-Napoleon Hill

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Latest News

We've been spreading the word about our Coalfield Assistance Program across Southwest Virginia and well into the counties of Eastern Kentucky in a campaign to educate the public about the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement and our goals and mission throughout the region. We have received nothing but positive feedback about the need for such a program and the need for economic diversification and hope that this program will develop as a staple program for the organization well into the future.

The Board of Directors met on April 3, 2015 in Coeburn, Virginia for the first Annual Meeting. The Board elected Dr. Ernie Benko of Norton, VA to the Board of Directors, bringing the total number of Directors to five.

Appalachian Scholarship Fund: The Appalachian Scholarship Fund will be available for graduating high school seniors within the area of operation of the FAA. Scholarship awards will be decided by committee based on criteria set by the committee and based on available funds. We are seeking volunteers to form a selection committee to help determine scholarship awards. If you are interested in helping us out and helping with the fundraising for this project please contact us at info@supportappalachia.org or the program administrator, Melinda Elswick, at melinda.elswick@supportappalachia.org.

Since the last issue of FAA, we have expanded our regional presence. We are now registered in Ohio and North Carolina, as well as Virginia and Kentucky. We will continue to focus our efforts slowly in our region as we expand to eventually include all states and counties that are within the Appalachian region.

We were fortunate to have been interviewed by WCYB News of Bristol, VA/TN a couple of months ago for both a quick television spot and an article on their website. Recently we were interviewed by the Times Leader Online of Belmont County, Ohio in which we discussed our Appalachian Scholarship Fund and the story of how our organization began to form. You can read that article at: <http://timesleaderonline.com/page/content.detail/id/573562/New-foundation-seeks-to-promote-Appalachia.html?nav=5010>.

FACEBOOK: If you haven't visited us on Facebook yet, take some time to "like" our page and follow us on there as well as visiting our website. We post photos and brief updates as to where we have been visiting to spread the word about our mission. Our most recent travels took us to Whitesburg, KY and the City of Jenkins, KY. We can be found at www.facebook.com/supportappalachia.

**Foundation For
Appalachian
Advancement**

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**Richlands, VA
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Email us:
info@supportappalachia.org

We're on the Web!

www.supportappalachia.org

www.facebook.com/supportappalachia

FYI

FORT LAURENS—OHIO'S ONLY REVOLUTIONARY WAR FORT

Nestled in the Appalachian town of Bolivar, Ohio you will find a small but fascinating historical site with an amazing story going all the way back to the Revolutionary War. Fort Laurens, named after then President of the Continental Congress Henry Laurens, is the only Revolutionary War fort in Ohio approved by the Continental Congress and is truly a treasure to be preserved.

Following orders to attack Indian towns and villages around Lake Erie, General Lachland McIntosh led about 1,200 troops and their Delaware Indian guides into Ohio and built Fort Laurens on the bank of the Tuscarawas River. It was built in late 1778. McIntosh left only 172 men and women at the fort and was to return after the winter to resume their march. The British felt this fort was going to be a significant threat and it was often attacked by Indians until the return of the rest of the soldiers the following Spring.

The entire story of Fort Laurens can be found at www.friendsoffortlaurens.org. If you are in the area of this location, or just a student of history that would like to help preserve this important historical site, visit their website and find out how you can help.

Artist's Corner

Artist of the Month—Jenny Nichols

Our April Artist of the Month, Jenny Nichols, is an exceptional crafts maker that pours her energy and passion into various kinds of items that includes some very impressive jewelry. A Tazewell County, Virginia native, she cites her love and pride of her Appalachian roots to be an inspiration for her lifelong journey of craft making, as well as her grandmother who sparked her love and interest in the arts.



For Jenny, her art is just a part of her lifestyle. Having seen an interest in her art grow she decided to dive headfirst into her passion and now sells her art through her business at www.mountainprimadonna.com. “I can honestly say it was the BEST thing I could have ever done for myself, to believe in myself enough to just GO FOR IT. I truly feel it's BOTH my talent, and my journey that have lead me to this path and prepared me for where I am right this second.”

You can follow Jenny on her blog at www.jendenichols.blogspot.com for more about her personal journey into leaving the corporate world to fulfill her dream as a business owner and full time artist. She has a great story to tell.

Appalachian Authors Guild

Writers of nearly every genre find it important to belong to a writer's association that they are comfortable with. There are countless organizations out there, but we would like to draw attention to the Appalachian Authors Guild. Joining a writers group is helpful for meeting fellow writers and sharing best practices when it comes to starting and completing your book. This is especially true for newer writers. You can visit the AAG online at www.appalachianauthors.com.

Thoughts or Suggestions

If you have any thoughts or suggestions on how we can best be effective in your community please touch base with us. You can email us at info@supportappalachia.org or by visiting us online and sharing your comments through our Contact page.

Online

Please take some time to visit us online at www.supportappalachia.org and share the link with friends and family. Doing so can go a long way in helping us get our message out into your community to let people know we are here. You can also visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/supportappalachia.

Donate Today

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt public charity. Donations are tax deductible. Can we count of you to help with our mission? Checks can be made payable to Foundation For Appalachian Advancement and mailed to:

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

P.O. Box 397

Richlands, VA 24641

Thank you!

Our Mission: The Foundation for Appalachian Advancement serves for the progress and enhancement of the Appalachian region through education, economic development of families and communities, assistance to communities and community service organizations, the advancement of Appalachian culture and arts, and the encouragement of healthy living and lifestyles.