



# Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

August 2016

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA  
24641

[www.supportappalachia.org](http://www.supportappalachia.org) Email: [info@supportappalachia.org](mailto:info@supportappalachia.org)

## Planning Ahead: Appalachian Scholarship Fund

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We recently wrapped up the work of our scholarship program for this year. It was great to get our feet wet with this program, and as a relatively newly formed organization we are excited to learn from our initial effort and look for ways to improve to help many more students in our region that need the extra financial assistance as they move from high school to college. We greatly appreciate all the support and donations we received, and the sponsorship of several area businesses.

However, now we begin the process of looking toward next year and setting fundraising goals for this project. Every donation counts, from \$10 on up. As you read this, consider stopping by our website to make an online donation *today*. 100% of your donation to this program goes into the program. Our goal for next year is \$5,000 to help area students. We do our best to make sure that donations stay as close to the donor as possible. For example, if you are from Wise County, VA we will do our best to make sure that the donation goes to a student from your county. It is important that we get our fundraising effort off to a good start.

You can also mail a check (if you choose not to donate online) by making checks payable to Appalachian Scholarship Fund. Thank you!

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*The best way to predict  
the future is to create it.*

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### A Talk With Central Appalachia on ARC TV

Foundation board members will be interviewed by ARC TV of Norton, VA during August for viewing on their channel throughout the region. The interview will likely be available in parts on the region in the coming weeks. We will be discussing the reasons for organizing, various programs such as the Appalachian Scholarship Fund, Coalfield Assistance Program, Appalachia Streaming (in development) and other goals for the organization in the coming months and years.

We will also try to make this video available on our website as soon as possible. Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter for further updates!

## BACK TO SCHOOL!

It's that time of year again! It seems like the summer went too quickly, but it is back to school time. Many families in Central Appalachia struggle to afford new clothing and school supplies for their children. Throughout the region you will find numerous locations that are taking donations to provide backpacks filled with school supplies for children that need them.

In many cases these locations are churches. It's great to lend a helping hand to those families in need. Touch base with your local churches and food banks to find out where you can donate these supplies. In some towns you can even find drop-offs at local police departments and town halls.

**Visit Us Online  
at**

[www.supportappalachia.org](http://www.supportappalachia.org)

**Make an online  
donation today!**

### **Virginia Highlands Festival, Abingdon, VA**

*July 29-August 7*

The annual Virginia Highlands Festival in Abingdon, VA wrapped up this year's festivities on Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Among the attractions were many area artists that included craft makers, musicians, and members of the Appalachian Authors Guild.

We had the opportunity to spend some time with members of the Guild as they put their work on display at the festival. Among the local writers present was Linda Hoagland, Adda Leah Davis, J.C. Schweingrouber and Hazel Fleming. Their work spanned across various genres including mysteries, Christian literature, poetry, horror/suspense and comedy. The Guild meets regularly and hosts quarterly public events. You can follow them at [www.appalachianauthors.com](http://www.appalachianauthors.com).



*Adda Leah Davis of the Appalachian Authors Guild at the Virginia Highlands Festival, Abingdon, VA*

### **Paintsville Lake, Paintsville, KY—A Great Local Getaway!**

As summer begins to wind down don't forget the many locations throughout Appalachia that are great for weekend getaways. Whether taking a road trip with friends or looking for a family friendly destination, Paintsville Lake in Kentucky is great location that is within driving distance in Central Appalachia.

Paintsville Lake State Park has over 1,100 acres for boating, fishing, skiing, hiking, swimming, biking and camping. Hiking trails range from one and half miles (Kiwanis Trail) to as rigorous as 18 miles (Dawkins Line Rail Trail). For a full description of what to do and upcoming events, or to make a reservation visit online at:

<http://parks.ky.gov/parks/recreationparks/paintsville-lake/>.

## Artist of the Month—Storyteller Richard Crowe

Richard Crowe of Kentucky has been busy as of late traveling around Central Appalachia practicing his craft as a storyteller covering some of Eastern Kentucky's most interesting history.

A former college professor that taught college economics and management courses for forty years, Crowe spent the last three years as a volunteer as executive director of his local United Way. "I realized that I missed talking to an audience so storytelling became my tool to teach without all the testing," he says. "I hope it is as much fun for the audience as it is for me!"

Crowe takes on the persona of several different historical figures during his performances. "My characters are Kentuckians that led very interesting lives and hopefully their stories put a smile on the faces of people who learn about them." Among those characters he imitates are James Still (the dean of Appalachian writers from Hindman, KY), Martin Van Buren Bates, and Bad John Wright who fathered thirty-four children after the Civil War.

Crowe's talent has certainly been in demand as he has travelled to speak throughout Kentucky and Virginia and is booked to speak in North Carolina later this year. He speaks for clubs, nursing homes, senior citizen centers, libraries, church groups, special interest groups and class rooms.

He is currently working on a website that he hopes to have up soon. Currently he tells these stories for free (with the exception of travel expenses). To book a session you can contact Richard Crowe at [Richard.crowe@ymail.com](mailto:Richard.crowe@ymail.com).



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement current Board of Directors/Officers:

J.C. Schweingrouber President/Director (Richlands, VA)

Dr. Gary Stratton Vice-President/Director (Wise, VA)

Dr. Ernie Benko Director (Norton, VA)

Melinda Elswick Treasurer/Director (Richlands, VA)

James Hibbitts Secretary/Director (Wise, VA)



## The Spirit of Giving

*Foundation For Appalachian Advancement*

Thanks to those that have supported us this year with donations and through word of mouth. There are many great charities out there to support and like most of us, we tend to support things that have a special meaning to us or charities that are close to home. We Appalachians are a hard working people and a very generous people. Friends helping friends. Neighbors helping neighbors.

Many of us will choose to support cancer research, children's hospitals, or local animal shelters. As you consider your donations this time of year, we ask that you consider a small donation to the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement. Whether it is for the Appalachian Scholarship Fund, promoting economic diversification, or promoting our arts and culture, we care about

every donor and every penny given in good spirit. We strive to be good stewards of your generosity and use the donations as efficiently as possible. Those of us that are involved are all volunteers. No Director or Officer is salaried. That gives us the flexibility to make sure that your donations are spent wisely and effectively to support the programs that you believe in.

We appreciate your support and ask that you consider our mission statement and our goals throughout Appalachia to help those in need and promote our culture to the best of our ability.

Thank you.

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