



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

JUNE 2015

*"I've opened the way
for others to make
fortunes, but a
fortune for myself was
not what I was after."
Daniel Boone*

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Latest News

Will your business sponsor the Appalachian Scholarship Fund?

We are seeking about 50 or so businesses in Southwest Virginia and in Eastern Kentucky to sponsor the 2016 Appalachian calendar which will be sold to raise money to provide scholarships for graduating seniors next Spring. We are capping the maximum donation at \$250 and the minimum at \$100. For sponsoring we would like to include your business name and logo in the calendar to thank you for your support of local students. We hope to have enough sponsors to begin developing the calendars in early July to make them available at Fall festivals across the region.

*Thanks to those local businesses that have already stepped up and helped in the effort with their sponsorship.

If you are an individual that would like to donate to the Scholarship Fund, you can mail your check to Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA 24641. We are hoping to provide 15-20 scholarships. Donations are tax deductible. We appreciate your support, and I'm sure the students that receive the scholarships will as well!

Appalachian Scholarship Fund Committee: 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. Thanks to those that have already expressed interest in working with us on the committee. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

A BIGGER STEP INTO EASTERN KENTUCKY: Our directors have been working with officials in eastern Kentucky over the past few weeks. Thanks to those efforts and the encouragement of the folks in Jenkins, Kentucky, we have an office in Jenkins. We are located, along with ARC TV, at 9409 Highway 805, Jenkins, KY, 41537 and can be reached at (606)832-0222.

**Foundation For
Appalachian
Advancement**

P.O. Box 397

**Richlands, VA
24641**

Email us:
info@supportappalachia
.org

We're on the Web!

www.supportappalachia.org

www.facebook.com/supportappalachia

FYI

LEGEND OF THE SWIFT SILVER MINE

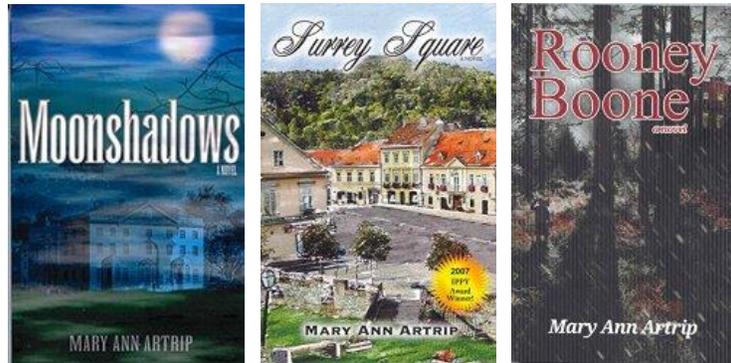
If you are from Southwest Virginia, Eastern Kentucky, Northeast Tennessee or Southern West Virginia you may be familiar with the legend of the Swift Silver Mine. After all, there is a vibrant community of treasure hunters in the region sharing information and searching for the lost silver and silver mine of Jonathan Swift. Not the Jonathan Swift that wrote Gulliver's Travels, but the Englishman seafarer.

According to legend, Swift stumbled upon a silver vein in a cave somewhere in Central Appalachia and spent years in the secret location making silver and converting it into bars and coins and hiding them as well as smuggling them out of the region. Treasure hunters have been looking for the secret location ever since, often going by clues provided in a journal supposedly kept by Swift.

Early settlers in Wise County, Virginia believed that local Indians knew the location and today many in the area believe the cave to be somewhere around Stone Mountain. There are others that believe it to be somewhere in Bell County, Kentucky. Whether the legend is true or not, it does not deter some from using it as a reason to gather and celebrate local lore and history. In fact, each year there is a Swift Silver Mine festival held in Campton, Kentucky along the Mountain Parkway.

Artist's Corner

Artist of the Month—Mary Ann Artrip, Author



Mary Ann Artrip of Southwest Virginia is a poet, a short story writer, and a novelist with several works under her belt and awards to show for it. Her first novel, "Remember Me With Love," won her the Golden Book Award in 1992 and was re-issued in 2007 after a decade of being out of print. She was nominated for Book of the Year by the Appalachian Writer's Association in 2005 for Moonshadows.

Her favorite work, "Rooney Boone," is also her latest book. Her favorite character Mim, also from "Rooney Boone," stands out. "She took over the pages and stole my heart," Artrip confesses.

Artrip didn't start her writing career until she was well into her 40's. You can find her work at online booksellers such as Amazon and also by visiting her website at www.maryannartrip.com. She will be having a book signing in Abingdon, VA on Saturday, August 1st from 11:00-3:00 at Zazzy's Coffee House.

Bobby F. Griffin, ***"The Search"***

I recently picked up this booklet in Lebanon, VA while visiting with a business sponsor and donor for our Appalachian Scholarship Fund. The business owner had several copies of Mr. Griffin's book proudly on display and urged me to read his life story. "The Search" ended up having a double meaning as I read through the pages. You see, as a young man Bobby Griffin was ridiculed by his peers and teachers in Bristol, VA because of a learning disability that hindered him.

His story is one of perseverance, struggle and eventually success in life on his own terms. His story takes you on a journey with him into the mountains of Korea during the war, his struggles with depression when he returned home and through his business and financial struggles that almost cost him his family. As you read the story of his search into the Korea decades later to find a long lost friend that saved his life during the war, you realize the story was just as much about his journey and search for salvation as he eventually turned his life over to God.

If you are around the Bristol, VA area look for the booklet. If you'd like a copy you can write to Bobby F. Griffin, 1051 Island Road, Bristol, VA 24201 or call 276-466-8080.

Writing a Book?

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. You can also follow us online @SuprtAppalachia.

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

Or

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, P.O. Box 565, Jenkins, KY 41537

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.