



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

November 2016

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA
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A Time For Thanksgiving

J.C. Schweingrouber, President/Director

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite times of year and there is no better place to be than right here in the heart of these Appalachian Mountains with friends and family as we reflect on the past few months and the many blessings we can be thankful for.

After the Foundation's first full year we can be very thankful that our name and mission has continued to grow throughout the region. We are thankful for the support of several local businesses in Central Appalachia that sponsored our efforts to start the Appalachian Scholarship Fund that led to us having the good fortune to provide a scholarship to a deserving young lady from Tazewell County, Virginia.

As we move forward into a new year we are excited about the possibilities we have explored to grow into new roles in Central Appalachia that will help us be involved in promoting economic and cultural growth in some of the counties that are in need of these the most.

We are also very thankful for each and every one of you who support us in our efforts. None of this is possible without you. So thank you and have a great Thanksgiving. God Bless.

Paying It Forward in 2017

There is no better time than during this season of Thanksgiving to recognize how blessed each and every one of us are. Those of us that formed the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement are most certainly blessed to have been given the opportunity to volunteer our time and efforts to this non-profit to pay it forward. We have been blessed to have received support from you and blessed that our mission has spread through word of mouth throughout the region.

As we go forward into a new year we ask that you continue the spirit of Paying It Forward to help others. To help those closest to you, to help a stranger that needs it. None of this is possible without your generosity and your shared vision. We hope to continue earning your support into 2017 and beyond. Thank you for paying it forward.

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*"None of this is possible
without you."*

2016—A Year End Review

2016 Review

Appalachian Scholarship Fund

Promoting the Arts

Appalachia Streaming

Extending Our Reach

Appalachian Scholarship Fund: This year got started off quickly. In February the Board opened up the application period to take applications for the Appalachian Scholarship Fund. We notified schools through guidance counselors in Virginia and Kentucky. Those were the primary locations we received donations from, so we focused on those areas to keep the donations as local as possible to their source.

Promoting the arts and artists: Earlier this year we began the development of a short documentary film to promote our regional artists and our unique perspectives as artists in Appalachia. This short film will include short interviews with regional storytellers, poets, novelists, painters, photographers, musicians, etc... Once completed we will make this film available on YouTube and work to get airtime on public access TV throughout the Central Appalachian area. We are still in the process of seeking grant money and in kind donations to wrap up this project. We also continue to promote a new Artist of the Month each month and share their work with new audiences in Appalachia that may not have heard of their artistic contributions.

Appalachia Streaming: Earlier this year we began to develop our alternative website for a planned project called Appalachia Streaming. The purpose of the program is to use video and digital media to promote our culture, economic diversification, history, arts and tourism. This project is in the early development stages and we are seeking significant funding for this endeavor by applying for grants that could potentially support this massive project. We continue to work on video content and are discussing the various formats to maximize the value of the program.

Extending Our Reach: This year our organization took the steps to network throughout some of the economically distressed counties of Eastern Kentucky. We presented our mission to officials overseeing the Kentucky Promise Zone and we continue to work to see where our efforts will be best utilized in the future to assist in those counties. We were also fortunate enough to meet up with officials from S.O.A.R. (Supporting Our Appalachian Region) and presented Appalachia Streaming at the 2016 Innovation Summit in Pikeville, Kentucky in June. Our directors remain in contact with them and are looking out for potential grant funding to begin more meaningful work in the Promise Zone counties and beyond.



Make your tax deductible donation online today!

November 2016 Artist of the Month— Linda Lawson Hass, Photographer

Sure, we've all taken countless pictures with our cell phones and digital cameras. We've posted those pictures online to share with our friends and family, to share our experiences. But none of us consider that art, necessarily. However, to be able to capture the magic of a precious moment, to capture it in such a way that it moves people...that is the place where life meets art. That is the moment that the vision of the artist comes through.

It is exactly those kinds of moments that Linda Lawson Hass routinely captures on film. Linda, a native and resident of Gate City in Scott County, Virginia has been capturing moments, like the one you see in the photograph to the right, for years.

"I love our beautiful local scenery and try to capture its beauty whenever I see it. I take my camera everywhere!" Linda tells us as she explains her love for our region and how that translates to her photos. "I love sharing what I see with others. Something on a back roads drive, a walk by the creek. Our scenic mountains. Our unique part of the world is just so inspiring."

Linda shares many of her photos online on her Facebook page. You can contact her directly there to enquire about buying some of her work for your own art collection or for your home or offices.

You can visit her online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/linda.l.hass>



Photo by Linda Lawson Hass

"Our unique part of the world is just so inspiring."

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 (Pound, VA)

The Spirit of Giving

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

As we come closer to the end of a great 2016, most of us consider donations to our favorite charities. 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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