

Appalachian Memories

Do you have old photos of your town from years gone by? We'd love to see them! We're hoping to get enough photos that we can put them together in a short video showing the changes in our communities over the years.

If we can get enough photos of your hometown going across the decades (for example, photos from the 1930's to the 1990's), we will start making videos to be available on our Appalachia Streaming program and on YouTube for you to be able to share with friends and family. So, get together with some folks in your town and email us some photos. You can email to jc@supportappalachia.org, put MY TOWN in the subject line, and don't forget to tell us what county/state and when the photo was taken. Thank you so much!!

Here's an old one of The White's Store in Richlands, VA taken in 1923.



Built in 1923. Owned by John + N.B. McGlothlin and Bess Bowen. Just known as Mc Glothlin Hotel.

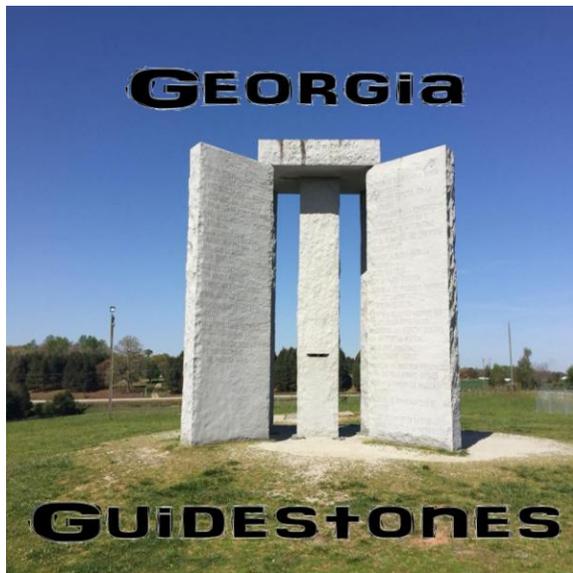
Mysterious Appalachia!

J.C. Schweingrouber

From town to town and county to county, Appalachia is full of tall tales and legends. West Virginia has the infamous Moth Man story, rumors and legends of wolfman creatures, Bigfoot, haunted mansions, the Ohio Grassman. You name it, there is a mystery to be found around every corner in these here mountains.

In the small town of Elberton, Georgia one of the most controversial monuments in the nation went up in 1980 called the Georgia Guidestones. This monument, also called America's Stonehenge, was erected to provide a set of ten guidelines for mankind in what is called "a new age of reason."

Having heard of the Guidestones several years ago, and researched all the controversy surrounding it, I decided to set out to find this mysterious landmark in the middle of nowhere at the highest peak in Elbert County, the last eastern county in the state to be considered a part of Appalachia according to the Appalachian Regional Commission's regional county/state map. This monument has had conspiracy theorists talking for years, and has been the subject of many radio and television shows!



The Guidestones are nearly twenty feet tall and weigh approximately 246,000 pounds. Inscribed in them are what many call a new controversial set of ten commandments/guidelines carved in the granite slabs in eight different languages, and four ancient languages (on the capstone). I'll leave it to you to do the research on this subject if it garners your attention, but having put eyes on this thing myself (and boy do I have some opinions about it!!), I'll say that there is no shortage of odd and interesting things in Appalachia!

Foundation News

The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement held its annual meeting on April 29th at the offices of ARC TV in Norton, Virginia.

We welcomed Roy Bentley to the board of directors, bringing us to seven directors here at the Foundation.

We also discussed ongoing programs of the Foundation such as Appalachia Streaming and operating as the fiscal agent/sponsor for a documentary series called Tracks Across Kentucky. Dr. Gary Stratton is heading up that project and has been meeting with several potential corporate sponsors for this series. Once we have more information on the filming schedule and date available on television we will provide that through our newsletter and on social media outlets.

Appalachia Streaming

Great news! We have finally been able to purchase some video equipment for this program (although we do still need more equipment and newer software). Our first effort under this program is to gain some experience using the equipment to make a short video about the foundation and its mission featuring some of our directors. Once we're comfortable with this, we'll upload the short documentary style film on our Appalachia Streaming website as well as provide it for use on ARC TV to be shown throughout the region.

ATTENTION ARTISTS! Our goal is to put together some short 20 minute videos that highlight two or three artists at a time. If you would like to be a part of this project (so we can help promote our region's artists and

June
2018

FOUNDATION FOR APPALACHIAN ADVANCEMENT
THE APPALACHIAN

culture) please let us know by contacting us on our social media outlets or emailing us at info@supportappalachia.org. Thank you!

Bear with us as we go through the learning curve for this. Also, we have touched base with over thirty counties in Central Appalachia about helping us out with this program with a small donation, to promote each county and the region for economic development, diversification, tourism, and promoting our history and culture. If you think this program is a worthy cause and want your local government to support us, please let your elected officials know. Chances are they've already heard from us.

**S.O.A.R.—August 31st, Pikeville,
KY**

The annual **Shaping Our Appalachian Region** convention will be held on August 31, 2018 at the Expo Center in downtown Pikeville, Kentucky.

SOAR is a network of our Appalachia that unites 54 counties worth of talent enabling us to shape our own future. SOAR's mission is to expand job creation, enhance regional opportunity, innovation, and identity, improve the quality of life, and support all those working to achieve these goals in Appalachian Kentucky.



Donations are tax deductible and 100% of your donation goes to the program. You can support this program by donating online at our website www.supportappalachia.org or the old fashioned way of sending us a check made payable to Appalachian Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA 24641. We thank you for your help with this!

Artists Corner

Misty Murray Walkup

Self taught artist Misty Murray Walkup was one of the earliest artists that we had the privilege of promoting during our first year of existence. Since then we have been asked on

several occasions if she was still painting pictures of nature. We'd lost touch with her until recently when we unexpectedly got an email from her to touch base with our Foundation. We're happy to report that she is still painting and her art is for sale! Take a moment and check out her work on her Facebook page. Her paintings range in price from \$75 to as much as \$1,200, depending on the painting and size requested. We previously mentioned in this newsletter that we will be working with artist for video projects and hope to have her as a part of them.

https://touch.facebook.com/LaurelCreekMountainArt/?ref=page_internal&mt_nav=1

Appalachian Authors Guild

The Appalachian Authors Guild serves to promote the work and art of all Appalachian writers and offers workshops to help new writers, and those looking to write their first book or self publish. If you would like to be a part of this active organization of creative artists, please touch base with them through their website at <http://appalachianauthors.com/>.

About Us

Our mission is simple. The **Foundation For Appalachian Advancement** (FAA) strives to promote educational opportunities, economic development, and the advancement of our culture, history and heritage through the arts.

We need your help to support this great region! The FAA is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and your donations are completely tax deductible. Absolutely 100% will go towards the FAA expenses. Operational expenses only include web site maintenance and the annual P.O. Box fee which have always been paid out of pocket. All directors/officers are volunteers, no one is salaried.

Programs we sponsor include the Appalachian Scholarship Fund and Appalachia Streaming. In addition, we are hoping to have funding available going forward to sponsor several events promoting artists throughout our region.

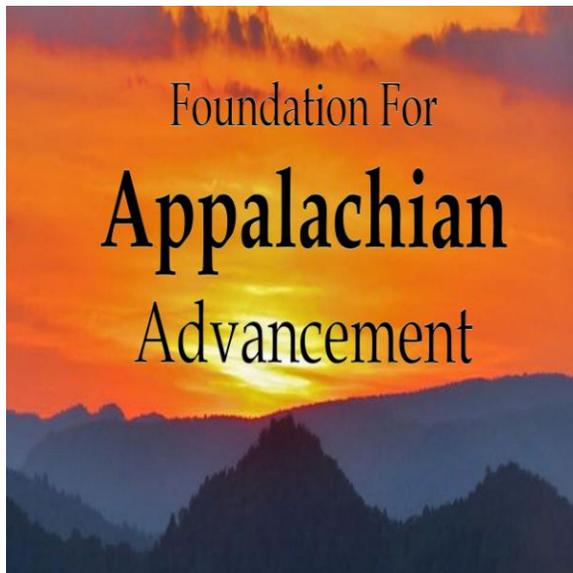
We accept Credit Card and electronic donations through the PayPal button on our website or the "Old Fashioned" way by personal check. If writing a check you can mail it to P.O. Box 397, Richlands, Virginia, 24641. Any amount is greatly appreciated!

Thanks for your support and generous donation! We greatly appreciate it!

Make generosity part of your growth strategy

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Directors:

Melinda Elswick, Tazewell County, VA

Dr. Gary R. Stratton, Frankfort, KY

James Hibbitts, Wise County, VA

Dr. Ernie Benko, Norton, VA

Adam Mason, Letcher County, KY

J.C. Schweingrouber, Tazewell County, VA

Roy Bentley, Jenkins, KY

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

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