

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

BERNARD CLAY became involved with the Affrilachian Poets as a student at the University of Kentucky. He now works for a large insurance company and lives in Louisville, Kentucky. He has been published previously in *Eclipsing Nappy New Millennium Anthology*.

SAMANTHA COLE is a sophomore Appalachian Studies major at Berea College who hails from Beattyville, Kentucky, in Lee County.

JULIE DUNLOP, an English teacher at Central New Mexico Community College, spent several months back home in Virginia this past year with her maternal grandmother, the inspiration for her poetry.

SIDNEY SAYLOR FARR grew up on Stoney Fork in Bell County, Kentucky, and served as editor of *Appalachian Heritage* from 1985 until 1999. Her most recent book is *My Appalachia: A Memoir*, published by the University Press of Kentucky.

JAMES M. GIFFORD serves as the CEO and Senior Editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation in Ashland, Kentucky. He was a history professor at Western Carolina University and Morehead State University before becoming Executive Director of the Foundation in 1985.

ROBERT GIPE was raised in Kingsport, Tennessee, and now serves as director of the Appalachian Program at Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College and lives in Harlan, Kentucky. This is his first fiction publication.

REBECCA L. GODWIN is a Professor of English at Barton College in North Carolina specializing in Southern and African-American literature. She has written and presented on Appalachian authors Lee Smith, Fred Chappell, Robert Morgan, and Thomas Wolfe.

JASON HOWARD was raised on Dorton Branch in Bell County, Kentucky, and now lives in Berea. He is the coauthor, with Silas House, of *Something's Rising: Appalachians Fighting Mountaintop Removal*, as well as the editor of *We all Live Downstream: Writings about Mountaintop Removal*.

LOYAL JONES is a founding father of Appalachian Studies and served as the first director of the first collegiate Appalachian Center, at Berea College, where he worked from 1970 until his retirement in 1993. A native of Western North Carolina, he is the author of several books and articles on regional values, religion, music, and humor. His most recent book is *Country Music Humorists and Comedians*.

NORMAN JORDAN is a native of Ansted, West Virginia, now living in Jackson, Tennessee. His poetry has appeared in forty-two books, including *The Poetry of the Negro: 1746–1970*, *In Search of Color Everywhere*, and *Wild Sweet Notes: Fifty Years of West Virginia Poetry*.

HELEN M. LEWIS has been a pioneer in Appalachian Studies as a sociology professor in the Virginia coalfields and as Loyal Jones's successor at the Berea College Appalachian Center. Her activism included serving as Director of the Highlander Center. She now lives in North Georgia.

CHARLES E. MAY attended the Morehead Writers Workshop, directed by Al Stewart, the founding editor of *Appalachian Heritage*, in the summer of 1960 right after graduating from high school in Paintsville, Kentucky. As a student at Morehead State, he took James Still's short story class. He then pursued a career as an English professor in the California state university system. This is his first fiction publication.

FREDERIC S. MILLER is the son of Jim Wayne and Mary Ellen Miller who raised him in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He now lives in Louisville with his wife and two children and repairs oriental rugs for a living. He also hosts a web site of humor and ephemera: <http://www.heraldsparrow.com>.

JIM WAYNE MILLER (1936–1996) was one of the earliest, most energetic, and effective promoters of Appalachian Literature and Appalachian

Studies. A native of rural Buncombe County, North Carolina, he taught German at Western Kentucky University throughout his career. He was the author of several books of poetry and two novels.

MARY ELLEN MILLER heads up Women's Studies and is a Professor of English at Western Kentucky University. She is the widow of Jim Wayne Miller and the mother of Fred, Jim, and Ruth Miller. She is currently working with Morris A. Grubbs on a Jim Wayne Miller Reader to be published by the University Press of Kentucky and a book of her own poetry. She is a native of Carter County, Kentucky.

MINDY BETH MILLER lives in Hazard, Kentucky, where she was raised and her family has lived for generations. She is currently a graduate student at Spalding University's low residency MFA program. She was the recipient of the 2008 Jean Ritchie Fellowship in Writing at the Mountain Heritage Literary Festival at Lincoln Memorial University.

BIANCA SPRIGGS is an artist, educator, and activist living in Lexington, Kentucky. An Affrilachian Poet and Cave Canem Fellow, her specialty is facilitating empowerment and alleviating ignorance through the arts. Spriggs is the author of *Kaffir Lily*.

JANE STUART lives on a farm in W-Hollow in Greenup County, Kentucky, where she was raised the only child of Naomi Deane and Jesse Stuart. Her father was one of Kentucky's most prominent Twentieth Century writers. The author of three nationally published novels and several other books, she is retired now after a teaching career in Florida.

FRANK X WALKER is the editor of *PLUCK! The Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture* and currently serves as a Lecturer of English and Artist in Residence at Northern Kentucky University. He is the author of four collections of poetry and a cofounder of the Affrilachian Poets.

KEITH S. WILSON is an Affrilachian Poet who has lived the last ten years in Northern Kentucky. He was a student of Frank X Walker and the late Danny Miller at Northern Kentucky University, which recently awarded him a bachelor's degree.