



History Department Newsletter

Number 3 Date Fall 1983

Appalachian State University

NEW FACULTY

Dr. Michael Wade joins the department this year from Mississippi County Community College in Blytheville, Arkansas. Born in California, he grew up in a fishing, farming and fur trapping community in the Cajun country of south Louisiana during the post-World War II offshore oil boom in that region. Dr. Wade was educated at the University of Maryland and the University of Southwestern Louisiana, specializing in 20th century U.S. social history and public history. He chose to come to Appalachian State because he was impressed with the department's commitment to teaching excellence. Dr. Wade and his wife, Rose Anna, are the parents of 16 month-old twin boys, Andrew and Patrick.

RETIREMENT

Dr. Max Dixon will be retiring from the University this December. He will continue to edit *Watauga County Times . . . Past* as long as he is in Boone. Dr. Dixon and his wife plan to move to Winston-Salem to be closer to friends there, and for the climate. He is looking forward to reading the books he has not had time for in the past, and says that he will most miss going to scholarly meetings. He prizes his teaching career for the opportunity he has had to become better acquainted with history.

GRADUATE STUDENTS FOR 1983-84

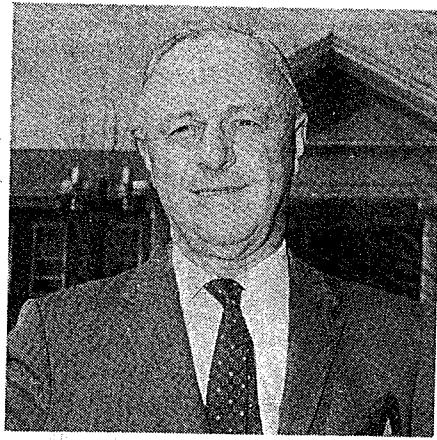
Beth Williams, Boone; Mark Vickrey, Elizabeth City; Billy Causey, High Point; Gunda Starkey, Knoxville, TN; Vivian Moore, St. Pauls; Jeffrey L. Duncan, Valdese; Mike Howell, Yadkinville; Alvis Dunn, Bonlee; Stephen Starnes, Burlington; Renee Boughman, Belmont; Carroll McCray, Monroe; Cecilia Briggs, Marshall; Jerra Jenrette, Ash; Claudia Strickland, Blowing Rock.

PHI ALPHA THETA by Jim Winders

1982-1983 was a successful academic year for A.S.U.'s Omicron Phi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta. As usual, the first event of the year was our annual picnic in Price Park. Shortly thereafter, we inducted eleven new members and elected a new slate of officers, with Jon Spencer as President. Our monthly meetings featured a number of interesting programs, including Rennie Brantz speaking on careers for history majors and Jim O'Dell's presentation on the role of the amateur historian. Several members attended the annual regional conferences at Elon College, where Linda Reed and Jon Spencer received first-place awards for the papers they presented. Phi Alpha Theta also sponsored or co-sponsored a number of departmental lectures, including the lecture series on Intellectual History.

We are hoping for a good year in 1983-1984. Two important projects that we just began to develop last year should carry over to this year. One is a volunteer tutoring service to be based in the History Lab, and the other is to establish a monthly series of informal presentations of student research. We welcome suggestions and assistance in bringing this to fruition.

HOMECOMING '83
Come by for coffee & goodies!
Oct. 15 at 10:30'ish
Room 201, Whitener
We want to see you . . .



DR. DANIEL JAY WHITENER PROFESSOR AND HISTORIAN

As Appalachian State University students scurry in and out of Whitener Hall daily, or rush to their 8:00 a.m. World Civilization classes or to the computer center located in the basement, they are probably unaware of the man for whom the building was named, and why his efforts have played a vital role in the enhancement of their educational opportunities. Dr. Daniel Jay Whitener served in various capacities at Appalachian State University from 1932 until his death in 1964, and his list of credentials and accomplishments are numerous.

Born on August 17, 1898, Whitener grew up in the area of Startown, in Catawba County, North Carolina. The son of a farmer-teacher, Daniel Wilfong Whitener, and Alice Kincaid Whitener, his father died of pneumonia when he was three years old. One of six children, Whitener had two sisters who married and became teachers, a brother who became a missionary to China, one who became a lawyer, and another, a high school principal. The Whiteners were a close family, and the eldest brother, Sterling, who later became a missionary for the Christ Reform Church, encouraged all of the children to work their way through college and to obtain a substantial education.

During World War I, Whitener served on a county ration board in Catawba County and was Chairman of the County War Bond Committee. Whitener was offered a commission as a navy captain but declined. He was a student at Catawba College from 1918-19, and went on to receive his A.B. and M.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he worked his way through college by moonlighting at a local cafeteria. In a desperate search for a job, when arriving in Chapel Hill, he told the cafeteria owners, "I'll sweep the floors, give me a broom." Whitener began his college career with the intention of becoming a lawyer, but because of financial reasons, later changed his mind. Initially, he was determined to become anything but a teacher, yet later he came to the realization that there is no higher calling.

Whitener served as principal of Blackburn High School in Catawba County from 1925 to 1928, and during this time, met a teacher named Annie Laurie Choate, from Sparta in Alleghany County. Annie's sister, Harriet, married Whitener's brother Russell, and Harriet and Russell played matchmakers in an effort to bring their siblings together. Harriet and Russell were successful for it was "love at first sight" for Annie and Daniel; they were mar-

ried on September 23, 1925. The couple had a young son who died in infancy, but later gave birth to another son, Carr Choate "Jack" Whitener, on June 9, 1929. In 1928, "D.J." ("D.J." is the name Daniel Jay Whitener was called by his family, friends, and associates) Whitener served for one year as head of the history department at Lenoir Rhyne College and later returned to the University of North Carolina in 1932, where he acquired his Ph.D.

Whitener was offered a position as Head of the Social Studies Department by Appalachian State Teachers College President B.B. Dougherty in 1932, and became the school's first professor to have earned his Ph.D. Upon arriving in Boone, the Whiteners moved into a home across from the Methodist Church on King Street, which they rented from Dougherty. They later became the first family to be offered an opportunity by Dougherty to live in the faculty homes located on what is now called Rivers Street. Eventually, the Whiteners built a home on what is now Whitener Drive, directly behind the faculty homes. The Whiteners were an active part of the local community and enjoyed entertaining in their home. They hosted a variety of functions to which friends and colleagues attended, and each fall, they entertained for the faculty.

During the summer of 1936, Whitener attended Michigan State University, an opportunity provided through an Appalachian State Teachers College grant which allowed him post-doctoral work in international relations. During that summer his letters home always contained several sticks of teaberry chewing gum for his son Jack, who looked forward to them with excitement.

Whitener had a close relationship with his wife and son, always offering his advise and counsel, yet never dictating. Whitener took time for his family, and they enjoyed traveling together. Traveling with Whitener was an historical tour, for he would always point out particular landmarks and areas, and explain their historical significance. For a couple of years, Whitener and his young son worked together renting bicycles to the students and young people of Boone. They bought between twelve and sixteen bicycles and did their own repairing, upkeep, and rental of them. The Whiteners owned a tract of land in the Boone area on which they farmed and kept a garden. One summer, they bought an old school bus, renovated it into the equivalent of a trailer, and placed it on the farm. The bus, decorated with curtains made by Annie Laurie, served as a summer home for the family.

Whitener was a member of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, and served as both district and international representative for the Lion's Club, an organization from which he got a great deal of personal satisfaction. Soon after moving to Boone, Whitener was elected to the County Board of Education, but later resigned when this position conflicted with his appointment by Governor Hodges to the Executive Board of the State Department of Archives and History. Active in civic as well as church affairs, Whitener was secretary of the Board of Stewards and Superintendent of Sunday Schools for the Methodist Church. He was also one of the founders of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association, which was responsible for initiating and sponsoring the outdoor drama, "Horn in the West." Serving as Executive Vice-President for the association between 1952-55, Whitener was instrumental

in planning the Centennial for Watauga County, and the outdoor drama was an off-shoot of the centennial celebration. An avid Democrat, Whitener supported local candidates such as his personal friend, Wade Brown, yet he never held a political office himself.

Whitener taught over 16,000 students at Appalachian State Teachers College, of which eighty-five percent became teachers. He taught North Carolina History, Education in the Public Schools of North Carolina, Current Affairs, and "just about every history course that was offered at Appalachian State Teachers College." A "master of psychology in the classroom," Whitener taught with clarity and tremendous knowledge. He opened each class session by asking students at random to tell him things they had discussed in their previous meeting. He was a demanding teacher, yet his classes were an experience students looked forward to. On June 25, 1955, Whitener was named to the position of Dean of Students at Appalachian State Teachers College. As Dean, he was responsible for many administrative duties, and worked personally with students on a one-to-one basis. He took his job very seriously, and while Whitener was Dean, the college operated under the assumption that it was responsible for the personal behavior and moral development of students. "Whitener did not smoke, drink, or use profanity, and was very well dressed. He was eager to work with students, but kept narrow sanctions from the new generation of that time." Whitener worked with students who were not interested in their education and tried to make them see the importance of being the best at whatever they set out to do. He served as faculty sponsor to the student government, and school newspaper, and served as Chairman for the Library Committee. Whitener was also Administrator for Student Personnel Services. He was a firm believer in "selling the institution" and traveled to surrounding areas in efforts to recruit students.

A man dedicated to teaching and interested in local history, Whitener made concerted efforts to have a local history bill passed by the General Assembly calling for the development of better instructional programs in public school history classes. This bill commissioned the writing of histories for all North Carolina counties. Whitener firmly believed that one of the greatest challenges to the social studies teacher was that of using local history in efforts to promote citizenship and develop a better understanding of world affairs. He believed that education should begin with the known, working towards the unknown, and should offer a process of learning rather than an opportunity to merely memorize facts. In Whitener's report on the teaching of local history, presented at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Society of County and Local Historians, he referred to the Sputnik Scare and America's efforts to advance math and science as a result of that scare. While he admitted to the importance of the advancement in math and science programs, he believed those subjects in the realm of social studies to be the most important because he said they deal with human relationships. He said that "when we realize that science and math (translated into tangible things) won't save us—a search for the causes of failure will gather momentum." A man who took the long term view for the nation rather than the daily ups and downs, Whitener believed that America

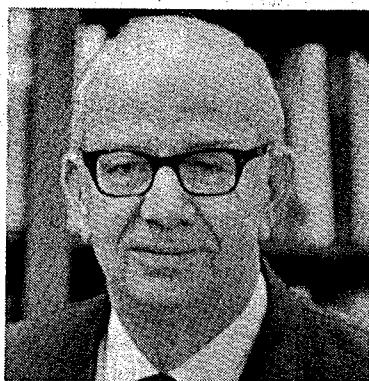
should teach its boys and girls to solve political and social problems, and he advocated the teaching of local history as a means by which to develop their insight into national and world affairs. Whitener was disgusted by historians and educators who neglected local history. He said, "The first thrust of the wilderness road to Kentucky and Tennessee was here. Historians must think the settlers took a helicopter over the mountains the way they ignore this section."

Whitener read constantly in his attempts to absorb information and was interested in interpreting and drawing conclusions from international events. His interest in history led to his active participation in many historical and professional organizations. He was one of the founders of the University of North Carolina Historical Association and served as its president between 1953-54. He was president of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association between 1958-59, and served as a member of both the North Carolina Historical Society and the Society of American Historians. While serving on the Executive Board of Education in the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, Whitener invited former president, Harry Truman to speak at a state meeting, and Truman obliged. During a luncheon prior to the meeting, when Whitener proceeded to introduce Truman, the president yelled "Give 'em hell, D.J." Later that day, when President Truman spoke to a group of dignitaries in Raleigh, North Carolina, Whitener said, "Harry, give 'em the same thing you told me to give them."

Whitener died unexpectedly at 1:30 on March 23, 1964 as the result of a sudden heart attack. He was scheduled to retire in June of that year, and after retirement he had planned to catch up on his reading and hopefully undertake an historical study on the early education of North Carolina. At his death, many mourned the loss of the "scholar and teacher" known far and wide as an "expert" on North Carolina history. Whitener's good standing in the community was evidenced at his funeral service held at the Methodist Church. Many friends, relatives, associates, and students gathered to hear the service at which the three following area pastors officiated: Reverend Richard Crowder, Boone Methodist; E.F. Troutman, Grace Lutheran Church; and J.K. Parker, Jr. of the First Presbyterian Church in Boone.

On Sunday, July 21, 1975, what is popularly known on Appalachian State University campus as Whitener Hall was dedicated to the late Daniel Jay Whitener. The building itself was completed in 1954 and was formerly used as a laboratory school for Appalachian State Teachers College. It contained a cafeteria, spacious library, musical facilities, and an auditorium, and its first principal, John Howell, called it the most modern school anywhere. The building was used for regular university classes following the completion of Hardin Park Elementary School. Attending the dedication ceremony were 150 family members, colleagues, friends, and students. A day mixed with sadness and pride, Whitener's son represented the family and offered a speech of acceptance. Those who were present came to pay tribute to this man who had accomplished so much for so many.

DR. STRICKLAND TO STEP DOWN by Mark D. Vickrey



Dr. William C. Strickland recently announced his decision to step down as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences effective July 1, 1984. Dean Strickland felt the time was right to return to teaching full-time as a tenured professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion, where he plans to teach Biblical Studies and selected topics.

In 1966 Dr. Strickland arrived at ASU as chairman of Philosophy and Religion. He became Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences on July 1, 1968, when ASU's four initial colleges were created as part of a planned expansion into a regional university. It is a tribute to Dr. Strickland's talents that he was the choice of an organizational committee for the new position and is the only person to have held the office of Dean of Arts and Sciences.

Since becoming Dean, Dr. Strickland has been deeply involved with the expansion of ASU's curriculum and programs. He has been involved with the development of the BS degree (non-teaching), the creation of the Center for Appalachian Studies, the addition of Latin to the curriculum, and the splitting up of some of the pre-1968 departments into the fourteen now making up Arts and Sciences, to name just a few of his accomplishments.

When asked what he enjoyed most during his years as Dean, Dr. Strickland replied "People. The folk here are marvelous to work with. The people are thoughtful, considerate, and competent. I have enjoyed coming to work every day." He said he has also enjoyed the freedom to teach, work, and think that ASU has provided.

Dr. Strickland's selfless service to ASU has enriched everyone in Arts and Sciences. We in History are proud to have had him as Dean and extend our hopes for his continued success in teaching and thanks for all his help and guidance through the years.

AN ACADEMIC VACATION IN NEWPORT

The fame of ASU's history department continues to spread. This year we made further inroads into the rocky coasts of New England's consciousness, an area where knowledge of "Appellayshia" is ordinarily limited to stereotypical images of hillbilly singers and coalminer's daughters. In Newport, R.I., however, Southerners (with money) have been welcomed since before the Civil War.

So it was at Salve Regina College where our connections were renewed this year and a tradition of summer study has begun. One has the feeling always that they are studying us, even as we accumulate our own knowledge of New Englanders!

This year Dr. George P. Antone, Dr. Donald B. Saunders, and Mrs. Bettie Bond taught history courses, while Dr. Mary Dunlap taught a course in nineteenth-century American literature for the English department, at Salve Regina College, a private school whose location on the ocean front along the famed "Cliff Walk" makes it an ideal location for a summer school program. Dr. John Bond of the Biology department gave us a special view of Newport plant life and horticultural wonders. Strangely enough, ours is the only regular academic program offered on their campus in the summer; increasingly, Salve students are seeking coursework from our faculty and thus becoming part of our growing program there.

Nor only are ocean breezes, suntans, sailing, and other summer delights available through the program we offer, Newport is not far from many historical and literary sites which it is possible to visit on day trips. This year's trips included tours of Sturbridge Village, Conn.; Boston; and New Bedford, where a whaling museum recalls the days of Moby Dick. Unique as a historical site is Plimoth Plantation, the reconstructed settlement of the Pilgrims, where actors in costume actually assume historical roles and live their parts so realistically that their knowledge of events seems to stop at 1628. Questioning these settlers brings fascinating information about the seventeenth century to light.

As for things to do in and around Newport, we were never without options. History, of course, abounds, from early colonial houses and churches along the waterfront to "cottages" of the rich from the Gilded Age. More contemporary were places to eat and drink and shop and to rub elbows with the yachting crowd who swarm in Newport during America's Cup years. ASU students experienced the unique opportunity to spend an evening on the town and not risk DUI's on their return to their dorm. And although Newport is no longer a major naval base, its night life continues to be active and exciting, a pleasant contrast to Boone. Getting around town, whether on foot, by bicycle, University van, or classic sports car, was easy.

Next summer's program at Salve Regina will be even bigger; to meet the demand for standard courses, math and English may be added, along with World Civilization, for our own and for Salve's students. We also expect a large group of adult learners to take part in a companion program of tours, trips, and lectures. Living accommodations will again be in a converted mansion of the last century, one of many on Salve's beautiful campus.

For further information,
contact Dr. Antone.



FACULTY NOTES

Elizabeth B. Bond taught a course on the American China Trade at the ASU Summer Program in Newport. She continues as Coordinator of the University Records Center and Archives, as Editor of the History Department *Newsletter* and as the organizer of various departmental activities.

H.L. Bond chaired a session on "World Spirituality" at the Sewane Medieval Conference at Fordham University and will read a paper on the theology of Nicholas of Cusa at the International Conference on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan, this May.

Rennie Brantz continued his work on "Anton Erkelenz and German Politics, 1900-1933," and made presentations for the Great Decisions Programs at ASU and Caldwell County Community College on the "US and West Germany: What is Wrong with the Alliance." He also spoke at Wingate College on "Helping Liberal Arts Students Find Worthwhile Careers" and presented a lecture/film program on "Nazi Germany: The Myth and Reality," for Advanced Placement History students at South Caldwell High School.

Eugene Drozdowski continues work on a monograph, *Abraham Lincoln and Civil War Emancipation*.

Silvia Forgus abstracted sixteen Slavic articles for *Historical Abstracts* and continued to work on the "Renaissance of Estonian Nationalism." She also studied Polish ethnography and folk art at Marie Curie-Sklodowska University in Lublin, Poland, this past summer. While there she toured the southern mountain region of Poland and visited Hungary and Czechoslovakia as well. The tour's high point was a 2½ hour Polish wedding ceremony and the following reception. She reports that more Poles line up for Mass than for meat.

Thomas K. Keefe will present a paper entitled, "The Lands and Household of William FitzEmpress," at the American Historical Association's convention in San Francisco this December. His book, *Feudal Assessments and the Political Community Under Henry II and His Sons*, will be published by the University of California Press in November. During the year he presented papers at A.S.U. and the University of Houston on "Using SPSS in Medieval Research: Domesday Book" and "The Becket Quarrel: Feudal Tenures and Politics in Early Angevin England." He continues to serve as Vice-President of The Charles Homer Haskins Society for the Study of Viking, Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman, and Angevin History.

Winston Kinsey reviewed Arnold Shankman's *Ambivalent Friends: Afro-Americans View the Immigrant* for the *Journal of Southern History* and gave guest lectures on the "Problems of Modern Africa" at Caldwell Community College and Amarillo College (Texas). He served as ASU's institutional representative to the Southern Atlantic States Association for African and Asian Studies (SASASAAS) and continued his work on the board of the *Liberal and Fine Arts Review*. He and "Red" Alderman (Earth Studies) were joint instructors of "The History of Rural America" this past spring. Kinsey also taught "Rural America during the Great Depression," this past summer,

following his family's annual pilgrimage to Texas, where they visited historical sites and rode in the July 4 parade in Belton, Texas.

Helena Lewis was on leave last semester and spent a month in France doing research for a book on Elsa Triolet, a left-wing novelist and heroine of the French Resistance.

Lu-po Li, of the People's Republic of China, is teaching a course on the role of women in China and is lecturing to various World Civilization sections on modern China, particularly the Cultural Revolution.

Michael Moore continues as Editor of *Albion*. In that capacity, he donated \$1600 worth of books sent to *Albion* by publishers to Belk Library. He was elected secretary-treasurer of the Conference on Historical Journals, an AHA affiliated body responsible for developing coordination among the editors of historical journals in North America.

Peter Petschauer had a number of articles published, including "Sophie La Roche, Novelist Between Reason and Emotion," *The Germanic Review* (Spring 1982); "From Hausmutter to Hausfrau: Ideals and Realities in Late Eighteenth-Century Germany," *Eighteenth-Century Life* (Fall 1983) and "Exxon and Higher Education: Reflections on One Student-to-Student Advising Program," *College Student Journal* (October 1983); "Growing Up Female in Eighteenth Century Germany," lead article *Journal of Psycho-history* (Fall 1983). His article "Des Weibliche Kind im Deutschland destzehnten Jahrhunderts," will be published in a special issue of *Kindheit* in the spring of 1984 and his "Father, Son and Uncertain Solutions: Conversations and Reflections About National Socialist Germany," will appear in the Spring, 1984, issue of *Biography: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly*. He has also submitted for publication papers on restructuring historical thinking, Catherine the Great, elementary education for girls in 16th, 17th and 18th century Germany, and on opinions about female education. His research on childrearing in the north Italian village of Afers/Eroes will be presented this next June at the International Psychohistorical Conference and an Italian press will publish his short book manuscript on the socioeconomic and psychohistorical development of Afers. Finally, Petschauer presented "Much Enthusiasm, Little Result: Resistance to Female Educational and Professional Access," at the October 1982 meeting of the East Central section of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and made a symposium contribution to David Beisel's "The Group Fantasy of Early German Nationalism, 1800-1815," *Journal of Psychohistory*, (Winter 1982).

Raymond Pulley has been involved in developing courseware applications for microcomputers. He spent part of the summer researching historic architecture in Pittsburgh and New Orleans and since June has been associated with the ASU-Hiddenite Project, which involves the development of an ambitious cultural arts program for the Alexander County area. ASU is providing assistance in developing a community theatre, a crafts center, a museum and a cultural resource facility. Pulley's participation involves research on the life and times of James P. "Diamond Jim" Lucas, whose house will be the center-

FACULTY NOTES continued

piece of the project, serving as a museum and cultural center.

Carl Ross has been appointed Acting Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies for fiscal 1983-1984. He participated in the Summer 1983 Elderhostel program, was elected chairman of the Advisory Board of the *Appalachian Journal* for 1983-84 and was named to the 1985 Southern Historical Association Program Committee as the program representative for the Southeast Council on Latin American Studies.

Stephen Simon has completed a new translation of Eutropius' *Breviarium ab urbe condita*, which is being considered for publication by Carolina Academic Press. He is beginning work on a new edition of Vaalerius Maximus' *Factorum ae dictorum memorabilium libri IX*. This past summer, he participated in a NEH institute on "Women in Classical Antiquity" at Hunter College, where he studied the public role of Greek women as priestesses and the position of females in Spartan society.

Michael Wade won the Southwestern Historical Association's 1982 Best Paper award for "Learning By Doing: The NYA Work Program," a paper presented at the Southwestern Social Science Association's annual meeting in San Antonio. In October, he chaired a session on "Black History: Contemporary Perspectives," at the annual meeting of the *Arkansas Association of College History Teachers* in Hot Springs. Until this fall, he served as a county membership chairman for the Arkansas Historical Association. His article, "Back to the Land: The Woodlake Community, 1933-1943," appeared in the Fall issue of the *East Texas Historical Journal*. He is currently revising a book-length manuscript on David Williams, a Texas architect and important New Deal figure, and is pursuing several article-length projects on late 19th century Childress, Texas, student aid in the 1930's and indigenous Texas architecture.

Allen Wells recently completed a manuscript, *Yucatan's Gilded Age: Haciendas, Henequen and International Harvester, 1860-1915*, which will be published by the University of New Mexico Press in the fall of 1984. He continues as editor of the *Southeastern Latin Americanist*. This past summer, he visited Nicaragua as a member of a fact-finding tour organized by the North Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Latin America. Wells and other group members presented their findings in a recent Educational Forum, "Crisis and Intervention in Nicaragua," held at Appalachian State University.

David White is program director of the SASASAAS Semester-in-India program and is currently at the University of Madras. He will return at Thanksgiving.

Marvin Williamsen is teaching and pursuing research in Chinese history at the Northeast Institute of Technology in Shenyang, China, as part of the ASU-NEIT Educational Exchange Program.

Jim Winders continues to work on new approaches to intellectual history, derived especially from literary and social theory. Last year, he organized a departmental lecture series on intellectual history that featured three

visiting scholars. In October, 1982, he participated in the conference, "After Strange Texts: The Role of Theory in the Study of Literature," at the University of Alabama. In November, he presented a paper on "Foucault and Marx" to the History Department Faculty Seminar. In March 1983 he spoke on U.S.-Soviet Relations in the ASU Great Decisions Forum and in April he presented a paper and conducted a seminar on "Michel Foucault, pouvoir-savoir, and History," at the 29th Annual Conference of the Society for French Historical Studies at the University of Iowa. Also in April he served as a judge at the annual regional conference of Phi Alpha Theta held at Elon College. This past summer, he was awarded an NEH Fellowship to participate in a University of Illinois sponsored international Teaching Institute and Conference on "Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture: Limits, Frontiers, Boundaries." While there, he organized a seminar on "Marxism and Deconstruction" and is co-authoring an article on this seminar's work for publication in the conference proceedings. His article, "Reggae, Rastafarians and Revolution; Rock Music in the Third World," was published in *The Journal of Popular Culture* (Summer 1983) and *Magill's Literary Annual 1983* includes three essay-length reviews of *The Empire of Signs* by Roland Barthes, *A Secret Symmetry: Sabina Spielrein between Jung and Freud* by Aldo Carotenuts and *A Susan Sontag Reader*.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO . . .

Allen Franklin Cantrell ('80) (HS-4, FPO, San Francisco, CA) is an Ensign in the Navy. A helicopter pilot now assigned to HELANTISUBRON Four, recently participated in an around the world cruise aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Carl Vinson.

Janice Cole Gibson ('69) (Route 1, Box 209, Stanfield) earned her MA in Reading from ASU in 1979. Teaches Chapter I reading at Oakboro Elementary School in Oakboro. Recently elected Teacher of the Year in Stanley County, she will enter district competition in December.

Paul L. Lucas, Jr. ('75) (Route 6, Box 209-C, Wilmington) teaches at E.A. Laney High School in Wilmington.

Russell Harvey Lyles (BS '71, MA '72) (Route 1, Box 107, Murfreesboro) is Local Director of Vocational Education with Weldon City Schools in Weldon. He and his wife Edna have two children: Meredyth (6) and Elizabeth (4). He has pursued further graduate studies at East Carolina University.

Linda Curry Petrea (MA '83) (Route 4, Box 241, Leesville, SC) teaches 7th grade college prep. English and creative writing at Newberry Junior High School in Newberry, SC.

Dr. Paul Henry Reuter, Jr. ('64) (2438 Ormond Drive, Birmingham, Alabama) is Self-Study Director and history instructor at Jefferson Stark Junior College in Birmingham, Alabama.

C. Kinney Rorrer (BS '68, MA '69) (Route 2, Box 119-E, Ringgold, VA) is an Assistant Professor of History at Danville Community College in Danville, VA. His book

Xamblin' Blues: The Life and Songs of Charlie Poole was published last fall by Old Time Music in London, England. It is a biography of country music pioneer Charlie Poole and a social and cultural history of the north-central piedmont of North Carolina in the first thirty years of the 20th century.

Russell Lee Scruggs (MA '70) (241 Southland Drive, Danville, VA) is an Assistant Professor of History at Danville Community College in Danville, VA.

Steve W. Triplett (MA '73) (P.O. Box 461, Pilot Mountain) is a social studies teacher and coach at North Surry High School in Mt. Airy.

James Bradley (Brad) Wilson ('75) (1412 Mimosa Lane, Lenoir) was appointed by Governor James B. Hunt to serve on the Board of Transportation of the N.C. Department of Transportation for the 11th Division (Caldwell, Wilkes, Watauga, Alleghany, Ashe, Surry, and Yadkin Counties). He and his wife Carole had daughter, Anne Elizabeth, on August 10, 1982.

THE STATUS OF HISTORY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The North Carolina Humanities Committee has funded the project. "State and Local History in the Public Schools," submitted by George P. Antone and Ruby J. Lanier of the North Carolina Coordinating Committee for the Advancement of History, and Natalie G. Talyor of the Tar Heel Junior Historian Association, North Carolina Museum of History, Division of Archives and History.

The project proposal followed upon the decision of the Department of Public Instruction to revise the social studies curriculum by mandating a year-long course in the history of North Carolina for all eighth grade students, beginning in the fall of 1983. This revision is perceived by many as a major first step in returning history to its proper and distinctive place in the curriculum. For more than a generation history instruction has been submerged in an issues-oriented social studies curriculum, which resulted in relegating history to a minor role in the curriculum. In 1976 a group of concerned individuals from several historical agencies organized the "Joint Committee on the Status of History in the Public School" to address the issue, and in January 1978 issued a position paper, "History in the Public Schools." The Committee stated that it believed that "history education should have a secure and carefully defined place in the curriculum of the public schools of North Carolina," and went on to deplore the emphasis on contemporary social sciences and the decline in enrollment in history courses. The position paper also contained six specific recommendations as first steps to improve the quality of history instruction in North Carolina. Included among these was a recommendation that a well defined history course be required of all North Carolina secondary school students. These recommendations were presented to the State Board of Education in November 1978 and thus began the long process that resulted in the 1983 revision.

Changing the curriculum, however, does not guarantee effective instruction in the classroom. It has been several

years since North Carolina history had been taught as a distinct course in the public schools; few teachers were sufficiently prepared to teach a year-long North Carolina history course. What is needed, and what has been lacking in the past, is collaboration between academic historians interested in North Carolina history and the public school officials and teachers charged with the responsibility of implementing the curriculum revision.

In the spring of 1982 Antone, Lanier, and Talyor received funds from the North Carolina Humanities Committee to bring together for a planning conference knowledgeable people involved in history and teacher education. The group was asked to review the current situation, explore options for change, and recommend a strategy. The planning group identified two areas of concern:

1. Many teachers are not prepared to teach North Carolina history because they have neither taught the subject nor have they had an opportunity to take it in college during the last decade. Teaching materials and opportunities for additional preparation are needed.
2. The public's interest in state and local history is generally confined to limited areas such as genealogy and antiquarianism. This interest needs to be focused into a broader historical framework so that the general public, as well as students, will have a greater appreciation for and understanding of North Carolina history.

With these guidelines, Antone, Lanier and Talyor prepared and submitted to the Humanities Committee the proposal for this project, which seeks to improve and enhance the teaching of state and local history through a threefold approach: the development of instructional materials in North Carolina history; a series of regional conferences with teachers preparing to teach North Carolina history; and involvement of local and county historical societies to supplement and support history in the public schools.

The project is currently producing ten, 20-minute slide/tape presentations on selected topics in North Carolina history, and instructional materials related to the slide/tape presentations. The slide/tape presentations and the accompanying materials will be presented and discussed with teachers and representatives from local historical societies at eight regional meetings to be conducted during the 1983-1984 academic year. It is anticipated that these regional conferences and related activities will result in collaboration between academic historians, public schools, and local historical societies to improve and enliven the teaching of state and local history. Additional activities to follow up on the regional conferences are being planned.

A full set of the slide/tape units, currently under production, will be made available in the eight regional education centers for use by teachers and local groups interested in North Carolina history. Copies of the slide/tape programs will be available at duplication cost from the Museum of History, Raleigh. Additional information on the project may be obtained from the project directors (Antone & Lanier, Department of History, Appalachian State University, Talyor, Museum of History, Raleigh).

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