

Welcome from the Rural Women's Studies Association (RWSA)

Join the **Rural Women's Studies Association (RWSA)** for its 13th triennial conference. The theme, "Surviving and Thriving: Gender, Justice, Power, and Place Making," emphasizes the role of gender in rural community formation and survival. Presenters will explore the ways that gendered identity (as women, men, or bi- and trans-) and raced identity (within separatist communities, segregated neighborhoods, or integrated spaces) affected personal power, individual choice, and community development historically and today. These subjects inform us about rural activism, business development, cultural expression, self-governance, and collective experiences locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

The RWSA is an international association founded in 1997 to promote and advance farm and rural women's/gender studies in a historical perspective by encouraging research, promoting scholarship, and establishing and maintaining links with organizations that share these goals. RWSA welcomes academic scholars, public historians and archivists, graduate students, and representatives of rural organizations and communities as conference participants and members.

1st Conference on Rural & Farm Women in Historical Perspective	New Mexico State University	Las Cruces, NM	1984
2 nd	University of Wisconsin	Madison, WI	1986
3 rd	Tuskegee University	AL	1989
4 th	University of California	Davis, CA	1992
5 th	National 4-H Conference Center	Chevy Chase, MD	1994
6 th	Baylor University	Waco, TX	1997
7th RWSA Triennial Conference	Minnesota Historical Society	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	2000
8 th	New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Center & New Mexico State University	Las Cruces, NM	2003
9 th	Lancaster Conference Center	Lancaster, PA	2006
10 th	Indiana University	Bloomington, IN	2009
11 th	St. Thomas University	Fredericton, NS, Canada	2012
12 th	Texas State University	San Marcos, TX	2015

Local Arrangements: Chair: Katherine Jellison, RWSA co-chair, Ohio University; **Rachel Terman**, Ohio University; **Kathryn Engle**, University of Kentucky; **Margaret Thomas-Evans**, Indiana University East

Program committee: Co-chairs: Cherisse R. Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University and **Debra A. Reid**, The Henry Ford, with **Mary A. Larson**, Edmon Low Library, Oklahoma State University; **Margaret Weber**, Iowa State University; **Susi Acord**, Athens County Rural Action; **Amy L. McKinney**, Northwest College; **Rebecca Montgomery**, Texas State University; **Catharine Wilson**, RWSA co-chair, University of Guelph, ex-officio member.

Registration and Local Arrangements

Registration:

Full Conference Fee: \$100 includes the Thursday evening meal and program at The Ridges as well as access to all sessions, plenaries and conference events as well as morning and afternoon snacks and evening receptions.

One-Day Registration Fee: \$35 includes sessions and conference events and snacks for that day. Registrants (and guests) attending Thursday only may purchase the meal at The Ridges separately.

All participants, including speakers, must register. Registration will occur electronically through the RWSA-Ohio University webpage. Registrants can choose to renew their RWSA membership when they register. **RWSA Membership Dues:** \$30 annually; \$10 annually for retirees, fixed income, and students; Three-year payment option: \$90 or \$30 covers membership between triennial conferences.

RWSA Donations

Jensen-Neth Fund, which provides support for future conferences.

Memorials in honor of individuals most welcome.

For planned giving details, please contact Jenny Barker-Devine, RWSA Treasurer.

Conference headquarters:

Living Learning Center, Ohio University (location for registration; concurrent and plenary sessions; morning and afternoon snacks; evening gatherings, book exhibits and silent auction). Meal plan meals will be served next door to the Living Learning Center in the Nelson Commons dining hall.

Accommodations:

Participants should book residence hall rooms through the conference registration system. Rooms at the Ohio University Inn should be booked directly by calling 1-866-593-6661 and requesting accommodation in the block of rooms reserved for the RWSA conference.

Available nights: Wednesday, 16 May through Sunday, 20 May 2018:

Residence Hall Suites (2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, fridge, microwave, Wi-Fi)

Double occupancy—\$24 per person per night + \$15 one-time linen fee

Single occupancy--\$42 per person per night + \$15 one-time linen fee

Ohio University Inn and Conference Center (full-service hotel, restaurant, bar, pool)

Conference rate--\$139.95 per room (single or double occupancy)

Meals:

Residence hall dining at Nelson Commons for conference participants (all you can eat):

\$8.00 per breakfast \$10.00 per lunch \$13.00 per dinner

Participants who don't purchase a residence hall dining plan may purchase meals at the Baker Student Center food court (deli food, pizza, grilled sandwiches, soup and salad bar, yogurt bar, "home cooking" cafeteria, taco and burrito bar, etc.) or at local restaurants.

Transportation and parking:

Columbus International Airport (CMH), aka Port Columbus Airport, Columbus, Ohio

Getting to Ohio University from Port Columbus Airport: Go-Bus (\$20 RT)

Getting around Athens: Public Transit (regular fare--\$1; over-65/disabled fare--\$.50)

Parking:

Full-conference parking permit (\$20)

One-day commuter permit (\$15)

Schedule at-a-Glance

Wednesday, 16 May 2018

2:00 to 6:30 pm: Optional Afternoon Tour of coal-mining and tile-making communities (\$45)

6:00 pm Dinner (based on the meal option you select)

7:30 pm Welcome Reception, Living Learning Center (LLC) atrium

Thursday, 17 May 2018

Before 8:00 am Breakfast (based on the meal option you select)

7:30 am – Registration Desk Opens – Living Learning Center (LLC), Ohio University

NOTE: all conference sessions are held in the LLC unless otherwise noted.

8:00 to 8:15 - Welcome

8:15 to 9:45 am - CONCURRENT SESSION I

I-1: Black Feminism in the Rural South

I-2: “New Woman”: Rural Women, Work and Culture beyond the Farm

I-3: Rural Women and Rural Wealth

9:45 to 10:15 am - Break with snacks in LLC atrium

10:15 to 11:45 am - CONCURRENT SESSION II

II-1: Farm Women and Crisis, 1970s and 1980s

II-2: Split Visions: Readings by Three West Virginia Women Writers

II-3: Geo-Spatial Analysis and Women Farmers

Noon to 1:00 pm Lunch (based on the meal option you select)

1:00 to 2:30 pm - PLENARY ROUNDTABLE: Grandmothers and Granddaughters of RWSA

1:00 pm - Silent Auction Begins

2:45 to 3:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION III

III-1: Rural Women as Others “Saw” Them

III-2: Informal Discussion of Research in Progress

III-3: Rural Action, Inc

3:45 to 8:30 pm Museums at The Ridges

Van transportation provided, but The Ridges is a 20-minute walk from LLC.

Friday, 18 May 2018

7:30 am – Registration Opens – Living Learning Center (LLC), Ohio University

Before 8:30 am Breakfast (based on the meal option you select)

8:30 to 10:00 am - CONCURRENT SESSION IV

IV-1: Rural Women’s Activism through Oppression

IV-2: Panel Discussion: Researching Rural Women--Sources, Libraries, Scholarship, and Material Culture

IV-3: Rural Femininity on Display

10:00 to 10:30 am - Break with snacks in LLC atrium

10:30 to Noon - CONCURRENT SESSION V

V-1: Rural Feminism

V-2: Films Depicting Rural Women: Historic Footage

V-3: Women and Rural Business Strategies

Noon to 1:00 pm - Lunch on your own

Schedule at-a-Glance

Friday, 18 May 2018 (continued)

1:00 to 2:00 pm - PLENARY: Chief Glenna Wallace, Eastern Shawnee Nation

2:15 to 3:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION VI

VI-1: Rural Women and Organizational Activism within and beyond Borders

VI-2: Road Trips, Religion, and Rituals: Gendered Practices and Performances of Pentecostals, Amish and Agribusiness

VI-3: "Sowing the Seeds of Love": Promoting Transgender Inclusivity and Visibility in Policies and Training Programs in the Heartland

3:45 to 4:15 pm – Break with snacks in LLC atrium

4:15 to 5:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION VII

VII-1: Stories

VII-2: Panel Discussion: Culture, Indigenous Women and Indigenous Developments in South African Communities

VII-3: Panel Discussion: Appalachian Feminisms and Rurality--Place, Place Making, and Praxis

6:00 pm - Dinner on your own

7:30 pm - Women's History Walking Tour, Ohio University campus

Saturday, 19 May 2018

7:30 to 8:30 am - Breakfast and RWSA Business Meeting

8:45 to 10:15 am - Athens Farmers Market (van transportation provided)

10:30 to Noon - CONCURRENT SESSION VIII

VIII-1: Women, Land, and the State: Perspectives from Scandinavian History

VIII-2: Rural Women and Their Work

VIII-3: Roundtable: Creating Dawn Jewell, Appalachian Woman and Narrator of *Trampoline*

Noon to 1:00 pm - Lunch on your own

1:00 to 2:00 pm - PLENARY: Nikki Taylor, *Driven toward Madness*

2:00 pm - Silent Auction ends

2:15 to 3:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION IX

IX-1: Discussion Forum: Sharing Strategies for Creative Approaches to Community Development and Place Making

IX-2: Rural Women and Their Places

IX-3: Panel Discussion: Rethinking and Remaking Place as Resistance

3:45 to 4:15 pm - Break with snacks in LLC atrium

4:15 to 5:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION X

X-1: Rural Women Educators

X-2: Rural Health Care

X-3: Roundtable Discussion: Organizing Rural Women in Today's Political Climate

6:00 pm - Dinner on your own

8:00 pm - Evening Program: Women of Appalachia Spoken Word and Music Artists

Sunday, 20 May 2018

Brunch (based on the meal option you select)

10:00 am to 2:00 pm - Tour of Wayne National Forest and Zaleski State Forest (\$40)

(Pre-registration and extra fee required; van transportation and Sunday brunch included)

RWSA 13th Triennial Conference Program

Wednesday, 16 May 2018

2:00 to 6:30 pm – Optional Tour of Rural Communities that will include opportunities to talk with residents about challenges they face and steps they take to sustain their towns (pre-registration and fee required; van transportation provided): Tour includes tile-making town of Haydenville (tour and discussion of unique architecture) and the coal-mining towns of New Straitsville (history museum, Robinson's Cave, and Monday Creek Restoration Project) and Shawnee (mining monument, opera house, and dinner provided by local women).

6:00 pm Dinner (options: Residence Hall meal plan or restaurants in Athens, Ohio)

7:30 pm Welcome reception in Living Learning Center (LLC) atrium

Thursday, 17 May 2018

Before 8:00 am Breakfast (residence hall meal plan, student center food court, or local restaurant)

7:30 am Registration Desk Opens - Living Learning Center (LLC), Ohio University

NOTE: all conference sessions are held in the Living Learning Center (LLC) unless otherwise explained.

8:00 to 8:15 am Welcome

8:15 to 9:45 am - CONCURRENT SESSIONS I

I-1. Black Feminism in the Rural South

A Forgotten Black Nation: Gender and Place Making in the Rural American South, 1945-1960

Beatrice J. Adams, Rutgers University

Writing in Black and White: The Box Project, Rural Black Women and New Narratives of the Black Freedom Struggle in Mississippi, 1962 – 1968

Pamela Walker, Rutgers University

Black Power in Nacogdoches, Texas: The Activism of Helena Abdullah (formerly known as Helena Patton)

Jasmin C. Howard, Michigan State University

Dark Daughters of the South: The Proper Care and Feeding of Warrior Women

Carmen Lanos Williams, Arkansas State University

Chair: Valerie Grim, Indiana University

Thursday, 17 May 2018

8:15 to 9:45 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS I (continued)

I-2. “New Woman”: Rural Women, Work and Culture beyond the Farm

“Dear People”: The Letters and Poetry of Harriette Cushman--The U.S. Extension Service’s First Poultry Specialist

Amy L. McKinney, Northwest College

Rural Spectacle in Three Comedies, 1890-1920 (*Sis Hopkins, Old Homestead, & Blue Jeans*)

Natasha Lueras, Indiana University-Bloomington

Refugee from the Plantation South: Marie Wilson’s Flight from Privilege to Notoriety

Jeannie Whayne, University of Arkansas

Chair: Mary A. Larson, Edmon Low Library, Oklahoma State University

I-3. Rural Women and Rural Wealth

Rural Women: Tools in Agricultural Production but Servants in Profit Sharing

Rufus A. Oluwafemi, University of Abuja, Nigeria

Mariam El-Yakub, Oxfam, Bauchi, Nigeria

Killing in the Name: Family, Food, and Power in the American Midwest

Sara Egge, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky

Discussion of *Rural Wealth Creation: Concepts, Strategies, and Measures* (USDA Economic Research Report 131, released March 2012), available at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/reports/rd-ERR131.pdf>. Attendees will discuss report contents, the ways that gender affects the report's conclusions, and the role of rural women in rural wealth generation.

Facilitator: Debra A. Reid, The Henry Ford

9:45 to 10:15 am Break with snacks in LLC atrium

10:15 to 11:45 am CONCURRENT SESSION II

II-1. Farm Women and Crisis, 1970s and 1980s

An Eye View of the Furrow during the Farm Crisis

Debra A. Reid, The Henry Ford

Resourceful Nation Builders: Women, Co-operative Farming and Development Projects in Socialist Villages in 1970s Lindi, Tanzania

Husseina Dinani, University of Toronto-Scarborough

Farm Women in Crisis Times: Rethinking Women’s Roles in the Iowa of the 1980s

Pam Riney-Kehrberg, Iowa State University and President, Midwestern History Assoc.

Chair: Steven Reschly, Truman State University

Thursday, 17 May 2018

10:15 to 11:45 am CONCURRENT SESSION II (continued)

II-2. Split Visions: Readings by Three West Virginia Women Writers

A Native West Virginian, Life-Long Resident, and Fiction Writer

Natalie Sybolt, Pierpont Community & Technical College

A Ballet-Dancer, Non-Fiction Writer and North Dakota Transplant to West Virginia

Renée Nicholson, Programs for Multi- and Interdisciplinary Studies at West Virginia University

A Poet, Translator, Lyricist, and Photographer

Randi Ward, award-winning translator and founder of the Parkersburg Poetry Series

Facilitator: Tracey Hanshew, Washington State University—Tri-Cities

II-3 Geo-Spatial Analysis and Women Farmers

Geographic Analysis of Women Farm Operators in the United States

Elisabeth Garner, Pennsylvania State University

Topsy, Polly, & the Tin Lizzie, 1880-1930: Women on the Move & Claiming Space in the County

Pamela J. Snow Sweetser, University of Maine-Orono and educator, historian, fiber craftswoman, and wool grower

Chair: Rebecca Montgomery, Texas State University

Noon to 1:00 pm Lunch (options: meal plan through Ohio University, student union food court, or restaurants in Athens, Ohio)

1:00 to 2:30 pm - Plenary Roundtable

Grandmothers and Granddaughters of the RWSA: What Generation Gap?

For thirty years, the Rural Women's Studies Association has introduced historians to vibrant and important questions about the experiences of rural women across the globe. Scholars in this field have challenged assumptions about the theory and history of gender, race, environment, politics, family, economics, and community. They have encouraged historians to confront their urban/ metro-normative gaze when confronting contradictions and continuities in rural spaces. These scholars have also offered exciting possibilities for area studies, interdisciplinary studies, and scholars of sexuality and queer theory. The "Granddaughters" seek to respond to the "Grandmothers" of RWSA, a generation of scholars whose pivotal work has provided the foundation for future scholarship. Each will note how the "Grandmothers" influenced their understandings of topics about rural women and offer commentary about the future of scholarship in the field.

Granddaughters:

Margaret Weber, Iowa State University

Kathryn Engle, University of Kentucky

Emily Prifogle, Princeton University

Sara Egge, Centre College

Facilitator, Jenny Barker-Devine, Illinois College

Thursday, 17 May 2018

1:00 pm - Silent auction begins

2:45 to 3:45 pm CONCURRENT SESSION III

III-1 Rural Women as Others “Saw” Them

“Go to the Lands of Darkness”: The Migration of Single Women on the Illinois Frontier, 1820-1850
Jenny Barker-Devine, Illinois College

Searching for Bell: Finding A Woman in a Man’s Diary
Daniel Samson, Brock University, St Catharines, Ontario

Chair: Catharine Wilson, University of Guelph, Ontario

III-2 Informal Discussion of Research in Progress

Come share your research topics and learn from your peers about angles to explore and available sources.

Facilitator: Amy L. McKinney, Northwest College

III-3 Rural Action, Inc.

Local Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to Revitalizing Appalachian Ohio

Rural Action (RA) was founded in 1992 as an organization focused on using the strategies of Asset Based Community Development to address the endemic issues of poverty and lack of opportunity in Appalachian Ohio. Rural Action utilizes a triple bottom line strategy in its programming—“Good for the Economy, The Community and the Environment”. One key partner of RA is Women Grow Ohio (WGO), a network of Women in Agriculture started by long time RA member Annie Warmke of Blue Rock Station in Muskingum County. Women Grow Ohio organizes women to women trainings and networks focused on the concept of the woman as the farmer, not the helpmate. They are a volunteer based group whose goals are Networking, Peer to Peer Education, Promotion and Sustainability. Their mission is to demonstrate the important work of Ohio women in feeding their families and others in our great state. RA staff and members of Women Grow Ohio will discuss their efforts to support women in agriculture.

Tom Redfern and Caroline Keyes, Rural Action
Annie Warmke, Women Grow Ohio

The Ridges (3:45 to 8:30 pm)

3:45 pm - Depart LLC for The Ridges

Van transportation provided, but The Ridges is a 20-minute walk from LLC.

“The Ridges” refers to the entirety of the Victorian mental health complex that is now part of the Ohio University campus. Two museums are located in buildings originally constructed by the Athens Asylum for the Insane: The Kennedy Museum of Art and The Dairy Barn. RWSA participants will visit both.

Thursday, 17 May 2018

The Ridges (continued)

4:00 to 5:30 pm

Kennedy Museum of Art, located in the 1874 facility of the historic Athens Asylum

Sally Delgado, Curator of Education; **Lisa Quinn**, Education Program Coordinator; **Lori Spencer**, Administrative Associate

Wine Reception in Front Hall

Behind-the-scenes tour of the vast collection of Navajo women's weavings (Southwest Native American Collection) in storage and on display. Student guides will welcome attendees in two galleries: Museum Studies exhibition gallery and East Galleries. Guests can also view a special exhibition on the Sesquicentennial of the Asylum, founded in 1868, in partnership with the Southeast Ohio History Center

5:30 pm - Depart Kennedy Museum of Art for the Dairy Barn Arts Center

5:45 to 8:30 pm – Dinner and Evening Program

The Dairy Barn Arts Center (housed in the former dairy barn of the historic Athens Asylum)
Contemporary Art Quilts on exhibit.

Dinner catered by Restaurant Salaam, **Hilarie Burhans**, proprietor. She will share the perspective of a business-woman and musician in rural Appalachia.

Evening program: **Sue Massek** of the Reel World String Band (Kentucky's feminist hillbilly band) and her performance, "Appalachian Women, A Herstory of Oppression and Resistance."

Friday, 18 May 2018

7:30 am – Registration opens – Living Learning Center (LLC), Ohio University

Before 8:30 am Breakfast (based on the meal option you select)

8:30 to 10:00 am - CONCURRENT SESSION IV

IV-1 Rural Women's Activism through Oppression

Rural Women's Activism: The Powerful Impact of the Resolutions and Campaigns of the National Federation of Women's Institutes of England, Wales, and the Islands

Margaret Thomas-Evans, Indiana University East

Farm Institutes and Rural Women: The Case of Rural New York State, 1900-1940s

Mary Ellen Zuckerman, State University of New York- Brockport

Reformers in the Backwater: The Housekeepers Club of Coconut Grove, 1891-1957

Maureen S. Thompson, Florida International University

Chair: Cherisse R. Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University

Friday, 18 May 2018

8:30 to 10:00 am - CONCURRENT SESSION IV (continued)

IV-2 Panel Discussion: Researching Rural Women--Sources, Libraries, Scholarship, and Material Culture

Three experts will share their knowledge of primary and secondary sources. This addresses RWSA's goal to "promote and advance farm and rural women's/gender studies in a historical perspective by encouraging research, [and] promoting scholarship."

Tips and Tricks to Finding Records in Archives and Special Collections

Anne L. Moore, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Identifying a 3-D Object in a 2-D Source

Debra A. Reid, The Henry Ford

Using Library Finding Aids (library catalogs, databases, citation analysis, and text mining) to Find Primary and Secondary Sources Related to Rural Women

Sara Morris, University of Kansas

Audience Discussion—Facilitator: Sara Morris, University of Kansas

IV-3 Rural Femininity on Display

Ontario Dairy Princesses and the Cultural Identity of Women in Dairy Farming in the Postwar Period

Jodey Nurse-Gupta, University of Waterloo; University of Guelph

"Country Girls Are Whisky in a Teacup": Crafting Rural Femininities and Building Online Community in the Contemporary U.S. Fashion Marketplace

Holly M. Kent, University of Illinois-Springfield

Conservative Commemoration and Progressive Protest in the Culture Wars (1975-1995)

Cynthia Culver Prescott, University of North Dakota

Chair: Catharine Wilson, University of Guelph, Ontario

10:00 to 10:30 am – Break: Snacks in LLC atrium

Friday, 18 May 2018

10:30 to Noon - CONCURRENT SESSION V

V-1 Rural Feminism

Plotting Resistance: Rural Suffrage, the Petition and Empire in Manitoba
Roland Sawatzky, Curator of History, The Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg

Negotiating Political Difference and Feminism in Rural North Dakota
Ashlee Moser, Brandeis University

The Rural Roots of Feminism in Higher Education
Kelly C. Sartorius, University of Kansas, Lawrence

Heritage Feminism: Exploring New Approaches to Heritage Studies in Nigeria
Elochukwu Nwankwo, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Chair: Amy L. McKinney, Northwest College

V-2 Films Depicting Rural Women: Historic Footage

This session will include viewing of excerpts from two historic U.S. Department of Agriculture productions - The Happier Way (1920) and Power on the Land (1940) -- and selections from Ford Motor Company advertising. The session will conclude with a discussion of resources to consult for historic film footage of rural women.

Facilitator: Debra A. Reid, The Henry Ford

V-3 Women and Rural Business Strategies

Impact of Safety Net Program on Women Headed Household: Climate Change Adaptation vs Poverty Reduction Strategies in Northern Ethiopia
Abadi Teklehaimanot, Mekelle University, Mekelle, Ethiopia

Consequences of the History of Gender Inequity for Rural Family Business Succession Planning
Diane McKenzie, University of Lethbridge, Alberta

Impact of Microcredit on Tunisian Women Empowerment: Evidence in Priority Regions
Lamia Mokaddem, University of Tunis El Manar
Henda Kharoub, University of Tunis El Manar (in absentia)

Chair: Margaret Thomas-Evans, Indiana University East

Noon to 1:00 Lunch on your Own

1:00 to 2:00 pm - Plenary: Chief Glenna Wallace, Eastern Shawnee Nation

Glenna Wallace is an educator and the first woman to be elected Chief of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. Following the Indian Removal Act of 1830, the U.S. government forced the Shawnee to leave their Ohio Valley home for reservations in Oklahoma and Kansas. In speaking about the relationship between the Shawnee and Ohio, Chief Glenna notes: "We are still here in a certain way. We are here in our hearts."

Friday, 18 May 2018

2:15 to 3:45 pm – CONCURRENT SESSION VI

VI-1 - Rural Women and Organizational Activism within and beyond Borders

Presenting Production and Performing Plenty: Auxiliary Advocacy as a Gendered Performance Discourse after World War II

Rebecca Shimoni Stoil, Johns Hopkins University

Gendering the Global Political Order: American Farm Women and Transnational Rural Women's Organizations, 1939-1960

Nancy Berlage, Texas State University, San Marcos

Feminist Popular Education for Social Change in Kenya: Preserving Indigenous Knowledge Systems

Catherine Cutcher, Ohio University

Multi-Dimensional Stakeholders' Partnership: The Gender Transformative (GTM) Model in SDG Implementation

Olubunmi Ashimolowo, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria, and Gender Development Initiative

Chair: Cherisse R. Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University

VI-2 Road Trips, Religion, and Rituals: Gendered Practices and Performances of Pentecostals, Amish, and Agribusiness

Road Trips and Religion: Gender and Ritual in Pentecostal Camp Meetings, 1940-1960

Linda Ambrose, Laurentian University

Preparing the Celebrations and Ceremonies: Amish Women's Religious and Family Rituals in the 1930s

Katherine Jellison, Ohio University

All Cooped Up: Gender and Agribusiness in Postwar America

Margaret Weber, Iowa State University

Chair: Beth E. Graybill, Millersville University

VI-3 "Sowing the Seeds of Love": Promoting Transgender Inclusivity and Visibility in Policies and Training Programs in the Heartland

An LGBTQ archive at the Civil Rights Heritage Center in South Bend, Indiana: A TREES, Inc. Resource

Jamie Wagman, Saint Mary's College, South Bend, Indiana

TREES, Inc.: Transgender Education for Small Town and Rural America

Meghan Buell, Founder of TREES (Transgender Resource, Education and Enrichment Services)

Developing an Educational Presentation for TREES about Violence Prevention and Support Services

Jordan Lolmaugh, St. Mary's College

Reviewing and Revising USDA Employment Policies and Procedures to Ensure Inclusivity and Provide Best Practices for TREES, Inc., Training of Federal and State Agricultural Employees

Alex Shambery, St. Mary's College

Chair: Mary A. Larson, Edmon Low Library, Oklahoma State University

Friday, 18 May 2018

3:45 to 4:15 pm – Break: Snacks in LLC atrium

4:15 to 5:45 pm – CONCURRENT SESSION VII

VII-1 Stories

Looking Forward, Looking Back: Evolving Personal Views of the Dust Bowl
Mary A. Larson, Edmon Low Library, Oklahoma State University

Does Oral History Affect the Life Satisfaction of Older African American Women?
Patricia A. Wilkerson, Arkansas State University

Ten Ladies of the Deep South: Stories of Triumph by the Community of African American Women of Sheplo, Mississippi
Joseph Cates, Sullivan Museum & History Center, Norwich University

Old Indigent Women in Contemporary Nigerian Mythic Consciousness: Nollywood's Witchery and Implications for Rural Women
Stephen Temitope David, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Victim Blaming: Deconstructing Rape Culture in Rural Communities of Southwest Nigeria
Phebean A. Adekunle, Oregon State University

Chair: Tracey Hanshew, Washington State University—TriCities

VII-2 Panel Discussion: Culture, Indigenous Women and Indigenous Development in South African Communities

Presenters will identify and contextualize key issues, concerns and trends affecting the livelihood of women in rural locations and larger communities in South Africa, with an emphasis on the ways that uneducated women contribute to the community positively as entrepreneurs and as preservers of cultural heritage. Presenters will address: 1) How do cultural practices, beliefs and values shape livelihood; 2) Empowerment and women-inherited livelihood; 3) Women's livelihood in colonial and post-colonial era

Panelists:

Nokwanda Yoliswa Nzuza, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

Adetola Elizabeth Oyewo, Brainstorm Travel Consult, PTY, Durban, and University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

Gbadebo Gbemisola, Independent Researcher and Brainstorm Travel Consult, PTY, Durban, South Africa

Chair and Facilitator: Samuel Uwem Umoh, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

Friday, 18 May 2018

4:15 to 5:45 pm – CONCURRENT SESSION VII (continued)

VII-3 Panel Discussion: Appalachian Feminisms & Rurality--Place, Place Making, and Praxis

This panel builds on previous sessions at Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) conferences exploring the concept of “Appalachian Feminism(s).” Presenters will examine gender and place through place-based theorizing, organizing, and activism in Appalachia. Our respective experiences and scholarship consider material, performative, and symbolic aspects of Appalachian Feminism(s). We represent an intergenerational mix of academic, community, and activist perspectives who have benefitted from Sally Maggard’s foundational articles on Appalachian gender and women’s studies and analyses of Appalachian women’s resistance.

Panelists:

Sally Maggard, West Virginia University

Zada Komara, University of Kentucky

Tammy Clemons, University of Kentucky

Jordan Laney, Virginia Tech

Convener: Kathryn Engle, University of Kentucky

6:00 pm - Dinner on your own

7:30 pm - Women’s History Walking Tour, Ohio University campus (LLC atrium)

Tour features outdoor artwork by Athens native Maya Lin (of Vietnam Wall fame) and Emeritus Professor of Art David Hostetler (internationally famous for depiction of the female form) as well as sites commemorating speeches at Ohio University and in Athens by Susan B. Anthony, Eleanor Roosevelt, Margaret Mead, and Marian Anderson.

Saturday, 19 May 2018

7:30 to 8:30 am - Breakfast & RWSA Business Meeting, Residence Hall Dining, Nelson Commons.

8:45 to 10:15 am - Athens Farmers Market (van transportation provided)

10:30 to Noon – CONCURRENT SESSION VIII

VIII-1 Women, Land, and the State: Perspectives from Scandinavian History

Inheriting Daughters, Undivided Farms, and Common Fields in Upper Dalarna, Sweden, 1730–1930

Grey Osterud, Independent Historian, USA

Harvest Failure, Farm Indebtedness and Foreclosure, Gendered and Generational Dissent, and Emigration from Torstuna, Sweden, to Bishops Hill, Illinois, in the Mid-Nineteenth Century

Irène A. Flygare, Stiftelsen Upplandsmuseet, Uppsala, Sweden

Marja Erikson, Uppsala University, Sweden

Women’s Homesteading and Land Purchase on Indian Reservations on the Northern Great Plains, 1887-1934

Karen V. Hansen and Samantha Leonard, Brandeis University

Agrarian Women and the Construction of the Two-Breadwinner Welfare State in Interwar Sweden

Lena Sommestad, Governor, Province of Halland, Sweden

Chair: Debra A. Reid, The Henry Ford

Saturday, 19 May 2018

10:30 to Noon – CONCURRENT SESSION VIII (continued)

VIII-2 Rural Women and Their Work

Yoruba Heritage, Identity and Emblem in the Adire (indigo-dyed) Textile Industry in Nigeria: Case of Women Entrepreneurs in Kemta Market, Abeokuta

Adetola Elizabeth Oyewo, Brainstorm Travel Consult, PTY, Durban, and University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

Gbadebo Gbemisola, Independent Researcher and Brainstorm Travel Consult, PTY, Durban, South Africa

Indigenous Communities, Livelihood and Annang Women of Nigeria: Livelihood based in the Raffia Hookeri and Oil Palm (*Elaeis guineensis*)

Samuel Uwem Umoh and Nokwanda Yoliswa Nzuza University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

Questioning the Gendered Nature of Women's Work: A study of North Eastern Region of India

Bornali Borah, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India (in absentia)

Chair: Margaret Thomas-Evans, Indiana University East

VIII-3 Roundtable: Creating Dawn Jewell, Appalachian Woman and Narrator of *Trampoline*

Robert Gipe, author of *Trampoline: An Illustrated Novel*, and students in the Appalachian Program at Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College (SKCTC) will discuss their collaborative writing projects, including the students' influence on *Trampoline: An Illustrated Novel* that features Appalachian woman Dawn Jewell. Robert Gipe also is a producer of the Higher Ground community performances in Harlan County, Kentucky, and the session will also address the collaboration of Robert and SKCTC students on a play in progress about Appalachian women.

Chair & Facilitator: Rachel Terman, Ohio University

Noon to 1:00 – Lunch on your Own

1:00 to 2:00 pm – PLENARY Nikki Taylor, *Driven toward Madness* (Ohio University Press, 2016)

Introduction by Terri L. Snyder, California State University - Fullerton

Nikki Taylor is Professor of History and Department Chair at Howard University. Professor Taylor's third book, *Driven Toward Madness: The Fugitive Slave Margaret Garner and Tragedy on the Ohio* (Ohio University Press, 2016), is a biography of Margaret Garner, an enslaved wife and mother who in 1856 escaped from slavery in northern Kentucky with her entire family. Garner's reaction to her family's recapture served as the inspiration for Toni Morrison's classic novel *Beloved*.

2:00 pm - Silent auction ends

Saturday, 19 May 2018

2:15 to 3:45 pm – CONCURRENT SESSION IX

IX-1 Discussion Forum: Sharing Strategies for Creative Approaches to Community Development & Place Making

How do we turn buildings, roads and geographic features into vibrant places that nurture and support human collectivities? How do we build community through engaging with others and with our unique environments? This discussion forum provides a space for conference attendees to share their personal and local approaches to place-making. Forum hosts are especially interested in hearing from participants about context-specific strategies for:

- Developing and implementing community improvement or preservation projects
- Sustaining community engagement over time
- Making the work inclusive of different kinds of people

After mapping the opportunities and challenges we have in common, we will facilitate a discussion of next steps in place-based community revitalization that attends particularly to the things that make life beautiful.

Discussion Forum Participants:

Barbara Bradbury, Hurricane Run Farm, a host WWOOF farm (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) in southern Ohio; Shawnee State University

Katherine Borland, Center for Folklore Studies, The Ohio State University

Jody Newton McAllister, Friends of Scioto Brush Creek, Inc.

Jenny Richards, Naturalist, Shawnee State Park

Dawn Richards, Southern Ohio Medical Center

Coordinator and Facilitator: Cassie Patterson, Center for Folklore Studies and the Folklore Archives, The Ohio State University

IX-2 Rural Women and Their Places

Race, Place, and the Biographical Turn: Priscilla Baltimore and Brooklyn, Illinois

Sharon E. Wood, University of Nebraska at Omaha

USCT Women and Community in the Post-Civil War Era

Kelly Jones, Austin Peay State University

“Until the Lord Come Get Me, It Burn Down, or the Next Storm Blow it Away”: Principles of Place Preservation in Deep East Texas' African American Vernacular Landscapes

Andrea Roberts, Texas A & M University

Women at the Center and on the Edges of Ontario's Reciprocal Work Bees, 1860-1920

Catharine Wilson, University of Guelph

Chair, Terri L. Snyder, California State University - Fullerton

Saturday, 19 May 2018

2:15 to 3:45 pm – CONCURRENT SESSION IX (continued)

IX-3 Panel Discussion: Rethinking and Remaking Place as Resistance

This facilitated, participatory session will address rural women’s experiences of cultural and institutional hegemony. We seek to demystify the operation of hegemony, to know it when we observe or experience it, and to develop and implement strategies of resistance. We will highlight current efforts to decolonize rural spaces by reclaiming/remaking/revaluing local culture, prioritizing the commons, and safe-guarding the common good. We situate efforts in an evolving ecofeminism that connects, both ideologically and structurally, the renewed and virulent patriarchal assault on women and the environment.

Panelists:

Angie Carter, Michigan Technological University

Betty Wells, Iowa State University

Rashmi Attri, AMU Aligarh, India. Recorded video presentation of “Ecofeminism in Mamang Dai’s Writings” (in absentia)

Chair: Jenny Barker-Devine, Illinois College

3:45 to 4:15 pm Break: Snacks in LLC atrium

4:15 to 5:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION X

X-1 Rural Women Educators

Anna M. P. Strong: A Rural Arkansas Educational Activist, 1884-1966

Cherisse R. Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University

The Wyoming Years of Schoolmarm, Superintendent, and Homesteader Edith K.O. Clark

Ginny Kilander, University of Wyoming

Margery Burns is Tilting at Windmills: Rural Schools in a Modern America

Emily Prifogle, Princeton University

Chair: Amy L. McKinney, Northwest College

X-2 Rural Health Care

“Everything that Could be Done for Negroes Was Done”: Juliette Derricotte, Nina Johnson, and the Violence of Jim Crow Medicine

Yulonda Eadie Sano, Alcorn State University

"If you go to her home you know where she is coming from": An Oral History of the Rural Birth Control Movement in Maine, 1967 to 1983

Mazie Hough, University of Maine-Orono (in absentia)

Discussion of evidence documenting reproductive experiences, i.e., Women’s Reproductive History Alliance (<http://www.womensreproductivehistoryalliance.org>), co-directed by **Jennifer Hill**, Montana State University.

Discussion of two news reports on maternal health care in rural America. See Dana Fine Maron, “Maternal Health Care is Disappearing in Rural America,” *Scientific American* (15 Feb 2017) and Jilian Mincer, “More Hospital Closings in Rural add Risk for Pregnant Women,” *Reuters* (18 July 2017).

Audience Discussion—Facilitator: Debra A. Reid, The Henry Ford

Saturday, 19 May 2018

4:15 to 5:45 pm - CONCURRENT SESSION X (continued)

X-3 Roundtable Discussion: Organizing Rural Women in Today's Political Climate

Rural women have long engaged in politics. Women in northwestern Missouri invited Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton to speak for women's suffrage. More recently, Black women in the South worked with little recognition to mobilize rural residents in the push for civil rights. Barbara Pini, Berit Brandth, and Jo Little's *Feminism and Ruralities* (2015) and Jenny Barker-Devine's *On Behalf of the Family Farm* (2013) examine the push made by other rural women, with a focus on the way they organized and what they fought for. Recently, renewed political urgency has led many women from behind their computer screens and away from the relative safety and anonymity of Facebook activism to real-world contentious, and loud public activism.

Panelists:

Rural Women and Politicized Social Movements

Jamie Campbell, Tulane University

Mobilizing Democrats in Missouri and Texas: The challenges of Liberal Organizing in Rural, Conservative America

Elyssa B. Ford, Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville; and

Kelly McMichael, American Public University

Chair and Facilitator: Elyssa B. Ford, Northwest Missouri State University

6:00 pm DINNER on your own

8:00 pm Evening Program: Women of Appalachia Spoken Word and Music Artists

Warm-up: Invitation to RWSA 2021: Catharine Wilson, chair of the 2021 RWSA conference, will give a 10-minute presentation depicting the host site, University of Guelph, Ontario

Main Attraction: Women of Appalachia Project:

Kari Gunter-Seymour (Ohio) Poetry

Becky Code (Ohio) Story

Rose M. Smith (Ohio) Poetry

Tonja Matney Reynolds (Ohio) Story

Lisa M. Pursley (West Virginia) Poetry

Renee Stewart (Ohio) Song

Sunday, 20 May 2018

Brunch (based on purchased meal options)

10:00 am to 2:00 pm (this includes Sunday brunch)

Tour of Wayne National Forest and Zaleski State Forest (pre-registration and extra fee required, van transportation provided). Tour includes a visit to Wayne National Forest's Shawnee Fire Tower, Tinker's Cave, and Payne African American Cemetery Interpretive Site; then on to Zaleski State Forest and the Hope Iron Furnace, Lake Hope Nature Center, and the Lake Hope Lodge for Sunday brunch.