



MSU/Tim Holbrook photo  
Jack Ellis, who was Director of Libraries at MSU  
when the Jesse Stuart Room was established, poses  
with the plow representative of Jesse's first major  
book *Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow*.

**K**ENTUCKY is my land.

It is a place beneath the wind and sun  
In the very heart of America.

It is bounded on the east, north and west by rivers  
And on the south by mountains.

Only one boundary line is not a natural one,  
It is a portion of southern boundary  
That runs westward from the mountains  
Across the delta lowlands to the Mississippi.

Within these natural boundaries is Kentucky,  
Shaped like the mouldboard on a hillside turning-  
plow.

Kentucky is neither southern, northern, eastern or  
western,

It is the core of America.

If these United States can be called a body,  
Kentucky can be called its heart.

**I** DIDN'T have any choice as to where I was born,  
But if I had had my choice,  
I would have chosen Kentucky.

And if I could have chosen wind to breathe,  
I would have chosen a Kentucky wind  
With scent of cedar, pine-tree needles,  
Green tobacco leaves, pawpaw, persimmon and  
sassafras.

I would have chosen too,  
Wind from the sawbriar and greenbriar blossoms.



QUOTE  
FROM JESSE STANFORD'S  
KENTUCKY IS MY LAND.  
PUBLISHED BY DUTTON  
1952

THIS BOOK AND POEM  
IS THE AUTHOR'S FERVENT  
RE-AFFIRMATION OF  
HIS LOVE FOR HIS  
NATIVE KY.

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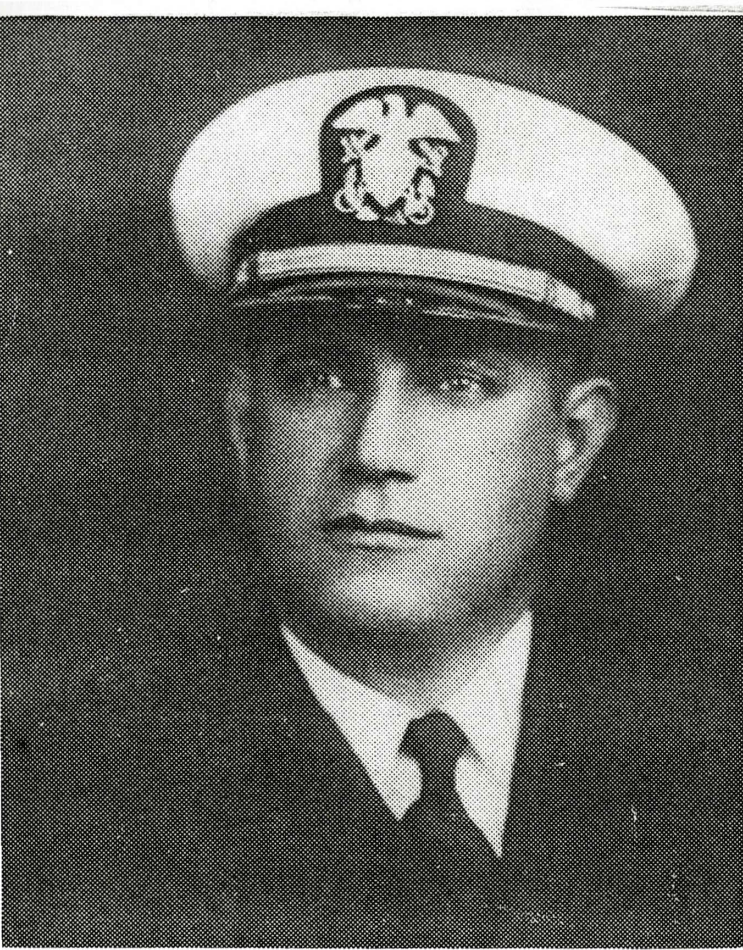
**JSF**

**Jesse Stuart Found**

Regional Press & Bookse

Dr James Gifford (21  
C. & O. + Senior Editor,  
The Jesse Stuart Foundation)  
presents Jack Ellw with  
the first copy of his book  
Pathways + Heroes  
published by The Foundation.





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JESSE STUART

A NAVY OFFICER  
1st WARD

# JESSE STEWART SWORN IN NAVY

MARCH 31, 1944







*Jesse Stuart with His Young Daughter,  
Jessica Jane*

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1944





Dr James M. Gifford  
President, C.E.O. JESSE STUART  
FOUNDATION - AND SENIOR EDITOR

Dr Gifford is one of KENTUCKY'S  
FORMOST HISTORIANS AND AUTHOR  
WILL SPEAK SATURDAY AT  
THE OPENING CEREMONY OF  
ROWAN COUNTY'S  
SESQUICENTENNIAL CEREMONY

2:00 PM  
SATURDAY MAY 13th  
2:00 PM

5/12

jack ellis

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7 26 '03

Here's a photo of authors who gathered at the JSF for a booksigning five and a half years ago:

**2008 JESSE STUART FOUNDATION  
AUTHORS**

left to right, bottom row: James Caudill, Alma Roberts, Anne Caudill, Edwina Pendarvis, Danny Fulks, Ken Slone

left to right, middle row: Jack Ellis, Christina St. Clair, local author, Elder John Sparks

left to right, top row: Clyde Pack, Phil St. Clair, Bill Grier

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Edythe Greene  
Jesse's HIGH SCHOOL  
GIRLFRIEND - HIS  
FIRST "TRUE LOVE"  
~~HE DEDICATED HIS~~  
FIRST VOLUME OF  
POETRY "HARVEST OF  
YOUTH" INCLUDED A  
POEM DEDICATED "TO  
EDYTHE."

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# Jesse Stuart Foundation

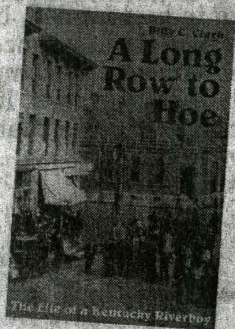
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and Appalachian Books

Located in the old  
Post Office building at  
1645 Winchester Avenue  
Ashland, KY  
606-326-1667

Email: [jstf@jstfbooks.com](mailto:jstf@jstfbooks.com)

## Special One Day Book Signing Saturday, May 18 9:30-Noon

- **Billy C. Clark**, with his new reprint of his autobiographical classic, *"A Long Row to Hoe"* and many others. • **Linda**



- Scott DeRosiers'** *"Creeker,"* an award-winning autobiography about growing up on Two-Mile Creek in Johnson County. • **Glennis Stuart Liles** and **Helen Shultz** with *"W-Hollow Cookbooks,"* three very popular



cookbooks that have been regional favorites.

- **Edwina Pendarvis, Laura Traacy Bentley** and **Christina St. Clair**, *"Appalachian Love Stories,"* short stories. • **Steve Holt**, author of *"Late Mowing,"* a book of poetry. • **Ken Slone**, author of another selection of poetry titled *"At Home in the Mountains."* • **Doris Price**, with a junior book *"A Bump in the Road."* • **Jack Ellis** and *"Morehead Memories,"* a comprehensive history of Morehead and Rowan County.







JESSE STUART -  
KENTUCKY'S FAMOUS  
AUTHOR, EDUCATOR, AND  
FAR SIGHTED  
CONSERVATIONIST, AND  
AN ENTHUSIASTIC  
SPOKESMAN FOR HIS  
BELOVED KENTUCKY  
HOMELAND

college-level included students and readers." In fact, our skills were not because the could not read. After reading excerpts from his stories, however, many of them discovered that they did not enjoy reading. In fact, one student confided to me one day that he was 29 years old and this was the first book in his life that he had read all the way through. He had made a connection with Jesse through his stories because he recognized and shared many of the same experiences and attitudes that Jesse described. "Hmmm...", I thought, "Maybe I've made an important discovery as well."

As that semester came to a close, I asked Naomi Deane after church one Sunday if she would consider coming to my class and speaking to my students about what Jesse was like as a person as well as a writer. She responded, "Oh, I don't think I could do that. Jesse was

one of our family. You brought me to W-Hollow to bring your family and I could follow and I could see where Jesse lived and where Jesse encouraged me. I encouraged I encouraged the Cooperative Community College Independent Schools, I arranged for a school bus to transport 45 students to W-Hollow to meet Mrs. Stuart and see the hollow that Jesse loved. Jesse's brother, James, met our bus at the "head of the hollow" and gave us a guided tour of W-Hollow and Plum Grove, ending at Jesse and Naomi Deane's home. Naomi could not have been more gracious. In fact, she welcomed all 45 of my students and me into her home and gave us the grand tour. Needless to say, my students were in absolute awe. That was one learning experience they will never forget.

Each spring after that first tour in 1985, I arranged a W-Hollow tour for my students. They read short stories from *Clearing in the Sky*, *32 Votes Before Breakfast*, and the *Best Loved Short*

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## JESSE STUART

The distinguished Kentucky author, Jesse Stuart, draws water from a well in use since pioneer days, at his home in W-Hollow, Greenup County, Kentucky. The books of Stuart, translated into many languages and read throughout the world, include poetry, novels, short stories and non-fiction. In them he has immortalized a region and its people—the Kentucky hill country, one of the last sections of the United States where the traditions of the earliest settlers are still alive. Stuart has a passionate love for Kentucky where he grew up and continues to live and to write. *Kentucky Is My Land* is one of his best-known poems.





JESSE STUART AT  
HIS HOME IN  
W-HOLLOW -  
GREENUP COUNTY

1950 2  
USED WITH

BEAUFORT  
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uraged  
Before  
School,  
ooks to

the newsletter, which includes an order  
form. Once the women learn about  
Appalachian writers, they want to read  
more. Many live in remote areas without  
libraries, and they have limited access



JIM GIFFORD LEFT  
JESSE STUART FOUNDATION  
PRESENTS JACIL THE  
WITH THE FIRST COPY  
OF HIS

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Dr Jim Gifford  
accepting THE NSU 2007  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN TREASURE  
AWARD

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Dr. Jim Gifford receiving the M.S.A.  
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Jack Ellis (2) and his wife  
Denis examine a copy of  
PAPERIOTS of HENNES. Aug. 2003

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AUTHORS AT  
BOOK SIGNING AT  
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FOUNDATION

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JIM GIFFORD - R  
JACK ELLIS L'  
JACKS NEW BOOK  
PATRIOTS & HEROES OF WWII

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Dr Jim Gitter, Publisher (L) AND JACK  
Ellis Author - examine 2 copy of  
Patriots + Heroes released by the Publisher  
Jesse Stuart Foundation Aug. 2003

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TIM GIFFORD UNLAWFUL BORN  
OF PATRIOTS ~~AND~~ HEROES  
AUG 2003

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Dr. Jack D. Ellis

552 W. Sun St.

Moscow ID 83851

3



JIM GIFFORD CEO

JESSE STUNDT FOUNDATION

WIFE'S JACK ELLIS'

NEW BOOK OUT

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Jack Ellis New Bond

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J. Ellis Aultman (L) & Brett Hance  
Editor of Patriot-Herald. 2003

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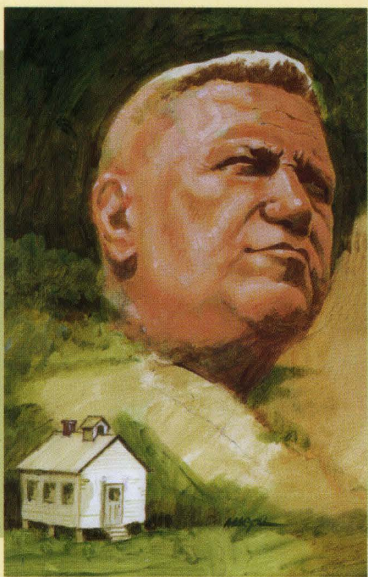


Jesse Stuart Foundation  
P.O. Box 669 Ashland, Ky 41105  
(606) 326-1667 JSFBOOKS.com

"I am firm in my  
belief that a  
teacher lives  
on and on  
through his  
students.

Good teaching  
is forever and  
the teacher is  
immortal."

Jesse Stuart



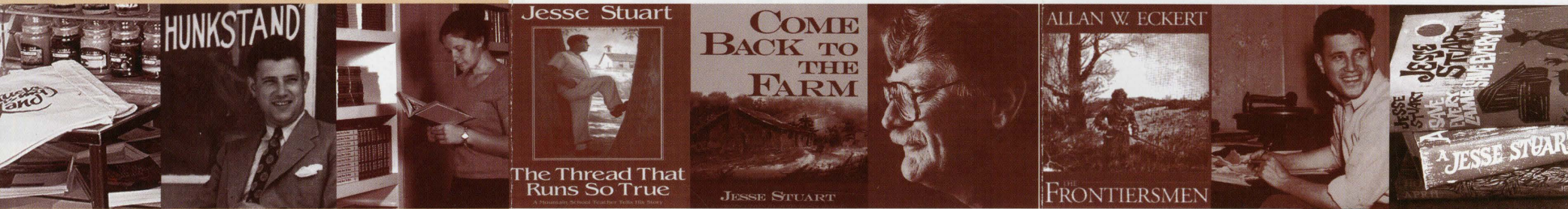
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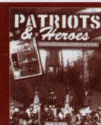
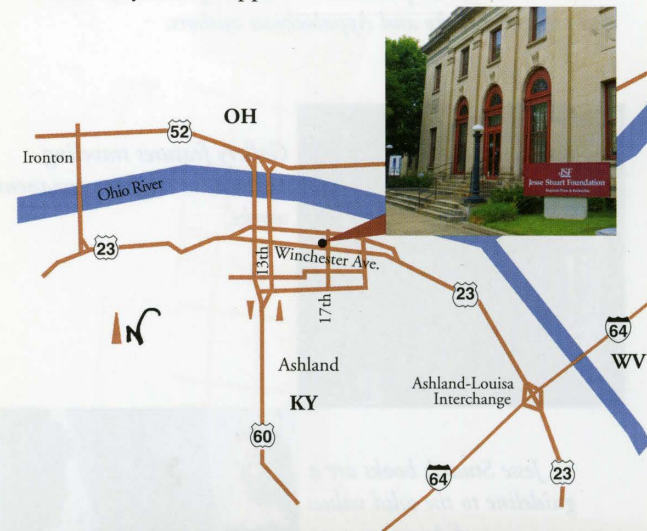
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*Preserving the legacy of Jesse Stuart and the Appalachian way of life.*

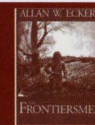


Jesse Stuart (1906-1984) was one of America's best-known and best-loved writers. In 1976, late in his writing career, the editors of *Country Gentleman* magazine boldly proclaimed Stuart "America's Most Famous Chronicler of Rural Life." At that time, nearing the end of a five-decade writing career, Stuart had published nearly 60 books, including biography, autobiography, essays, and juvenile works as well as poetry and fiction. These books have immortalized the Kentucky hill country that inspired his writing. Thousands of his short stories, articles, and poems appeared in America's most widely read magazines, journals, and periodicals. His frequent literary appearances from the 1930s through the 1970s made him an American icon and a famous writer throughout America. Stuart also taught and lectured extensively. His teaching experience ranged from the one-room schoolhouse of his youth in Eastern Kentucky to the American University in Cairo, Egypt. "First, last, always," said Jesse Stuart, "I am a teacher. . . Good teaching is forever, and the teacher is immortal."

**Location:** 1645 Winchester Avenue  
**Hours:** 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Membership:** available to public  
**Parking:** street and off street available to customers  
**Accessibility:** handicapped accessible



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# Jesse Stuart Foundation

A Regional Press & Bookseller

*Preserving the legacy of Jesse Stuart and the Appalachian way of life.*

The Jesse Stuart Foundation (JSF) is devoted to preserving the human and literary legacy of Jesse Stuart and other Kentucky and Appalachian writers. The Foundation controls the rights to Stuart's published and unpublished literary works. The JSF has reprinted many of Stuart's out-of-print books along with other books that focus on Kentucky and Appalachia, and it has evolved into a significant regional press and bookseller.

Our primary purpose is to produce books which supplement the educational system at all levels. We have thousands of books in stock and we want to make them accessible to teachers and librarians, as well as general readers. We also promote Stuart's legacy through videotapes, dramas, readings, presentations for school and civic groups, and an annual Jesse Stuart Weekend at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park.

We are proud that Jesse Stuart's books are a guideline to the solid values of America's past. Today, we are so caught up in teaching children to read that the process has obscured its higher purpose. Children require more than literacy. They need to learn, from reading, the unalterable principles of right and wrong.

That is why Stuart's books are so important. They allow educators and parents to make reading fun for children, while teaching solid values at the same time. In a world that is rapidly losing perspective, the JSF is working to educate tomorrow's adults for responsible citizenship.



*The Foundation has published hundreds of books by Stuart and other Kentucky and Appalachian authors.*



*Gallery features traveling exhibits, as well as permanent works.*

*Jesse Stuart's books are a guideline to the solid values of America's past.*

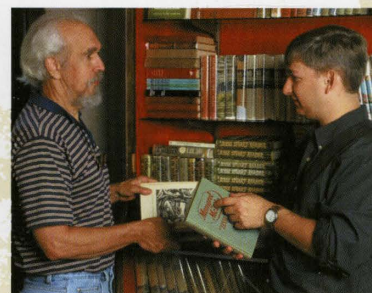
JSF  
Jesse Stuart Foundation  
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*Gift shop offers a variety of Kentucky arts and crafts.*



*Our used book store provides many choices for bargain hunters.*



*Collectors can purchase First Editions and other signed books and collectible items.*

## The place to find Kentucky and Appalachian books.



Attachment : [Don\\_Jack.jpg](#) (0.04 MB)

DON MILLER  
221 HIGH ST  
PEEBLES, OH 45660

I also took a picture of the books layed out on the tables in the conference room. I can send it if you want that too. It's a good picture of you and Don. We will use it in the Newsletter soon.

Thanks again.

JESSE SPURWET COLLECTION  
937)587-2992

Brett



02/24/2006



# Appalachian authors' award competition

MSU, in a publishing partnership with The Jesse Stuart Foundation, Inc., has announced its First Book Award.

The award will be given to the author from the southern Appalachian region whose fictional short story, novel or novella is deemed to be the best in a competition. The competition is open to all authors from the region who have not previously published a book of fiction. Online publication or a publication with a run of fewer than 300 copies does not apply to this requirement.

The winning manuscript will be published by the Foundation, under its standard contract.

To enter the competition, authors must submit a typewritten double-spaced fiction manuscript of 75,000-100,000 words (150-300 pages). A clean photocopy is recommended, and participants may submit only one manuscript. Authors are warned against sending in their only copy, as manuscripts will not be returned, and neither the University nor the Foundation assumes responsibility for damaged or lost materials.

Each manuscript should include two title pages, with the author's name, address and daytime phone number appearing on the first one. The author's name should appear at no other place within the work. The second title page should contain only the manuscript title.

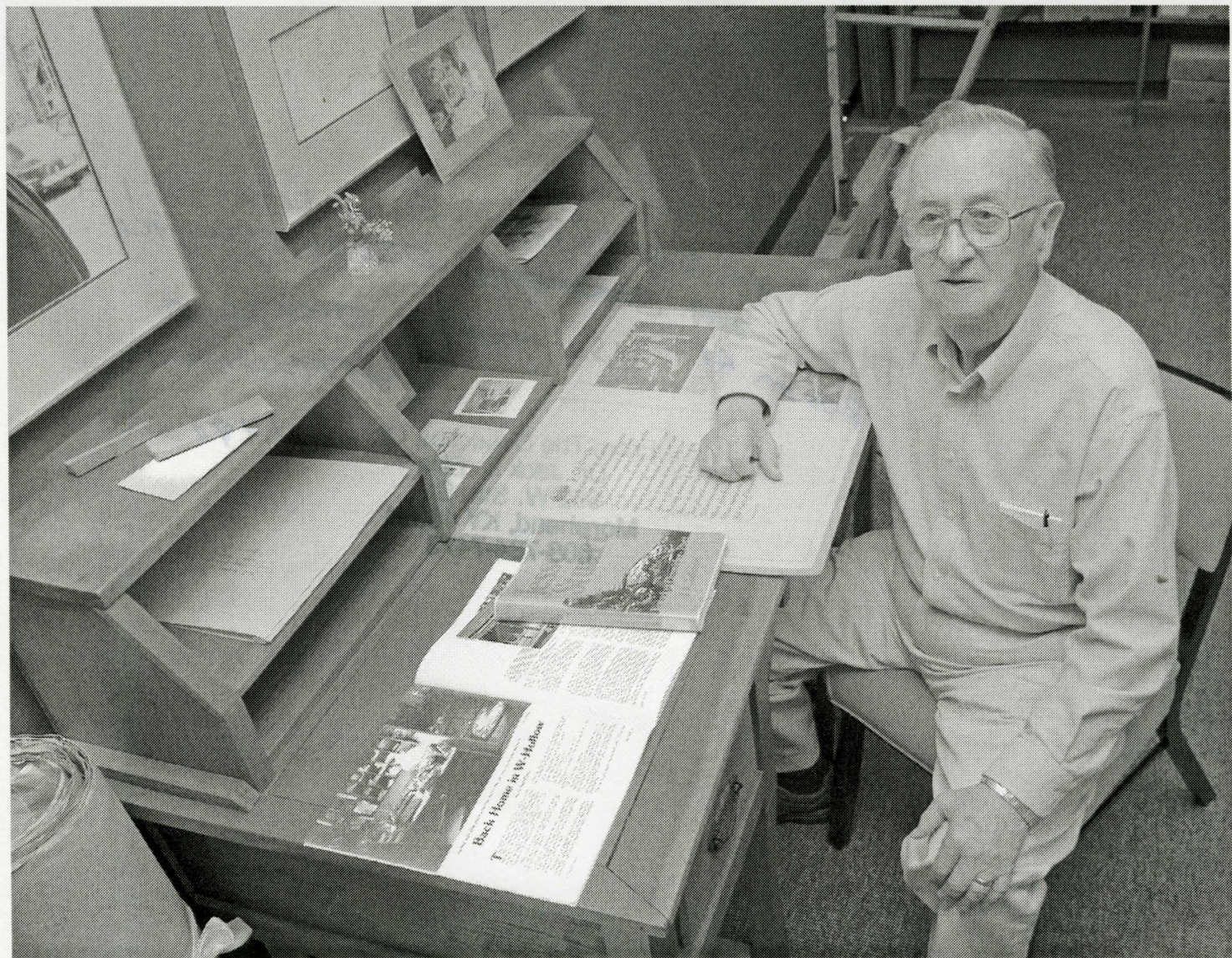
While a manuscript may be under consideration elsewhere, Morehead State and the Stuart Foundation must be notified if it is accepted for publication.

All submissions must be accompanied by a \$20 non-refundable entry fee, with checks made payable to the MSU Foundation, Inc. Entries must be postmarked before Dec. 1, and should be mailed to: The Morehead New Writers Award, 150 University Blvd., Box 630, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351.

A panel of judges appointed by MSU and the Stuart Foundation will choose the winning manuscript. Current employees of MSU or Jesse Stuart Foundation, Inc., are ineligible to enter.

Entrants may include an e-mail address or a self-addressed, stamped envelope if he or she wishes to be notified of contest results. No phone inquiries, please. The winner will be announced in May, and all authors entered in the competition will receive a copy of the published winning entry.







JACK ELLIS  
AT JESSE'S DESK NOW LOCATED IN  
THE ~~JEF ROOM~~ JESSE STARR  
ROOM AT MSU - WHICH JACK ELLIS  
ESTABLISHED

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1990

# QUILL AND QUAIR

POETRY ISSUE



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MOREHEAD STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY



DECEMBER

1935

VOLUME TWO

NUMBER ONE

41



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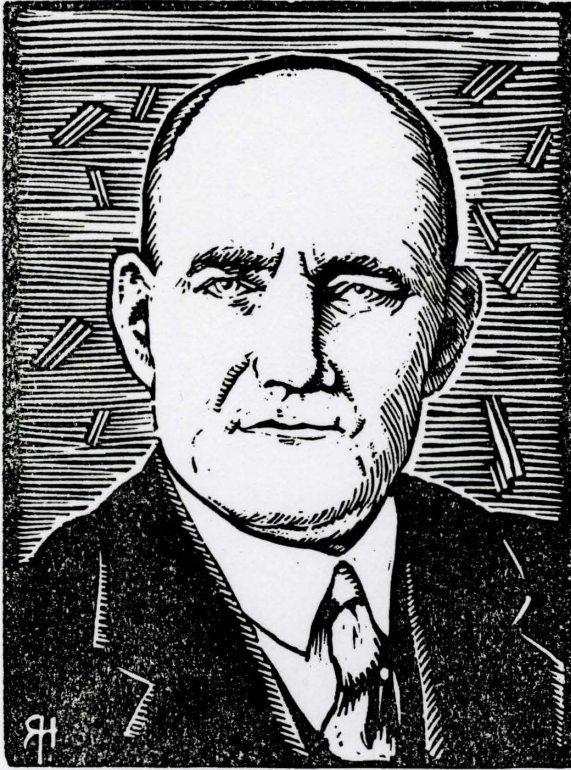
MAEWOOD YONTS

## HONORARY MEMBERS

ALUMNI ENGLISH MAJORS

PRINTED BY THE ROWAN COUNTY NEWS





**A**LL OF the great stars of both stage and screen were once mere amateurs. The world's greatest inventor started his career with very little equipment for experimentation. Those great in the field of literature began by writing simple lines and stanzas. A great financier opened up a business with a capital of one dollar and accumulated millions. In any field of human endeavor, it is the novice that later accomplishes the superior intellectual achievement.

A genius is one possessed of unusual native mental powers, or a genius is one who has the ability for taking great pains. Student genius in the field of literature strolls on our campus daily. In the pages of the *QUILL AND QUAIR*, the student finds the opportunity for seeing his literary productions in printed form. If in this way our literary genius be stimulated into action, this publication will have served its purpose well.

*Harvey A. Babb,*

President, Morehead State Teachers College.



HUBERT WEBB



Before the end when little fame is dead  
And body wine is poured upon the grass,  
And when the mortal heart with songs is bled,  
And strength is gone, it will be time to pass.  
Who will remember one's deeds foul and fair?  
The names of those one kissed and more than kissed,  
Shape of their hands, their lips, color of hair?  
Who will remember these and what they missed?  
The wooing worms may seek an interview  
And not the women of the neighborhood  
Whose tongues have clattered as the sheep bells do  
Where fleecy folds traipse under upland wood.  
I'm sure no weeds with tattle tongues will grow,  
Nor brassy serpent has the tongue to tell  
And glossy stones be silent as the snow,  
This side of heaven and this side of hell.

*Jesse Stuart*



species may be illustrated by such a one originated by Swift. While dining one day, he noticed a large napkin with much fringe around it between two of his companions. This sight occasioned him to remark, "I notice there is a great deal of fringeship between you."

This pun is purely the transfigured phonetic type because it possesses these essential elements: the word containing the pun is near enough phonetically to the word for which it is substituted, and it is used at the precise moment when the substitution and relationship can be realized to the fullest extent.

Though he himself is not adverse to employing the pun, the average humorist despises the punster because of jealousy and envy. The punster, unlike the cut-and-dried humorist, has a quickness of wit, a hair-trigger mind, a tremendous vocabulary, a faculty for auditory observation, a sharp eye, and, above all else, courage to face a hostile world. The humorist craves but cannot taste the thrill of supreme triumph that follows the perfect mental and sensory co-ordination that makes for a pun.

Even those with the low-caliber intelligence of the aforementioned average humorist can readily perceive the divine attributes of the pun. The hapless individual who designs to consign the pun and the punster to the punitentiary is merely one of those gross destructionist employees of Satan who also does conscientious objecting, knocking, and Communism on the side.

So ho for the Punster! May he increase and multiply. May he continue to brighten up our dull stay in this Vale of Tears by his merry quips and enjoyable drolleries, and may his antagonists be withered even by their own vitriolic blasts.

There is Iron-ton in her sadness,  
There is Ash-land in her talk,  
There is Rus-sell in her gladness,  
But there is Green-up in her walk.

*"Distinction"*

JAMES STUART



In the slate-gray sky the chimney sweeps are flying,  
While sheets of wind go mummying through the pines;  
The frosted red oak leaves are slowly dying  
And blades are falling from the creeper vines.

Somehow, I feel the mood of autumn in me,  
Flowing into my veins as flows my blood;  
I stand beneath gray skies an autumn tree,  
In music of the wind's sad pouring flood.

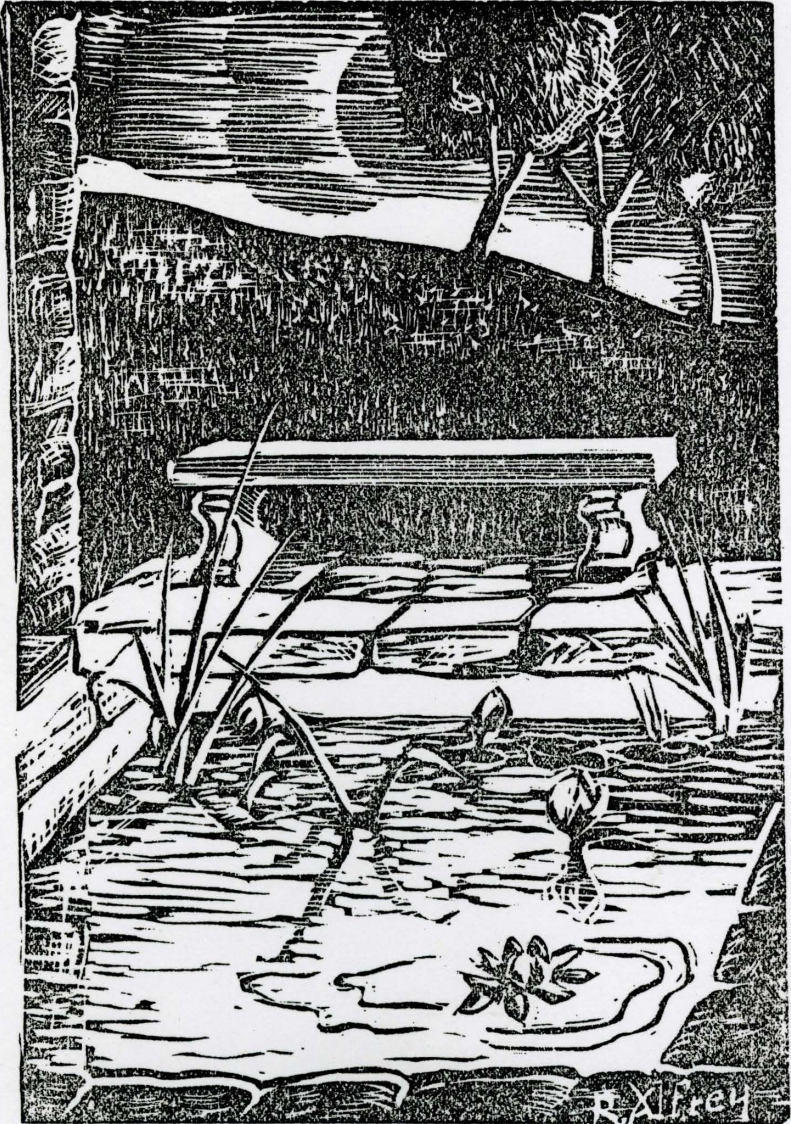
*"Autumn Mood"*

JAMES STUART



~~Blumen~~





ROBERT ALFREY

- A redbird at her morning bath;  
Hollyhocks round a humble home;  
Liquid gold in the honey-comb;  
A love song and its aftermath.

Ironweeds purpling in the sun;  
A pineknob limned against the sky;  
The lonely night-bird's mournful cry;  
Homing kine when the day is done.

Swallows awhirl in the growing dusk;  
An oriole building her swinging nest;  
The sheen on the grackle's purple breast;  
The breath of the lily, faint odor of musk.

Morehead students, maiden and youth,  
Dreaming of life that is to be,—  
Honor and fame and victory,  
With faith in the final triumph of truth.

*"Things Beautiful"*

COTTON NOE

Morehead State Teachers College,  
July 1935.

(9)

~~Things Beautiful~~



Morehead, thou conqueror,  
Beloved of Kentucky,  
Builder of nation,  
Inventor of power.

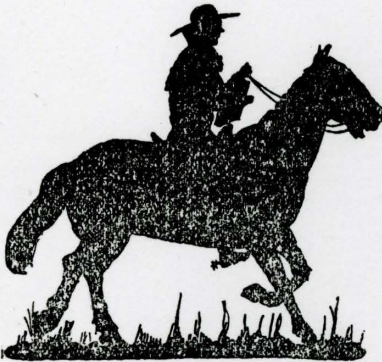
Hast thou numbered  
The many weak creatures  
Who have come to thee hopeless  
But left thee inspired?

Though faced with depression  
Thy strong foundation  
Nothing can shake.  
Thou still standest firm.

Thou standeth a lighthouse,  
Forever thou beckonest  
Those seeking knowledge  
To thy haven of light.

*"Morehead"*

VIRGINIA DAWSON



~~THE~~



You ask me what I remember most of college days?  
I answer you—A soft blue haze across the hills  
At sunset; the glow of yellow lights through  
Autumn rain; the fall of golden leaves upon a  
Mountain top; the murmur of the trees who watched  
Us pass beneath them for awhile—then go away;  
The glistening snow on campus walks; soft voices  
Singing carols at Christmas time;  
Tall friendly buildings that have sheltered me;  
A knowledge that became a part of me;  
The understanding of happiness, the courage to bear pain.  
Even now, I see the face of each dear comrade,  
Feel the clasp of brave young hands  
Hear words spoken in deep belief of  
Ambition, Faith, and Dreams—  
And in those years there grew a strength within me.  
Whispering ever to my heart, "You cannot fail".  
These memories I hold dear of college days.

*"Reminiscence"*

KATHRYN FRIEND ROBINSON



# TRAINING SCHOOL

Once I saw a little duck;  
It had no neck or tail.  
It always said, "Quack! Quack!"  
When it went out to sail,  
And this is the end of the little duck  
That had no neck or tail.

*"What Once I Saw"*

GEORGE BLACK, II GRADE.

I had a little kite,  
It flew up in the air.  
The wind stopped blowing  
Down it fell into my hair.

*"My Kite"*

ZANE YOUNG, II GRADE

The gay petunias look  
Like ladies in a picture book,  
Little ladies in green dresses  
And colored hats.

*"A Petunia Bed"*

RUTH FAIR, III GRADE.

Oh, Dinosaur,  
You are so large  
That the earth shakes when you walk.  
You could devour me  
At once—  
If only you were living.

*"Dinosaur"*

ALICE PATRICK, III GRADE.



# TRAINING SCHOOL POETS

These things are beautiful to me:  
The barking of a dog  
And the babbling brook,  
An outbranched tree with a little bird a-singing,  
And the whistling of the wind.  
The pitter-patter of the rain,  
And a cow a-mooing in the lane.  
These are the things I like.

## *"Things I Like"*

BOBBIE HOGGE, V GRADE.

Oh, things that are beautiful are quite a few!  
Birds and flowers and animals, too!  
Big owls and little owls always saying "Who?"  
Big fish and little fish and water fowls too!

## *"Things That Are Beautiful"*

HOWARD HORTON, V GRADE

Klip, klop, down the stair  
Comes Edith golden hair  
Klop, klip, klop,  
Her wooden shoes make noise a lot.  
Drop, drip, drop,  
Her clothes and face and hands are wet.  
She needs a towel  
For poor Edith has just fallen  
Into the wet canal.

## *"Edith"*

MARY CALDWELL HAGGAN, VI GRADE

~~THE~~



Wherefore lament, O stately towering pine,  
In youthful robe of never aging green?  
Do you foreknow an emptiness of vine;  
And bushes bare, a white and frozen scene  
Of icy brooks that once made merry fall;  
And wintry suns that warm not though they gleam  
On pebbly beds near which no bird shall call  
In answer to your plaintive murmuring?  
Why not discover what the nested know?  
Nature's true theme is strife, not joy nor pain.  
And facing forward with a braver show  
That counts already for a goodly gain,  
Behold her risen from misfortune's blow.  
If but a learner, you would find it so.

*"Sonnet"*

KATHERINE DUVALL CARR

# WITH OUR OWN

*MAN WITH BULL-TONGUE PLOW*: BY JESSE  
STUART. DUTTON, 1934. \$3.00

Jesse Stuart, hailed as a new poet of the South and probably the first voice to be heard from the hills of eastern Kentucky, has gathered his sonnets—some seven hundred and three—into a book called "Man With A Bull-Tongued Plow."

Considered technically, these are not strictly sonnets for the lines vary from thirteen to sixteen and the rhymes are often careless and repetitious, but the book has beauty and a certain power.

Born of Kentucky mountain folk, Jesse Stuart possesses a natural feeling for poetry and an ability to write of the simple and elemental things closest to his heart. He says,

"I am a farmer singing at the plow  
And as I take my time to plow along  
A steep Kentucky hill, I sing my song—  
A one-horse farmer singing at the plow!"

He sings because he must and he is at his best when singing of nature and his beloved hills. Of Spring's coming he sings—

"Spring in Kentucky hills will soon awaken;  
The sap will run every vein of tree.  
Green will come to the land bleak and forsaken;  
Warm silver winds will catch the honey-bee."

One of the finest of his sonnets, one which perhaps gives an insight into this character, is his tribute to his mother.

"I shall not speak soft words for her—my mother.  
I say the strength of oak is in my mother  
Color of autumn leaves is in her skin  
The sadness of the hills is in my mother  
And in her is the courage of the wind  
And in her is the rain's cool sympathy."

And finally this, I think, expresses the man himself—

"This flesh is eternal Kentuckian  
Walking among her hills breathing her air;  
Plowing her soil, feeling her wind and sun  
That stream as gold and silver in the fair  
Blue days of Spring and summer corn-field haze.  
Surely, I am eternal Kentuckian—"

*Alice Palmer Morris*

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# AUTHORS . d d d

## *PATTERNS OF WOLFPEN :*

BY HARLAN HATCHER. BOBBS—MERRILL, 1934. \$2.50

Eastern Kentucky mountains have furnished the setting of many books, usually dealing with feuds, moonshiners, or hill-billies. "Patterns of Wolfpen" differs from the ordinary book of the region by picturing the simple but substantial culture of the Pattern family on their six-thousand acres of hills and valleys in Pike County. We see the beauty of the region through the eyes of lovely, sensitive Cynthia Pattern, who is about seventeen when the story opens. Through her musings we are taken not only into the wholesome, stimulating home life of the Patterns, but also into the past, and are made to see the pattern of the family life through four generations.

Follow the drawings at the heads of the chapters for symbolism of the growth of Sparrel's family, the devastating results of industrialism (the thistle and the storm cloud), and the final recovery of the youngest members of the family.

It has long been my opinion that Eastern Kentucky will be interpreted best by her own people. Dr. Hatcher's book is proof of the theory. He knows, from the inside, the people and the conditions in his story. The Patterns were his mother's people, the Leslies; Cynthia is his mother, and Reuben Warren his father. Details of the story, while not actual facts, are fundamentally true, and the characters are not overdrawn.

Dr. Hatcher was graduated from Morehead Normal School in 1919, received his degree at Ohio State, and is now a professor of English poetry in that University. Since boyhood he has had remarkable creative ability. Doubtless he will produce other readable novels, but there can be only one "Patterns of Wolfpen". Everyone—Kentuckian or not—should read it for the interpretation of a hitherto unrevealed section of Kentucky life.

*Inez Faith Humphrey*

~~THE~~

(66)



**VALLEY OF PARNASSUS:** BY COTTON N O E.  
MORGAN COMPANY, LOUISVILLE. 1935. \$2.00

In "The Valley Of Parnassus," Dr. Cotton Noe has gathered his best poems, which include eleven sonnets, thirteen lyrics, and forty-two character sketches. These poems are the reminiscences of an outstanding school teacher and represent the fullest expression of his mature experiences. We are proud of the fact that Dr. Noe was a visiting professor here when his book was published.

*Martha Van Hoose*

◆  
**HE SENT FORTH A RAVEN:** BY ELIZABETH M.  
ROBERTS. VIKING, 1934. \$2.50

In Mrs. Robert's Kentucky story, "He Sent Forth A Raven," we find a character—Stoner Drake—as rugged as the hills themselves. As Noah sent forth the raven from the ark, so does Stoner Drake send forth a raven, Jocelle. Mrs. Roberts, in her sweeping style, tells of this raven which brings tidings of the outside world back to Stoner Drake, who refuses to set foot on the land again. The author renews the passions and the greed of the war, sinks to the sordidness of nature, then quickly rises to great heights.

*Mary Arnett Patrick*

◆  
**A CAPELLA PRIMER:** BY LEWIS HENRY HORTON.  
WILLIS MUSIC CO., 1935. \$0.75.

"A Cappella Primer" was written to aid in teaching choral singing in rural high schools. It begins simply enough with two-part songs ending in a four-voiced chord. The fourth number in the book is of interest as it presents a new method of teaching four-part singing. Four distinct and well-known melodies are made into a round having four leading voices. This device prevents that common fault, one leading voice with other voices secondary to it.

Subsequent numbers employ solos by the different sections of the chorus, with the other groups following a sostenuto or a counterpoint accompaniment. The tenor clef is utilized and there are optional piano scores on the majority of the songs. A number of Mr. Horton's own compositions appear in this book, and all the songs have been arranged by him.

*Ralph Schwartz*

~~RECEIVED~~

# EDITORIALLY SPEAKING:

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help."

We lift our eyes to our hills. Our inspirations pulsate from their rugged heart. From the valleys where young men are plowing, hunting and fishing, drinking corn licker, square-dancing, fighting, dreaming, loving—where young men are plowing with bull-tongued plows,—from these valleys come our writers—Anglo-Saxons, Scotch-Irish, Americans — Kentuckians.

Of what value are their thoughts? What added quality comes with more cosmopolitan contributions to our native culture? In Morehead the rustic meets the polished, the primitive borders on the ultra-modern, the folk-customs enrich our hurried existence. Here we strive to produce robust gentlemen of quality—rich in vitality, genuinely human.

Because we are healthy and young, we have a hearty appetite for life. What chance have we? The weight of the hills is heavy upon us. Yet we lift up our eyes unto our hills. With a great faith, we plow new furrows.



This magazine is written for our school, our alumni, our community, our country, and ourselves. For the magazine, not restricted in contents as is the annual, is the spiritual organ of the college. Through it the creative power of the institution will flow.

Although sponsored by English majors, the QUILL AND QUAIR is more than a laboratory project in English, just as the TRAIL BLAZER is a unit apart from journalism classes. Herein student opinion may achieve lasting values, and student creation, just born, attain to artistic maturity.

An even broader purpose it serves—keeping alive names and words of Kentucky men-of-letters. Articles by and about our authors set present-day gems into the fine-wrought past. Above all, creative thoughts of today's students are mirrored into the future. An appreciation of literature and individual talent becomes robust in carrying on Morehead traditions, objectives, and college life.



The club and staff of the QUILL AND QUAIR announce the spring issue as the drama issue. Outstanding authors will make contributions. Students and alumni are invited to contribute dramatic sketches, character sketches, essays, art, short stories, and poetry.



# Small Talk

The "Lost and Found" box at **Reynolds High School** which has played host to a wide variety of lost articles in years past had something new in the way of contents last week when four kittens turned up there. Having no nursemaid facilities, the "Lost and Found" department turned them over to the biology department, but when they insisted on crying in spite of being well-fed with a medicine dropper they became homeless again and were finally put to death quietly when it was decided that no kittens are better than starving kittens.

**Winston-Salem policeman** assigned to work traffic at the Armory where the war prisoners are stationed is **Paul Blackburn** who this week returned to his job with the department after more than two years of "out-standing and meritorius service" with the U. S. Marines.

**Lieutenant (j.g.) Jesse Stuart**, who visited here last week with **Commander Robert A. Winston**

on behalf of the United War Chest, writes that he had a wonderful time here and wanted to express his appreciation for all the things Winston-Salem did to make his stay pleasant.

Lieutenant (j.g.) Stuart came here and spent nearly 24 hours without bothering to mention that he was the **Jesse Stuart** who wrote "Taps for Private Tussie," best-seller and Book of the Month Club volume. He also neglected to mention that his first novel "Trees of Heaven" just narrowly missed being chosen as the book of the month and that one of his volumes of poetry, "Man With a Bull Tongue Plow" won a Guggenheim fellowship, and was later selected by Life Magazine as one of the 100 best books published in American between 1934 and 1944. All of which adds up to quite a record for a young man who sees no reason to men-





C.-J. Photo.

GETTING TIPS on the Navy from Seaman Second Class Mary Payne, 2330 Crittenden Drive, first Wave sworn in here in 1944, is Apprentice Seaman Jesse Stuart, Riverton, Ky., author and poet who was sworn into the Navy here yesterday.

1944

## Versatile Jesse Stuart Begins Career As Sailor

Kentucky Writer, Educator and Farmer Sworn In As Apprentice Seaman In Navy

Kentucky's Jesse Stuart—poet, author, school teacher, editor and farmer—took on his biggest job yet when he was sworn into the Navy as an apprentice seaman here yesterday.

"I don't know what they are going to do with me," Stuart said, "but whatever they do, I'll do my best."

"And I don't figure I'll have much time to do any writing," he added seriously. "I'm going to give it all to the Navy."

But the Riverton, Ky., writer, whose current bestseller, "Taps for Private Tussie," has sold over half a million copies, still was thinking about new stories yesterday at the WINN studios where he had just appeared as a guest on the "Navy Interviews" program with Seaman Second Class Mary Payne, 2330 Crittenden Drive, first Wave sworn in here in 1944.

### Has New Story In Mind.

"I'd like to write a story about the men I was sworn in with this morning—if I had time," he said. "I can feel with them. Most of the men up my way go into the Navy."

Stuart's entry into the Navy cuts short for the duration not one but at least three separate careers. He labels his writing a "sideline."

Just recently this sideline won him the Thomas Jefferson Award for his "Taps for Private Tussie." In December, 1943, the novel was chosen as the "book of the month," and will soon be produced by M.-G.-M. Another

book, "Mongrel Mettle," is on the bookstands now.

Stuart is looking forward to the publication of his "Album of Destiny" this fall or next spring, a volume of poetry he has been working on since the early 1930's.

The book traces the life cycle of sixty-four characters, many of them types Stuart has known in his own Kentucky hills.

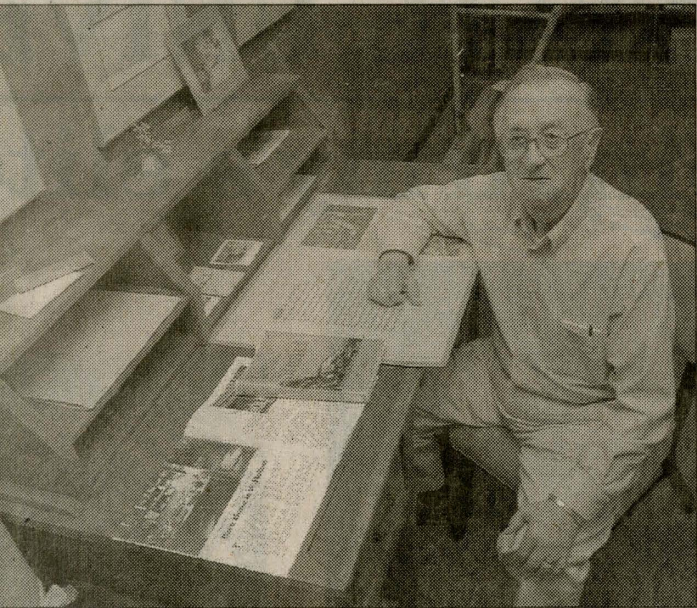
"I've worked over the poems and revised them for a long time," he said, "and I think it's my most mature work. I had a hard time getting it done before I left and getting the corn in, too."

### In School Work 12 Years. M

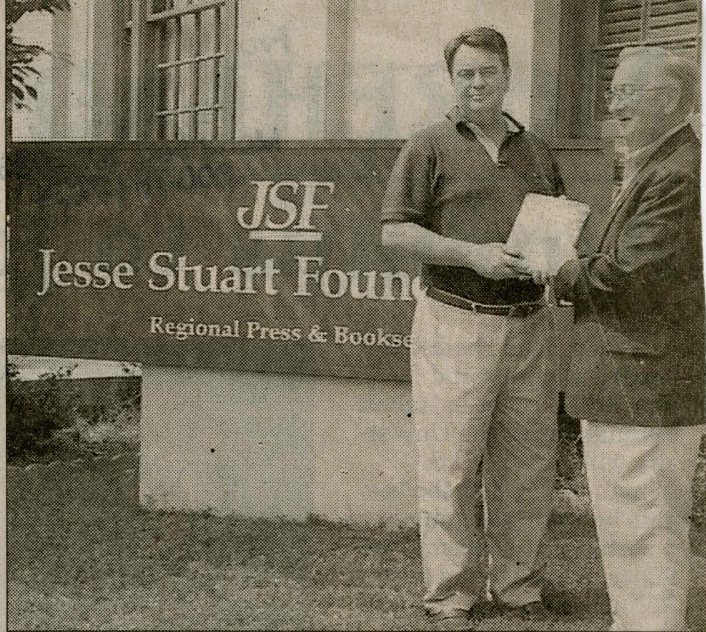
Besides writing, Stuart has been in educational work for over twelve years, first as teacher, then as principal and later as County superintendent of schools. He has also written a number of articles on educational problems for professional journals.

A long-distance track man while at Lincoln Memorial College, Harrogate, Tenn., the 36-year-old poet used to train—and outrun—his high school track teams until his physician warned him against such strenuous exercise.





**Author Jack Ellis at Jesse Stuart's desk inside the room named in Stuart's honor at the MSU library.**



**Dr. James Gifford, left, CEO and senior editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation, will be the keynote speaker at Rowan County's 150th birthday celebration May 13 at 2 p.m. at the Morehead Convention Center. Jack Ellis, right, one of the JSF authors.**



# Local historian Ellis to attend Ashland book signing

A dozen writers will meet readers and autograph their books during the Saturday, July 26 Books and Authors from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Jesse Stuart Foundation in downtown Ashland.

All of the authors have ties to the Appalachian region either through their lives or the topics about which they have written.

Scheduled to take part are:

- Clyde R. Pack, author of "Muddy Branch: Memories of an Eastern Kentucky Coal Camp."

- Danny Fulks, author of "Tragedy on Greasy Ridge: True Stories from Appalachian Ohio."

- Dotty Holbrook, author of "Somewhere Along the Way."

- Jack Ellis, author of "Morehead Memories: True Stories from Eastern Kentucky."

- John Sparks, who, with Loyal Jones, wrote "The Roots of Appalachian Christianity: The Life and Legacy of Elder Shubal Stearns."

- Ken Slone, who wrote "At Home in the Mountains."

- Edwina Pendarvis, one of the editors of and a contributor to "Appalachian Love Stories."

- Bill Grier, author of "The Five Lives of the Kentucky River."

- Alma Roberts, author of "House Calls: Memoirs of a Life With a Kentucky Doctor."

- Anne Caudill, who worked with her husband, the late Harry F. Caudill, on "Night Comes to the Cumberlands."

- Christina St. Clair, a contributor to "Appalachian Love Stories."

- Philip St. Clair, who has written several collections of poetry.

The session will take place at the offices of the Jesse Stuart Foundation at the corner of 17th Street and Winchester Avenue in downtown Ashland.

People who cannot attend Books and Authors but who want to have a book signed should call the foundation at (606) 326-1667.

Schedule for July 25-27 is:

Possible, presented by the Backstage Players, at John C.C. Mayo Amphitheater inside Armco Park. For information: (606) 329-1007 or 800-377-6249.

Saturday - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. - Boyd County Farmers Market, on the parking lot at Cedar Knoll Galleria. For information: (606) 739-5184.

Saturday - 11 a.m.-3 p.m. - Books & Authors, regional writers meet their readers and sign their books during a book signing at the Jesse Stuart Foundation. For information: (606) 326-1667.

Saturday - 1-4 p.m. - Summer Sidewalk Showcase, in and near the Ashland Area Art Gallery For information:

(606) 329-1826.

Saturday - Noon-4 p.m. - Strolling musicians on the streets of downtown Ashland: Stephen Boone and Jeff Carter from noon to 2 p.m.; Eddie Rife and Boosh Hogg (cq) from 2-4 p.m.

Saturday - 7:30 p.m. - Kentucky Music Trail Jamboree starring Julie

Reeves at the Paramount Arts Center as part of the Kentucky Music Trail Concert Series. Also scheduled to appear are the Carter County Wizards of Dance, Lindsey Caudill, Amy Chaney, Jesse Rachelle, Jennifer Dawn, Kelly Greco, Stephen Salyers, the Salvation Heirs, Amber Ellis, Jessica Lynn Baldrige,

Paul Pace, and the No Bottom Boys. For information: (606) 324-3175.

Saturday - 8 p.m. - Mission Possible, presented by the Backstage Players, at John C.C. Mayo Amphitheater inside Armco Park. For information: (606) 329-1007 or 800-377-6249.



*Schedule for July 25-27 is:*

Friday - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. -  
Ashland Farmers Market, on  
the parking lot at Dawson  
Park. For information: (606)  
739-5184.

Friday - Noon-1 p.m. -  
Melodies & Masterpieces, an  
outdoor concert on Judd Plaza  
in downtown Ashland,  
featuring Wiley Dew (Celtic  
and folk), along with food  
vendors, artists at work, and  
children's activities. For  
information: (606) 326-1308.

Friday - 5:30-7:30 p.m. -  
Main Street Music Series, an  
outdoor concert featuring  
Endless Highway (country), on  
Judd Plaza in downtown  
Ashland. For information  
(606) 325-7692.

Friday - 7 p.m. -  
Coffeehouse, featuring an  
evening of music with  
performances by Wendy April  
(country) and Southern  
Thunder (country southern  
rock) in the Marquee Room at  
the Paramount Arts Center.  
For information: (606) 324-  
3175.

Friday - 8 p.m. - Mission

Aug 29, 2001

# Rein in Congress on copyright extension

*This editorial appeared in The Washington Post.*

**T**he U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit last month declined to reconsider an earlier ruling that Congress has essentially unchecked authority to extend copyright protections.

The Constitution gives Congress the power "to promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries." Over the nation's life, the phrase "limited times" has proved almost infinitely elastic. Copyrights were initially granted for 28-year periods, but Congress has serially extended protection so that it now extends 70 years beyond the life of the author.

This degree of protection — under which works from 1923 are still owned privately — does little to promote science or art, but it does protect copyright holders who make big campaign contri-

butions. Unfortunately, it also keeps material out of the public domain long after the public's interest in its free exchange outweighs any value served by protection. This problem was dramatically illustrated earlier this year when a court blocked the publication of a parody of *Gone With the Wind*, whose author died more than 50 years ago. The decision was later reversed and the parody was published, though the estate's copyright on the original work was undisputed.

The case before the D.C. Circuit challenged the constitutionality of the latest extension of copyright protection — an additional 20-year gimme Congress doled out in 1998. The plaintiffs, a group of companies and individuals who distribute public domain materials, argued that the latest extension burdened free speech and offended the Constitution's requirement that copyrights be valid only for limited periods. A three-judge panel of the court earlier this year disagreed. And,

more recently, the full court declined to reconsider.

Dissenting Judges David Sentelle and David Tatel, however, argued that there had to be some bounds to Congress' ability to extend protection. The judges all agreed that Congress could not create permanent copyright protections, but if Congress can create endless extensions, then there is no way to make sure that protection is, in fact, of limited duration.

The case is difficult legally, because the Constitution so clearly and sweepingly gives Congress, not the courts, power over copyrights. As a policy matter, however, it isn't difficult at all. Vast quantities of creative material shouldn't be perpetually owned privately, and Congress' repeated extensions of protection to copyright holders have shredded any meaningful limit. The plaintiffs plan to ask the Supreme Court to examine the issue. It would be well worth the justices' time.



# Dancing through the works of Jesse Stuart

Reading the works of acclaimed Appalachian author Jesse Stuart was one thing, but putting them to dance would be an exciting challenge for the 5th grade students of Rodburn and Tilden Hogge Elementary Schools. Helping them with the challenge was Maria Whaley, a dance artist.

As part of an Arts and Humanities Grant written by Janie Allen, Maria Whaley taught the students various dance steps as well as some of the history of dance. (The

students would also attend a performance of the "Nutcracker Ballet" in Ashland as part of the project.) The challenge would come, though, in turning two of Stuart's stories into a stage dance performance using traditional music.

Fifth grade students at Rodburn Elementary read The Red Mule while the 5th graders at Tilden Hogge read A Penny's Worth of Character. Once the stories had been read and understood, Ms.

Whaley then began helping the students to choreograph and stage the works.

After hours of practice at both schools, the Appalachian stories, the traditional music and the dance steps came together to form "Honors of Appalachia" which was presented during two shows at the RCSHS Performing Arts Center. With Maria Whaley's guidance, the students had met the challenge and found the fun in dancing through the works of Jesse Stuart.



Dance artist Maria Whaley, left, assisted Rodburn student Christine Voight with some of the dance steps.

RODBURN ELEMENTARY 784-3000

From the Collection Of:  
Dr. J. A. D. Eills  
55 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473



Shakespeare through the use of rap rhythms.

Sponsored by the Morehead Elementary Family Resource Center,



*photo by Darinda Ramey*

With help from Tony Dingman of the Ky. Shakespeare Festival, kindergarten student Melanie Kelsey took part in a scene from "The Tempest."

Before any work could be done, though, the students first had to learn the tools that an actor uses on stage, namely, the body, the

voice, and the emotions that go into becoming the character. Once the warm-up exercises were completed, it was time to make Shakespeare come alive!

The workshops keep the students moving to the rhythm of chants and raps, but they also help the stu-



Trying to clap in rhythm and follow another's lead proved to be both difficult and fun for MES student Katie Stamper, right, and Shakespeare workshop leader Tony Dingman.



Darrell Cross, left, and Corey Lewis had fun adding gestures and rhythms to Hamlet's famous soliloquy.

alive for the students in the rhythms and the movements.

When asked what they had learned from the workshop, Darrell Cross, a student in Belinda Hitch's class, summed it up best: "I learned that I like Shakespeare!"



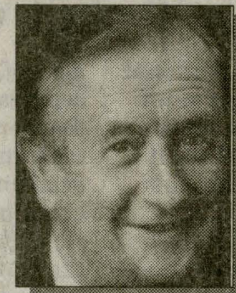
## Local Trivia

## Early History

■ The bookmobile was operated by the Rowan Board of Education and furnished by the Belknap Family of Louisville in honor of Alice Silliman Belknap.

## History

## About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

## Morehead Memories:

## People &amp; Places

## Jesse's influence

By JACK ELLIS

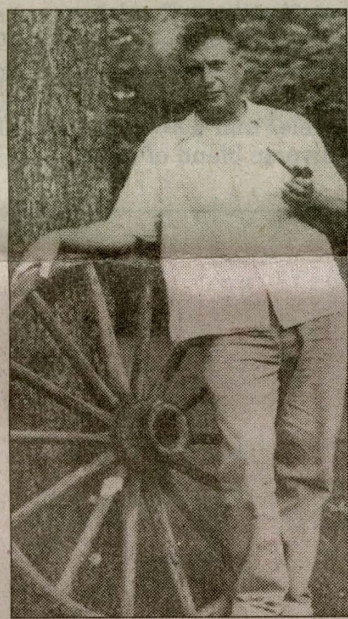
Special to The Morehead News

*"Those things which you have both learned, received and heard...do." (Philippians 4:9)*

In 2006, The Jesse Stuart Foundation in Ashland began publication of the JSF Magazine, dedicated to preserving the legacy of Jesse Stuart and the Appalachian way of life. Dr. James Gifford, C.E.O. and Chief Editor for the foundation, points out in his introduction to the journal that it is one way the foundation celebrated Jesse Stuart's 100th birthday memorial, as well as remembering his contributions to education and literature across this nation. In volume two of this journal, Dr. Gifford writes: "In this issue you will find a wide variety of essays by Stuart scholars and admirers who were greatly influenced by Jesse Stuart. Also in that issue Jack Ellis chronicles Jesse's influence on his life over many years." Following is the complete essay from which that article was written.

As I grow older and look back over my life, there were many individuals who have influenced my life, and I was really not aware of it at the time. Jesse Stuart was one of those individuals. In 1935, I was a third grade student at Morehead State College's Breckinridge Training School. It was a 12-grade laboratory school to demonstrate correct teaching methods. In December of that year, a young Kentucky author by the name of Jesse Stuart came to speak to an assembly of all twelve grades.

At that time Mr. Stuart was teaching English in Greenup County, Kentucky. His highly acclaimed *Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow*, a collection of 703 sonnets, had just been published and he was a relatively unknown author. He spoke to the assembly that day on the subject of "creative writing". The little school newspaper "Local Low-down" prophetically reported, "Mr. Stuart appears to have a bright future as an author." (That of course



Jesse Stuart at his home in W-Hollow, Greenup County. Used with permission.

was an understatement because Jesse published more than 60 books and 2,000 articles during his lifetime.)

Although I cannot honestly say that as a third grader I remember anything Jesse talked about in the assembly, I do vividly remember our third grade teacher insisted we do some "creative writing". We were separated into small groups and told to write a poem about some of our thoughts, feelings, or inter-

ests. I realize it is quite a leap of faith to say that Jesse's talk at the assembly had any direct effect on me even though I like to think it did.

During that session of creative writing in 1935, I wrote a poem that later was published along with several other Breckinridge students' poetry contributions in Morehead College's publication Quill and Quair. It was a quarterly publication of the English Department.

Jesse Stuart, who had just published his *Man With a Bull-Tongue Plow*, and his MSC freshman brother James both participated in that workshop. James had two poems published in that issue and Jesse had one. Also, his "Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow" was reviewed in that issue by Alice Palmer Morris, MSC Librarian. Later on my poem along with a poem by Alice Patrick, another Breck third-grader, was published in the first edition of *Childcraft*, which was an encyclopedia collection of children's stories and poems.

In 1952 I came in contact with Jesse through the Kentucky Bookmobile Project. That year Rowan County started one of five experimental bookmobiles

in Kentucky. I was the bookmobile librarian although I had no library training. The reason I got the job was I had a temporary teacher's certificate and was familiar with the rural roads and streams in Rowan County. During those days some of the roads followed the streams. As bookmobile librarian, I visited each of the 38 one- and two-room schools and four consolidated schools every three weeks with their only library service. Rowan Schools Supt. Eunice Cecil was the one who brought the bookmobile to the school system, and it was one of the greatest things the school system could have done.

The bookmobile was operated by the Rowan Board of Education and furnished by the Belknap Family of Louisville in honor of Alice Silliman Belknap. The vehicle was affectionately known by the students as "Alice". The children read voraciously and they anxiously looked forward every three weeks until "Alice" returned. We kept circulation statistics and determined that bookmobiles could be a valuable source of library service in Kentucky. There was no television reception in Rowan County when I began visiting the schools. But over the next 6 years, WSAZ TV in Huntington began reaching our area. Gradually TV

antennas began to spring up throughout the county and the book circulation statistics went down.

In 1952 Jesse Smart spoke to the first annual meeting of the Kentucky Friends of the Library in Louisville. It was a classic Jesse speech. He was so enthusiastic, wound up and fired up as he pointed out that 80 percent of rural

Kentucky schools had no free library service. Also, that 47

counties had no access to books at all. Jesse's speech so inspired Louisville businessman Harry Schacter that he began making plans to raise money through private donations to purchase more bookmobiles.

At a special called meeting of the Friends of Kentucky Libraries, Mr. Schacter outlined plans to pur-

See HISTORY on A-7



## History From A-6

**K**ENTUCKY is my land.  
It is a place beneath the wind and sun  
In the very heart of America.  
It is bounded on the east, north, and west by rivers  
And on the south by mountains.  
Only one boundary line is not a natural one.  
It is a portion of southern boundary  
That runs westward from the mountains  
Across the delta lowlands to the Mississippi.

Within these natural boundaries is Kentucky,  
Shaped like the mouldboard on a hillside turning-  
plow.

Kentucky is neither southern, northern, eastern or  
western.

It is the core of America.

If these United States can be called a body,  
Kentucky can be called its heart.

I DIDN'T have any choice as to where I was born.  
But if I had had my choice,  
I would have chosen Kentucky.  
And if I could have chosen wind to breathe,  
I would have chosen a Kentucky wind.  
With scent of cedar, pine-tree needles,  
Green tobacco leaves, pawpaw, persimmon and  
sassafras.  
I would have chosen too,  
Wind from the sawbrier and greenbrier blossoms.

**Quote from Jesse Stuart's "Kentucky is my Land," published by Dutton, 1952. This book and poem is the author's fervent reaffirmation of his love for his native Kentucky. Used with permission.**

chase 120 bookmobiles, one for every county in Kentucky. His plans were so successful that 120 bookmobiles were soon purchased. By that time, I had worn out the 1951 bookmobile and I had the privilege of driving one of the new larger, more modern models off the assembly line in Wooster, Ohio. I also drove it to Frankfort when 100 new bookmobiles were presented to the Kentucky Department of Libraries.

Jesse was instrumental in motivating the Friends of Kentucky's successful ambitious bookmobile project.

In 1958 I moved to Florida as School Library Media supervisor in Pinellas County (St. Petersburg). During my seven years in that position, many of my colleagues would introduce me as being from Jesse Stuart country. He was well known among Florida librarians and many of them knew more about him than I did. In 1968 upon completion of two graduate degrees, I returned from Florida, and was appointed Director of Libraries at Morehead State University. Once again Jesse influenced my life. As we were building a new library addition, I approached new MSU President Dr. Morris Norfleet about the possibility of talking to Jesse and building a Jesse Stuart Room. Perhaps then we might receive some of his books/manuscripts and memorabilia.

President Norfleet said, "Draft a proposal and send it to me and I will send Jesse an official proposal to build such a room." The return letter from Jesse was a resounding yes, and he would be honored to have a room in the new library. He also pointed out he had already given Murray State University most of his collection but we could have his wife Naomi Deanne's signed collection since she was an alumni of Morehead State. He invited us to come to W-Hollow and discuss the matter in greater detail.

This began a series of trips to W-Hollow. It was during those trips that, although I had known Jesse the world famous prolific author, I got to know Jesse the man. When you talked with him, he put you immediately at ease. He wanted to know not only who you were, but also who your parents and grandparents were and where they came from. Also, something



Jack Ellis inside the Jesse Stuart Room on the campus of Morehead State University.

that small Greenup Methodist Church.

As a result of these meetings in W-Hollow the design of the new University Library addition was changed and a large Jesse

Stuart Room was added on the 5th floor of the tower. According to Jesse Stuart biographer David Dick, it houses "a more complete Jesse Stuart collection of photos, documents, memo-

rabalia, and published works than any place he had visited." It also holds his old bull-tongued plow.

Shortly after establishing the Jesse Stuart Room at Morehead State University, I retired as Director of Libraries, but continued in the ministry. Then following my retirement from the ministry in 1997, I began doing some research and writing. Once again Jesse continued to influence me through his writing and through the foundation he established before his death because that foundation published my books. Recently, I was fortunate to acquire a very rare autographed complete collection of Jesse's published works. Jesse's influence continues on my life.

### POETS

Fairies are dancing,  
Fairies are prancing,  
Fairies are singing to you.  
Fairies are the loveliest things  
That I ever knew.

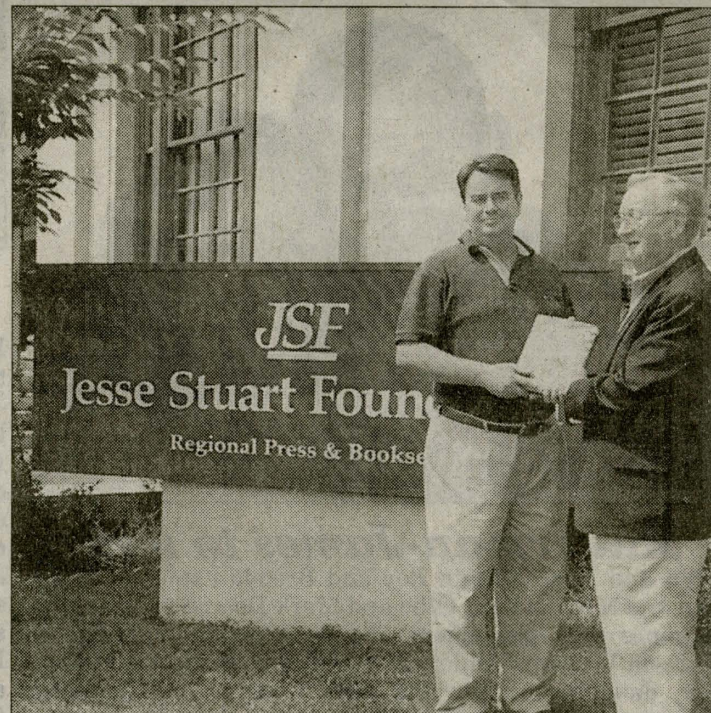
#### "Fairy Land"

ALICE PATRICK, III GRADE

Oh! little shoes  
Why do you quarrel  
All the time  
Just over the one  
That gets laced up first?  
You naughty little shoes.

#### "My Shoes"

JACK ELLIS, III GRADE



Dr. James Gifford (left), CEO and Senior Editor of The Jesse Stuart Foundation, presents Jack Ellis with the first copy of his book "Patriots and Heroes" published by the foundation.

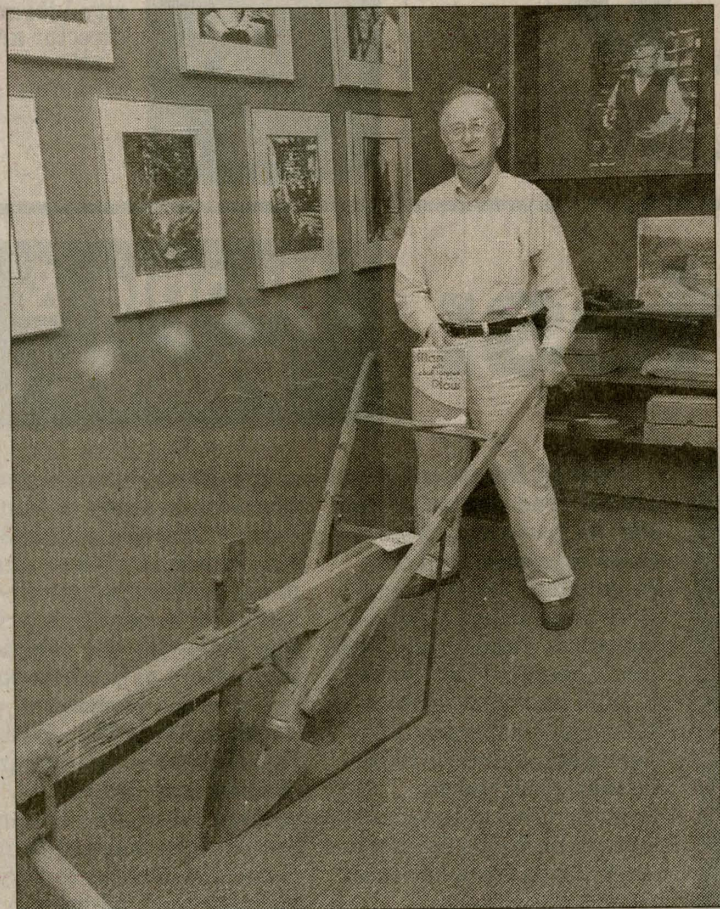


the world famous prolific author, I got to know Jesse the man. When you talked with him, he put you immediately at ease. He wanted to know not only who you were, but also who your parents and grandparents were and where they came from. Also, something about your personal hobbies, hopes, and dreams.

He was delighted to find out that in addition to being the MSU Library Director, I was also a Methodist minister serving small churches throughout eastern Kentucky. He let me know he and Naomi Deanne were both active members of the Greenup Methodist Church. Although his writings seemed to indicate that his faith in God seemed to be based more on his love of nature than his love for the Church, that was not the case. He not only loved the God of creation and nature but he dearly loved the God that seemed near to him in



# History From D-1



MSU/Tim Holbrook photo  
**Jack Ellis, who was Director of Libraries at MSU when the Jesse Stuart Room was established, poses with the plow representative of Jesse's first major book Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow.**

Remember the premiere of Rowan County's Sesquicentennial Event Saturday, May 13 at 2 p.m. at the new Morehead Conference Center.

Stuart began his autobiographical Beyond Dark Hills while at Vanderbilt.

Stuart was a successful poet. His ten volumes of verse include Album of Destiny (1944) and Kentucky Is My Land (1952). He was designated as the Poet Laureate of Kentucky in 1954 and was made a fellow of the Academy of American Poets in 1961. Stuart also wrote a number of books for children that are still highly regarded and much in use today. The Beatinest Boy (1953) and A Penny's Worth of Character (1954) are two of his eight junior novels for readers in grades 3-7. Hie to the Hunters, a novel published in 1950, is a celebration of rural life that has been especially popular with readers in grades 7-12.

Stuart suffered a major heart attack in 1954. During his convalescence, he wrote daily journals that were the basis for The Year of My Rebirth (1956), a book recording his rediscovery of the joy of life. He later became an active spokesman for the American Heart Association.

Throughout his adult life, Stuart received numerous honors as a writer and educator. In 1944, the University of Kentucky awarded him his first of many honorary doctorates. Oct. 15, 1955 was proclaimed "Jesse Stuart Day" by the Governor of Kentucky and a bust of Stuart, which is still standing, was unveiled on the Greenup County Courthouse lawn. In 1958, he was featured on This Is Your Life, a popular television show. In 1972, the lodge at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park was named the Jesse Stuart

er books which focus on Kentucky and southern Appalachia.

Jesse Stuart's books are guidelines to the solid values of America's past. With good humor and brilliant storytelling, Stuart praises the people of eastern Kentucky whose quiet lives were captured forever in his wonderful novels and stories. In Jesse's books, readers will find people who value hard work, who love their families, their

land, and their country, who believe in education, honesty, thrift, and compassion, people who play by the rules. Jesse's books are timeless in that they help prepare schoolchildren for responsible citizenship in today's complex world.

It was this writer's pleasure to serve as the Morehead State University Director of Libraries in

See HISTORY on D-3

**ELECT**  
**KEEN JOHNSON**  
 DEMOCRAT  
**COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY**



**Thanks Rowan Co. for your support!**

Paid for by Keen Johnson for Commonwealth Attorney

## Mother's Day Sale 20% Off

- Dresses by Koret, Ms. Dorby, Melissa & Bali - 20% Off
- Sportswear by Koret, Graff, Blast & Southern Lady - 20% Off
- Sleepwear by Ms. Elaine & Carol - 20% Off
- Bra's & Undies by Playtex, Bali, Wonder Bra & Lorraine - 20% Off
- Dresses by Aigner, M.C. Marlo, Bling - 20% Off

## DO YOU WANT TO BE SAVED?

Only one time, in the entire Bible, is the question asked "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30) In the next verse (Acts 16:31) the question is answered,

**"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."**

Remember: Hell's Hot  
 Life's Short  
 Death's Sure  
 Eternity's Long

and, "There Ain't No Exits In Hell."

**NO MAN KNOWS, HOW SOON IT IS TOO LATE**

"Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain."

Exodus 20:7

Any way that you use God's Name, the Lord's Name, Jesus' Name, other than in a Holy manner, is taking His Name in vain.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

Acts 2:21 and Romans 10:13 indicate that, "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." In the next verse, Romans 10:14 it says, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?" Believing precedes calling upon The name of the Lord. Jesus Himself said in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father but by me.**" God reaffirms this truth in 1 Timothy 2:5 saying "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." When someone says "repeat this prayer after me to be saved" it is making people feel like they have to "do" something to be saved, other than **believing**. If someone is asked to say a prayer to be saved, the person who says the prayer is still on his way to hell, after repeating the prayer, if he hasn't believed in his heart. Nowhere in the Bible is it found that a person has to pray a prayer to be saved. God does not hear a prayer unless you go to God in the name of Jesus Christ, **The Only Mediator between God and man.** Jesus Christ is not your Mediator unless he is your Lord and Savior. So according to God, the steps are, first you **believe** in **Jesus Christ** as **your Lord and Savior**. By **believing** as Acts 16:31 indicates, you are **saved!** Acts 18:30,31 is the only time in the Bible where the question is asked, "what must I **do** to be saved?" God answering through Paul said, "**Believe** on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." By being saved, Jesus Christ is your Lord, Savior, and Mediator between God and yourself. Now you can pray to God, because you have the Mediator, Jesus Christ.

I believe that when a person "prays" to God, without being saved his prayer goes no higher than the ceiling, and God probably says, "Who do you think you are, to think that you can come to Me, without coming to Me in the only possible way that I have se

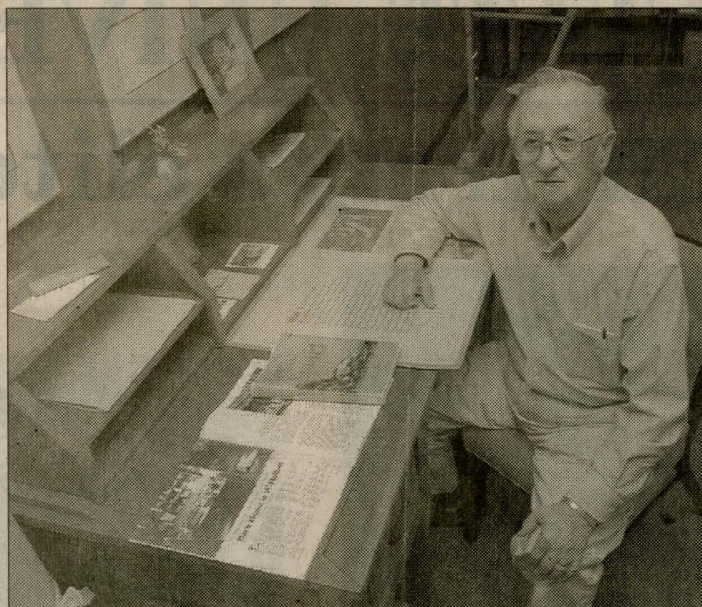


## History From D-1

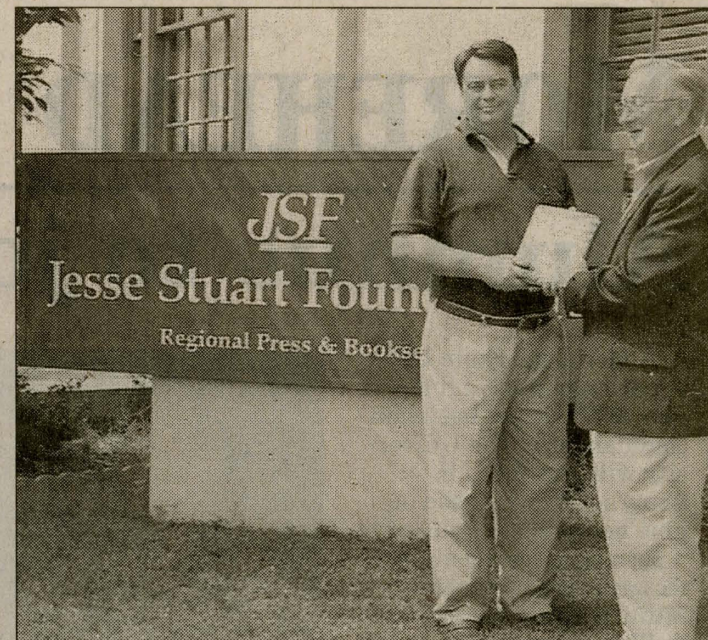
1977 when we built the new library tower. On the fifth floor of that facility we built the "Jesse Stuart Room" which houses, according to author David Dick, "the most complete collection of Jesse Stuart's works and memorabilia that he had found." -Jesse Stuart is closely connected to Morehead State University; he once said, "Sixteen of my relatives including my wife Naomi Dean were Morehead graduates." One of the former famous Poet

Laureate of Kentucky's honorary Doctorates is from Morehead State University and he had many close ties to Rowan County. The heritage Jesse wrote about so much in his books is what we remember in Rowan County as we celebrate our 150th birthday.

Read more about Rowan County's history in Jack Ellis' Morehead Memories or Kentucky Memories, published by the Jesse Stuart Foundation.



Author Jack Ellis at Jesse Stuart's desk inside the room named in Stuart's honor at the MSU library.



Dr. James Gifford, left, CEO and senior editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation, will be the keynote speaker at Rowan County's 150th birthday celebration May 13 at 2 p.m. at the Morehead Convention Center. Jack Ellis, right, one of the JSF authors.

### ROWAN COUNTY SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 2006

This year Rowan County is 150 years old.

Read about early Rowan County and Morehead, "The City of the Hills" in one of Jack D. Ellis' Books

*Kentucky Memories: Reflections of Rowan County.*

450 pp; 200 photos; c. 2005. \$35.00 + \$4.00 S&H

*Morehead Memories: True Stories From Eastern Kentucky.*

592 pp; 100 photographs; c. 2001.

\$35.00 + \$4.00 S&H

*Patriots and Heroes: Eastern Ky. Soldiers of WWII.*

412 pp; 85 photographs; c. 2003.

\$35.00 + \$4.00 S&H

*Alpha M. Hutchinson: The Biography of A Man and His Community.*

160 pp; 65 photographs, c. 2003.

\$15.00 + \$4.00 S&H

Signed copies from

Jack D. Ellis, 552 W. Sun Street, Morehead, KY 40351

(606) 784-7473

Available locally at the Coffee Tree Bookstore;

MSU Bookstore; Folk Art Center; St. Claire Gift Shop;

Mustard Seed; and Baldwin & Assoc.

Also Available From:

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1645 Winchester Avenue. P.O. Box 669, Ashland, KY 41105

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# Lifestyles

THE MOREHEAD NEWS, SEPTEMBER 12, 2003

## Section C

TV Listings .....  
Comic book Reviews .....  
Stamp fair .....  
Folklife festival.....

## Community CALENDAR

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 13**

### Band to perform in Morehead

The band 5 Spot will perform at the Citizens Bank parking lot. Performances start at 7:30 p.m. with Lazy Mary as a warm up band. Free to everyone.

### Gene Watson at Renfro Valley

Country music performer Gene Watson will perform two shows at 7 and 9:15 p.m. in the New Barn Theater at Renfro Valley Entertainment Center.

Tickets are \$20 and \$22 plus tax and handling. Call 606-256-2638.

### Trail ride planned

The Eastern Hills Saddle Club Trail Riders Reunion is this weekend at the Shriner's showgrounds in Olive Hill. A trail ride begins at 11 a.m. with a poker run 50/50 and a saddle to be given away. Call 286-5279.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 16**

### Sister Cities group meets

Morehead Sister Cities will meet at noon at city hall in the conference room for its regular monthly meeting. Meetings are open to the public.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17**

### Michael Martin Murphy concert

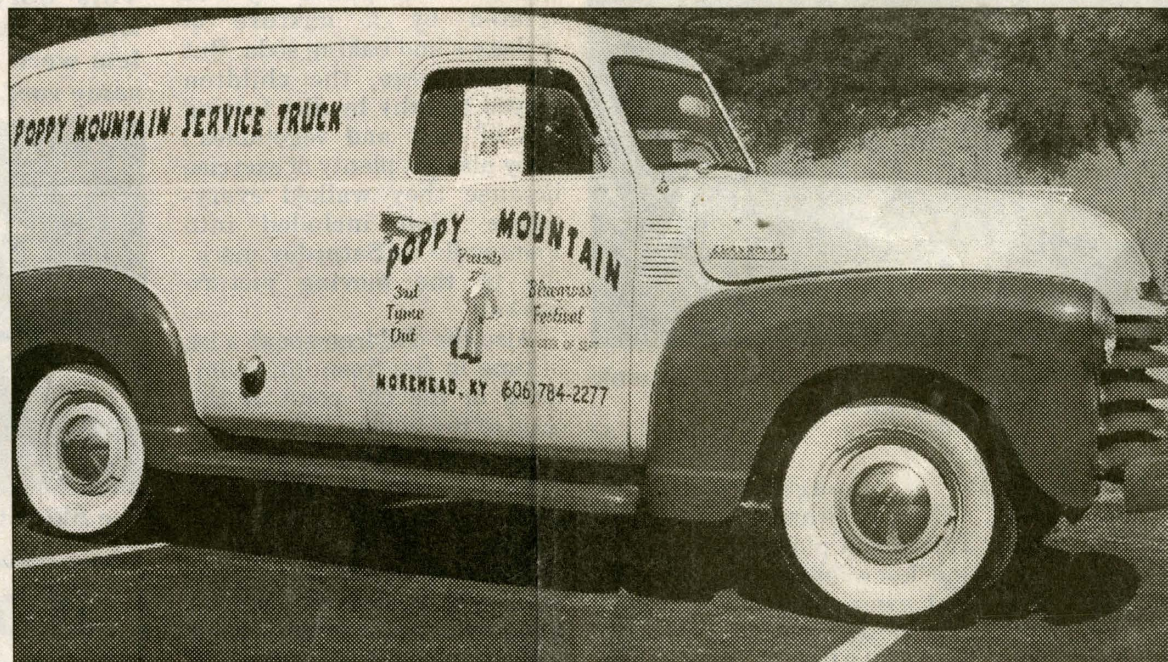
Songwriter Michael Martin Murphy will be in concert at the Kentucky Theatre, 214 Main Street in Lexington, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$24.50 plus tax and available at the Kentucky box office, 859-231-6997.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 23**

### Wellness program for seniors

The kick-off for the Wellness Program for Area Senior Citizens is 10 a.m. at the Carl Perkins in Morehead is 10 a.m.

To have an event placed in the Community Calendar listings, call the newsroom at 784-4116 or email [mnews@moreheadnewsgroup.com](mailto:mnews@moreheadnewsgroup.com)



## Poppy Mountain Fever

The classic cars on this page are display businesses to help promote next week Mountain IIIrd Tyme Out Bluegrass Festival

Denver Brown photos

## Classic vehicles promote festival, local business

By STEPHANIE DAVIS

Managing Editor  
[tmnews@moreheadnewsgroup.com](mailto:tmnews@moreheadnewsgroup.com)

Marty Stevens has fueled another great marketing idea.

He's mixed together old automobiles and new promotion techniques to get the word out about his local, home-grown festival that boasts the largest number of bluegrass bands scheduled to play on stage anywhere.

Antique vehicles - cars, trucks and jeeps from 1929-1955 - have rolled onto parking lots of local businesses across Rowan County. Travel any road or round any corner. You'll find a 1929 Chevy or a 1941 Cadillac ambulance parked within view. Painted on their doors is a reminder that the 11th Annual Poppy Mountain IIIrd Tyme Out Bluegrass Festival is the third week of September.

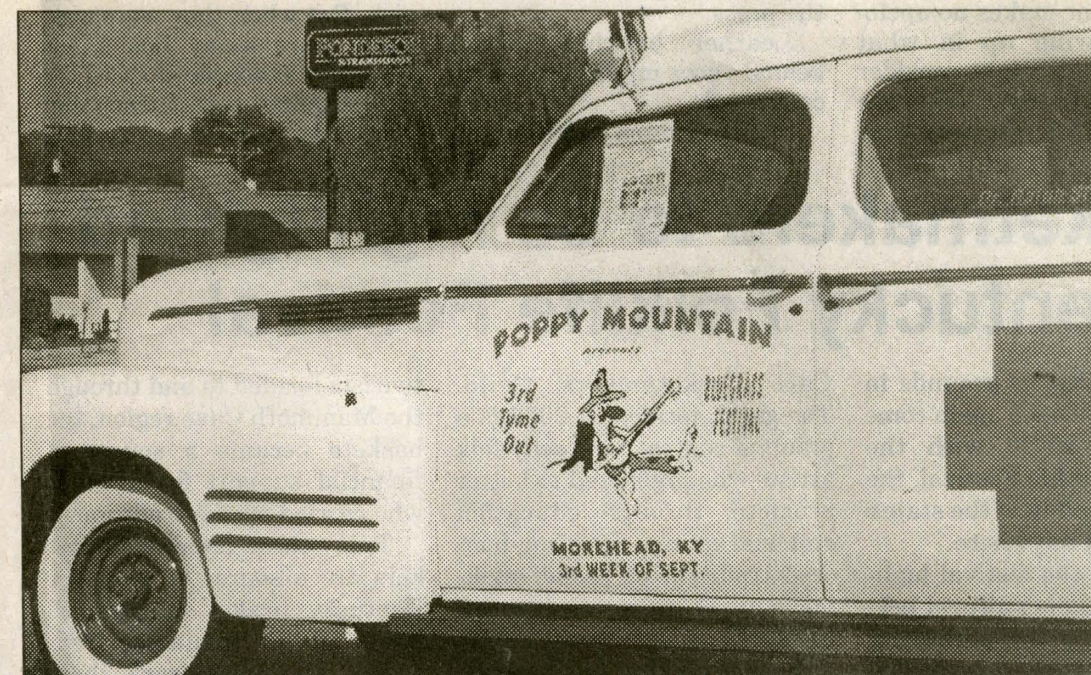
There are vehicles at 20 different businesses in Morehead, at no cost to the business owner. Stevens has moved the cars on site and is responsible for them while they are parked there, he said.

Here are the vehicles you might spot:

- 1929 Chevy fire truck
- 1939 International
- 1955 Chevy police car
- 1938 Ford sheriff's car
- An original Army jeep
- 1939 Buick taxi, an original from Huntington, W.Va.

See CLASSIC on C-3

**Ticket information:**  
**606-784-2277**





## Muddy From C-1



Group of authors published by the Jesse Stuart Foundation met in Ashland for a book signing July 26. Rear left is Clyde Pack. Middle row far left is Jack Ellis.

ow and childhood games of  
bles, kick the can, basket-  
on an outdoor court and  
ball with the leather cover  
aced with black electrical

any counties throughout  
tucky have a Muddy  
ach and the children grow-  
up there can identify with  
e Pack's stories.

any rural communities  
ad a Muddy Branch  
r. Pack writes that he was  
in the community called  
dy Branch. But it could  
be called Well Hollow,  
l Branch, Number Three,  
ord, Rockhouse or  
ulka, which was their post  
e. But there were even dif-  
t sections of Muddy  
ch called Society Row and  
Stocking Row.

ne houses were all similar  
yle and floor plan and  
owned by the Eastern  
ucky Coal Company.  
e was no indoor plumbing  
the miners rented from  
company and shopped at  
Company Store. The loca-  
was close to Paintsville,  
ucky, the county seat of  
son County, but the set-  
is remarkably similar to  
town, Rural USA" or  
ucky in the 1940s.

## Basketmakers to be highlighted Kentucky Folklife Festival

e Old Capitol grounds in  
kfort will once again come  
Sept. 25-27 with the  
ucky Folklife Festival, the  
est sampling of the state's  
fe found anywhere.  
ch year the festival high-  
the unique cultural her-  
of everyday Kentucky  
Featured this year are the

do about Eastern Kentucky is  
outsiders do not understand  
the uniqueness of the language  
or culture.

Mr. Pack then gives the  
reader a lexicon of language  
spoken in Eastern Kentucky,  
e.g.:

Powerently (sometime) -  
He's powerently going to give  
her a big diamond ring.

Hind-part-afore (back-  
wards) - He put his pants on  
hind part afore.

Might nigh (Almos) - He  
might nigh shot his own cow.

Flashy (Heavy set) - That  
lady is kind of flashy.

Swarpin (Partying) -  
Swarpin around all night with  
something sinister in mind.

Fer Piece (Great distance) -  
He lives a fer piece from town.

Smack Dab (Exactly in the  
middle) - She hit him smack  
dab between the eyes.

Biddy Drownder (Hard  
rain) - Akin to a frog strangler.  
This rain is a biddy drownder.

Bug Winding (A great dis-  
tance) - I'm going to knock him  
a bug winding.

Miners strawberries (Soup  
beans) - Mom's fixing miners  
strawberries for supper.

Plumb Blank (center) - She  
hit him plumb blank between  
the eyes.

Press (closet) - She put her  
important papers in a box in  
the press.

Leather britches (shuck  
beans) - goes mighty good with  
cornbread.

### Neighbors helped

### neighbors

Muddy Branch is a story of  
a time and place where every-  
one knew everyone else. The  
coal camp houses were close  
enough together that neigh-  
bors could talk to their neigh-  
bors from their porch swings.

It was a time and place  
where people shared each oth-  
ers happiness as well as their  
moments of tragedy. There  
were often mining accidents  
that often led to the loss of  
body parts that resulted in  
death or crippling of the min-  
ers. But it was a fact of life for  
the miners and their families  
and they helped each other  
during those trying times.

It was a time and place  
before air conditioning, indoor  
plumbing, television or other  
so called basics of today's soci-  
ety. But the children of Muddy  
Branch entertained them-  
selves at home and at school.

They played childish pranks  
on each other and their teach-  
ers, but recalled fondly those  
dedicated teachers that helped  
them through school. Most of  
the young people growing up  
on Muddy Branch went on to  
become successful adults in  
many areas of life.

### Home health then meant home remedies

The children growing up on  
Muddy Branch were seldom  
sick. But when they were sick,  
there were many homemade  
remedies available such as the  
old standby turpentine that  
was used to treat everything

from hiccups to arthritis to  
head lice.

Vicks Salves was another  
basic remedy for colds or con-  
gestion. A toothache could be  
cured by boiling bark from the  
south side of a red oak tree,  
and adding a pinch of salt  
before holding it on the aching  
tooth.

Boils were cured by eating  
molasses and poison ivy was  
treated by a mixture of  
molasses and baking soda. But  
by and large, the children  
stayed healthy by diet (eating  
lots of fruit and vegetables.)  
They also got plenty of exercise  
because they walked every-  
where (that included into  
Paintsville on Saturday morn-  
ing to the moving picture  
shows).

Also the children spent a lot  
of time in the fresh air, swim-  
ming in the old pond at the  
head of the hollow. When there  
were major illnesses, they got  
in touch with Dr. Hall, who  
gave them their shots at  
school.

The author included many  
humorous anecdotes such as  
going swimming with a dead  
mule in the pond at the head of  
the hollow. Also, when one of  
Muddy Branch's own who had  
gone to New York and became  
a ballet dancer returned home  
for a visit, he created quite a  
sir by toe dancing on the wood-  
en sidewalk of the town.

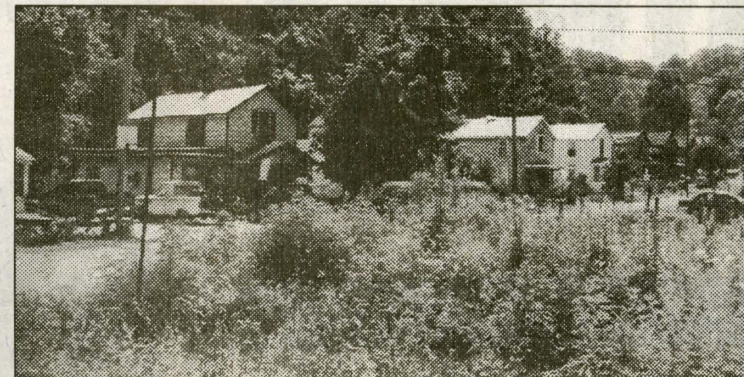
"Muddy Branch" is a coal  
camp story that creates fresh  
images of growing up in that  
setting. The children were  
happy and their parents were  
caring God fearing people who  
worked long and hard so their  
children might have a better  
life.

For more delightful stories,  
read Clyde Roy Pack's "Muddy  
Branch: Memories of an  
Eastern Kentucky Coal  
Camp," Jesse Stuart  
Foundation, 250 pp., paper-  
back, \$15.

Clyde Pack is a retired art  
and English teacher who is  
currently Associate Editor of  
the Paintsville Herald, and is  
living in Johnson County.



This northeast Kentucky company town of Muddy Branch shows its primitive facilities of the 1930s. The huts were duplex, with two separate facilities under the same roof.



The Silk Stocking Row section of Muddy Branch, 2001

**Northcutt & Son**  
Home For Funerals, Inc.  
Morehead, Kentucky Phone 784-64

## Credit Problems...SOLVED

Are you in debt?

Is financial stress keeping you up at night?

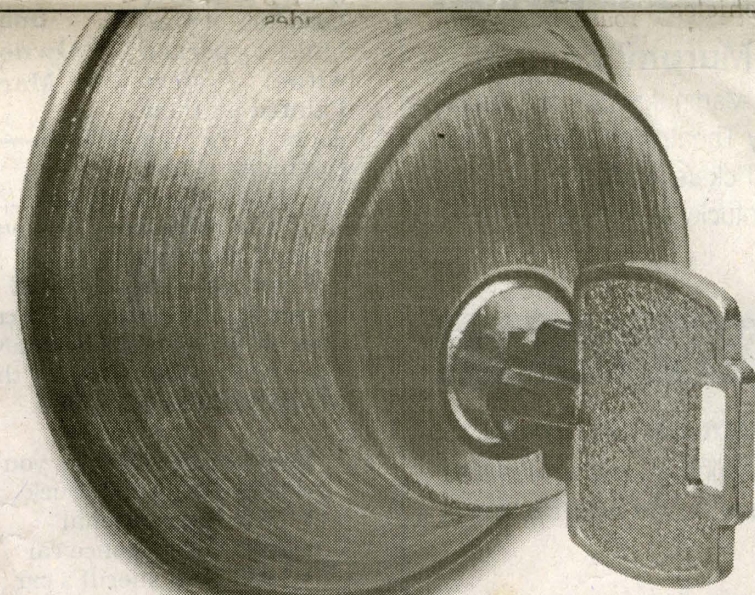
If the answer is yes, Wise Choice Credit Counseling can help.

We will:

- \* Lower your monthly payments and interest rate
- \* Set up a budget with you.
- \* Contact your creditors on your behalf to work out a payment plan.

To make an appointment for a FREE consultation,  
call Wise Choice Credit Counseling at  
(606) 784-4499 or toll free at 888-790-9909

Wise Choice Credit Counseling is a program of Christian Social Services,  
Morehead, Kentucky



# Unlock your



RCN SEPT 12, 2003

# Morehead Memories:

People &  
Places



## About the Author

Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

## *Muddy Branch, USA*

By JACK D. ELLIS  
Special to The Morehead News

"The memory of the just is blessed"  
(Proverbs 10:7)

Many readers of Morehead Memories that moved to this area from mining towns in Eastern Kentucky can identify with this review of Clyde Roy Pack's, "Muddy Branch: Memories of an Eastern Kentucky Coal Camp."

Also, others growing up in the Rowan County Clay mining towns in Clearfield and Haldeman can identify with this book.

### **Muddy Branch presents a positive pictures**

There are two sides to every issue and often contrasting points of view between those actively participating in an event and those just observing.

Clyde Roy Pack's "Muddy Branch: Memories of an Eastern Kentucky Coal Camp" is a delightful, positive

story of growing up in an Eastern Kentucky mining town that will give an outsider a fresh image of life in that setting.

Where the outsider might see a dull, drab, monotonous way of life, Pack presents a delightfully detailed picture of a vibrant happy childhood. Where those outsiders might see sadness and depression, Mr. Pack recalled healthy, happy, loving families when he noted, "We were fortunate to have parents who 'saw a cold, black January night while believing in a bright, new April morning.'"

Therefore, it all depends on your point of view and Pack presents the reader with an antidote to the Eastern Kentucky stereotype usually voiced by the national media.

Clyde Pack recalls his growing up a happy time of long summer days and soft summer nights, of swimming in Number One Pond at the head of the

*See MUDDY on C-2*

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# The Independent

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PAGE A8

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INSIDE FEATURES PAGE C7

## It's Magic

Donovan inks \$5.5M deal with Orlando / B1



## Assault trial is delayed

*4 Boyd residents accused of beating Westwood man*

By BEN FIELDS  
The Independent

**CATLETTSBURG** The trial of four Boyd County residents accused of beating a man with baseball bats and leaving him for dead will likely not get under way until midsummer.

Justin A. Justice, 19, Nicole McNurlin, 19, Elvis E. Adkins Jr., 19, and Tiffany Spears, 21, were expected to stand trial this week on charges of first-degree assault in connection with the June 2006 beating of Westwood resident Dustin Woody.

All four suspects face sentences of 10 to 20 years in prison if convicted.

The trial was supposed to start in January, but was delayed because Justice was at one point represented by Jeremy Clark, a former public defender who is now working for the commonwealth's attorney. The conflict disqualified the Boyd commonwealth's attorney from handling the case.

David Flatt has been brought in as

# WHAT AN HONOR

*Jesse Stuart Foundation named Appalachian Treasure; first organization to receive award*





a special prosecutor for the case. The latest delay, said Boyd Circuit Judge C. David Hagerman, has to do with evidence that was not furnished to defense attorney Michael Curtis, who represents one of the two women in the case.

See **TRIAL** / Page A8

## WURLAND 2 injured in mobile home fire

*Cause of blaze still  
under investigation*

By **KENNETH HART**  
*The Independent*

**WURLAND** Two Wurland residents were taken to area hospitals following a mobile home fire Wednesday night.

Carolyn Prince was flown to Cabell Huntington Hospital, where she was listed in serious condition Thursday in the hospital's burn unit, spokeswoman Kathy Cosco said.

Oscar Wheeler was taken to Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, where he was released after treatment for smoke inhalation.

Prince's and Wheeler's exact ages were not immediately available, although sources placed both in their 50s. The nature of their relationship also was unclear, although one source said Wheeler assists Prince, who is blind, with paying her bills and other chores.

The blaze was reported about 9:10

See **FIRE** / Page A8



JOHN FLAVELL / THE INDEPENDENT

Senior Editor and CEO of the Jesse Stuart Foundation James M. Gifford talks with a group tour from Harrison County.

## Gifford to accept award at Morehead ceremony

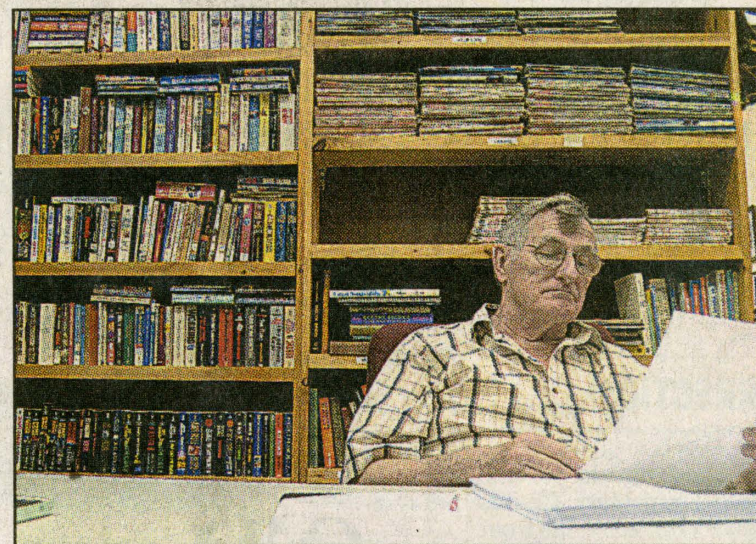
**ASHLAND** They're going to need an awfully big rocking chair.

The traditional gift presented to the recipient of Morehead State University's Appalachian Treasure Award, a rocking chair, won't be big enough for this year's awardee, the Jesse Stuart Foundation.

It's the first time in the 20-year history of the award that it has been presented to an organization. Previous recipients have included some of the icons of eastern Kentucky letters and culture, like James Still, Minnie Adkins, Loyal Jones, Jean Ritchie and Tom T. Hall.

The award goes to the foundation for its work in preserving and promoting Appalachian culture and because of the strong bond between it and the university, said Matt Collinsworth, director of the Kentucky Folk Art Center and chairman of the award selec-

Story by  
**MIKE JAMES**  
*The Independent*



Warren Dee, of Louisa, proofreads work that will be published by the Jesse Stuart Foundation.

tion committee.

The foundation is a nonprofit publishing house that produces editions by Stuart and other Appalachian authors. It has published more than 50 regional classics and more than 20 books by new regional authors.

After having recognized some of the top cultural figures of the region, the time was ripe for spotlighting the foundation and its

See **HONOR** / Page A8

## Special legislative session likely

By **RONNIE ELLIS**  
*CNHI News Service*

**FRANKFORT** It looks like there will be a special session called sometime at the end of June to consider an energy bill, including incentives for a company consid-

General Assembly  
**2007**

ering locating in Kentucky, and restoration of capital projects on university campuses which Gov.

Ernie Fletcher vetoed last year.

Fletcher met with House leaders from both parties for more than 30 minutes in his office Thursday. He said afterward that the call would likely include an energy development project and the vetoed universi-

ty projects, although he said he plans further discussions with legislators about the agenda. Other issues could be added later if there is an agreement between Democrats and Republicans.

Both Fletcher and Speaker of

See **SESSION** / Page A8



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## Session

From Page A1

House, Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said there is "very limited" discussion of legislation on domestic partner benefits. The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville have extended health insurance benefits to partners of unmarried employees and several Republicans have called for a ban on such benefits. During the annual session of the legislature earlier this year, a bill to ban those benefits failed to pass. At the time, Fletcher said he thought such questions should be left to universities, but he has since said he'd consider placing the matter on a special session agenda. Such benefits might become an issue in the gubernatorial race between Fletcher and Democratic nominee Steve Beshear. The energy and economic development issue, Richards said, is "very time sensitive," and Fletcher said it represents a "significant investment and in an area that needs economic development."

He said passage of incentives won't guarantee the company will come to Kentucky, "but we've got to be players in the game. Illinois,

for instance, has much better incentives for energy development than we do."

Some Democrats weren't thrilled with the idea of a special session before the meeting.

Speaker Pro Tem Larry Clark, D-Louisville, said on his way into the meeting, "It's all politically driven. It's going to cost taxpayers \$60,000 a day." That's roughly the daily cost to the state when the legislature is in session.

"We ought to have one issue on the special call and come in and vote on it," Clark said.

House Majority Leader Rocky Adkins, D-Sandy Hook, and Majority Whip Rob Wilkey, D-Scottsville, said they've had very little communication with Fletcher on a special session before Thursday afternoon's meeting.

"Special sessions are for extraordinary issues," Adkins said. "If we have a special session, we should get in and out in four or five days."

"And they're not free," Wilkey said.

Richards said he is confident the legislature can do its work in four to five days. Fletcher, who is scheduled to leave next week on an economic development trip to Japan and China, said he may set a date before leaving and then issue the executive order calling the session when he returns. But the ses-

sion is likely to occur in the final two weeks of June, depending on what dates are convenient for lawmakers.

Fletcher said an arena for the Kentucky Horse Park, (which will host the 2010 World Equestrian Games) emergency repairs and safety measures at Wolf Creek Dam on Lake Cumberland are other issues he'd like to place on the agenda if he can get agreement from lawmakers.

It's not likely lawmakers of either party will oppose incentives to lure an alternative energy production facility or other energy related industry. But the vetoed university projects put Democrats in a political bind — one they probably can't avoid.

Fletcher vetoed the projects at the end of the 2006 session but proposed their restoration in this year's 30-day session. Both houses and party leaders agreed then that was the highest priority of the session. But the bill didn't pass during the logjam created by differences over how to reform the state employee pension plan.

Democrats want to restore the projects but if they do, they fear they'll see Fletcher traveling the state during an election year handing out ceremonial checks and taking credit for projects he previously vetoed.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### No Sunday sales in Danville; karaoke, pool, dancing still OK

#### DANVILLE

Sunday restaurant patrons in one central Kentucky town won't be able to order an alcoholic beverage with their meals, but they're free to dance, play pool and sing along with the karaoke machine.

The Danville City Commission took several votes Tuesday night on proposed

changes in the city's alcohol ordinance. Alcohol has been sold in Danville restaurants with at least 100 seats Mondays through Saturdays for the past four years.

But the commission voted 3-2 against a motion to expand sales to after 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Ruth Ann Brown spoke in favor of alcohol sales and didn't like the vote.

"I love this town and I've lived here 50 years or more and I hate to see us going backwards," Brown said.

But Jim Clontz, director of missions for the South District Baptist Association, was pleased.

Wire report

## Trial

From Page A1

The judge said the prosecution wasn't aware of the evidence, either.

Hagerman set a pre-trial conference for June 7, at which time a new trial date

will be selected.

"There are so many lawyers involved in this thing, I had to find a time when I could get them all in the same room to get a date for a new trial," Hagerman said.

Woody was allegedly beaten following a party in Westwood.

He was allegedly thrown from the back of a pickup

truck after being assaulted.

He was hospitalized for multiple injuries. Police said Woody suffered multiple serious injuries.

He has since recovered, police said.

*BEN FIELDS can be reached at [bfields@dailyindependent.com](mailto:bfields@dailyindependent.com) or (606) 326-2651.*

## Fire

From Page A1

p.m. on Uhlen Branch, near its intersection with Kentucky Avenue, just off of U.S. 23. A passing motorist called Greenup County 911 and reported that a single-wide mobile home at that

location was in flames.

The kitchen and living room of the trailer were engulfed when firefighters arrived on the scene, Wurtland Fire Chief Steve Warrick said. The damage was mostly confined to those two rooms, he said.

Warrick said Prince and Wheeler both were out of the trailer when he ar-

rived. He said it was unclear whether they had gotten out on their own or had help from neighbors, many of whom had congregated at the scene.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation, although Warrick said it was believed to have been the result of an overloaded electrical circuit.

## Honor

From Page A1

work, Collinsworth said. "People should be made more aware of how important that work is," he said.

Giving the award to the foundation as a whole is fitting, said James Gifford, its chief executive officer and senior editor. "Our success is the sum total of the work of thousands of people.

"As an organization it deserves

this kind of recognition and I'm really pleased that we're going to be listed with the other important people who have had such a great cultural effect on Appalachian Kentucky," Gifford said.

Gifford will accept the award at 4:30 p.m. Saturday during the Bluegrass 'N More Festival at the Moonlight Stage in downtown Morehead.

The foundation was chartered in 1979 with University of Louisville literature professor Harold Richardson heading it, said Keith Kappes, MSU's vice president for

university relations and the foundation board chairman.

For its first six years it was all volunteer; Ashland Oil Inc. helped keep it afloat by providing office space and some other amenities, Kappes said.

In 1985, the foundation moved from Louisville to Ashland to be closer to its roots in eastern Kentucky. Gifford, then a history professor at MSU, signed on as director.

The foundation's mission to preserve and promote Appalachian lit-

erature meshes well with the university's, Kappes said.

"I'm very pleased and proud that the Jesse Stuart Foundation is the first organization to receive the award," he said.

The foundation has evolved as a sister organization to MSU's Kentucky Folk Art Center and the Center for Traditional Music to preserve Appalachian literature, visual arts and music, Collinsworth said. "It makes a really solid outreach program for the university going into all areas of the region,"

he said.

Besides its publishing efforts, the foundation has donated more than \$500,000 in books to colleges, public schools, libraries, and children throughout the region, and sponsors annual special events.

It now is housed in the former U.S. Post Office building in downtown Ashland. Its Web address is [www.jsfbooks.com](http://www.jsfbooks.com).

*MIKE JAMES can be reached at [mjames@dailyindependent.com](mailto:mjames@dailyindependent.com) or (606) 326-2652.*





John Holiday

SUGGESTS

July 15th 1977

Dear Dr. Jack Ellis;

received your nice letter -  
we are having here at  
the Holiday for three weeks -  
you can't believe how much  
cooler it is up in your area  
than it is here.

My class and  
the other four are going well.  
My class is very large -  
5-6 - from twenty-two states,  
Canada and Cairo, Egypt -  
one of my former Egyptian  
students is here -

I am sending  
you a program of our  
workshop - also, which you  
may not have seen, a  
tear sheet about Wood Johnson  
who is a top artist and used  
to illustrate my books.  
Sincerely, JESSE Stuart

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LETTER FROM  
JESSE STURRT TO  
JACK ELLIS 1977  
Jesse's Handwriting

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473



Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

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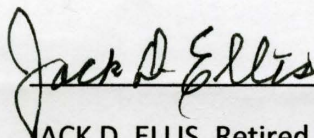
Mrs. Mary Lou Allen  
1823 Deo Bara Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35226

Mrs. Allen:

I have had an opportunity to examine the rare first edition of Jesse Stuart's Harvest of Youth, c. 1930, that you recently donated to the Jesse Stuart Foundation, a non-profit organization located in Ashland, Kentucky. Because it is the first book published by Jesse Stuart, it is considered the rarest of his 64 published works. Also, the fact it is signed by the author makes it extremely attractive to book collectors and bibliophiles.

When I was the Director of Libraries at Morehead State University, we established the Jesse Stuart Room where we have his complete published works. During that time I had an opportunity to evaluate and appraise many of Jesse's books. Recently a first edition of Harvest of Youth sold for \$10,000. Therefore, I would appraise the book you donated to the Jesse Stuart Foundation at \$10,000.

Thanks for the opportunity to review and appraise this rare book.



---

JACK D. ELLIS, Retired Univ. Library Director  
AB Morehead State University  
MS in Library Science, Vanderbilt University  
Ed.D, University of Southern Mississippi

✓Cc Jesse Stuart Foundation



Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

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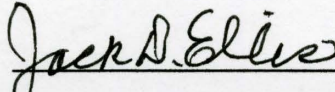
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\_\_\_\_\_  
JACK D. ELLIS, Retired Univ. Library Director

AB Morehead State University

MS in Library Science, Vanderbilt University

Ed.D, University of Southern Mississippi

Cc Jesse Stuart Foundation



(2)

**Jesse Stuart Hilton**  
**(1906-1984) Educator and Author**

The late Poet Laureate of Kentucky, Jesse Hilton Stuart, published 2,000 poems, 460 short stories, and more than 60 books. In addition to being one of Appalachia's best known and most anthologized authors, his works have been translated into many foreign languages.

Yet his contributions are more than literary. During his life, this charismatic educator and author served as a leader for the people of his mountain homeland and as a spokesman for values like hard work, respect for the land, belief in education, devotion to country, and love of family. His life and works still attract hundreds of tourists to eastern Kentucky every year.

*Begin* → Jesse Stuart was born on August 8, 1906, in northeastern Kentucky's Greenup County, where his parents, Mitchell and Martha (Hilton) Stuart, were impoverished tenant farmers. From his father, Stuart learned to love and respect the land. He later became a far-sighted conservationist -- donating over 700 acres of his land in W-Hollow to the Kentucky Nature Preserves System in 1980.

Mitchell Stuart could neither read nor write, and Martha had only a second-grade education, but they taught their two sons and three daughters to value education. Jesse graduated from Greenup High School in 1926 and from Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee, in 1929. He then returned to Greenup County to teach.

By the end of the 1930s, Stuart had served as a teacher in Greenup County's one-room schools and as high school principal and county school superintendent. These experiences served as the basis for his autobiographical book, *The Thread That Runs So True* (1949), hailed by the president of the National Education Association as the finest book on education in fifty years. The book became a road map for educational reform in Kentucky. By the time it appeared, Stuart had left the classroom to devote his time to lecturing and writing. He returned to public education as a high school principal in 1956-57, a story told in *Mr. Gallion's School* (1967). He later taught at the University of Nevada in Reno in the 1958 summer term and served on the faculty of the American University of Cairo in 1960-61.

Stuart began writing stories and poems about Appalachia in high school and college. During a year of graduate study at Vanderbilt University in 1931-32, Donald Davidson, one of his professors, encouraged him to continue writing. Following the private publication of Stuart's poetry collection *Harvest of Youth* in 1930, *Man with a Bull-Tongue Plow* appeared in 1934 and was widely praised. Mark Van Doren, for instance, likened Stuart to the eighteen-century Scottish poet Robert Burns.

Stuart began his autobiographical, *Beyond Dark Hills*, while he was at Vanderbilt. Published in 1938, it inspired readers to follow Stuart's example of overcoming great obstacles to obtain an education. His first novel, *Trees of Heaven*, appeared in 1940, followed by short story collections *Head o' W-Hollow* (1936) and *Men of the Mountains* (1941). More than a dozen other short story collections were published in Stuart's lifetime.

He was also a widely-read novelist, and critics such as J. Donald Adams ranked Stuart as a first-class local colorist. His first novel, *Trees of Heaven* appeared in 1940, followed by *Taps for Private Tussie* (1943), an award-winning satire on New Deal relief and its effect on Appalachia's self-reliance. *Taps* catapulted Stuart to success, but the critical reaction was mixed. Some saw it as nothing more than a comical, almost stereotyped story of poor, lazy mountaineers on relief, while others explained that Stuart wrote for a popular rather than a high brow audience.

Stuart was a successful poet. His ten volumes of verse include *Album of Destiny* (1944)

*fun*



and *Kentucky Is My Land* (1952). He was designated as the Poet Laureate of Kentucky in 1954 and was made a fellow of the Academy of American Poets in 1961. Stuart also wrote a number of books for children that are still highly regarded and much in use today. *The Beatinest Boy* (1953) and *A Penny's Worth of Character* (1954) are two of his eight junior novels for readers in grades 3-7. *Hie to the Hunters*, a novel published in 1950, is a celebration of rural life that has been especially popular with readers in grades 7-12.

Stuart suffered a major heart attack in 1954. During his convalescence, he wrote daily journals that were the basis for *The Year of My Rebirth* (1956), a book recording his rediscovery of the joy of life. He later became an active spokesman for the American Heart Association.

Throughout his adult life, Stuart received numerous honors as a writer and educator. In 1944, the University of Kentucky awarded him his first of many honorary doctorates. October 15, 1955 was proclaimed "Jesse Stuart Day" by the Governor of Kentucky and a bust of Stuart, which is still standing, was unveiled on the Greenup County Courthouse lawn. In 1958, he was featured on *This Is Your Life*, a popular television show. In 1972, the lodge at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park was named the Jesse Stuart Lodge. In 1981, he received Kentucky's Distinguished Service Medallion.

In 1978, Stuart was disabled by a stroke. In May 1982, he suffered another stroke which rendered him comatose until he died on February 17, 1984. He is buried in Plum Grove Cemetery in Greenup County, close to W-Hollow, the little Appalachian valley that was the setting for many of his works.

*But Jesse's death was not the end of his influence upon the literary culture and history of Eastern Kentucky or Appalachia.*

For more information, contact:

The Jesse Stuart Foundation  
1645 Winchester Avenue  
P.O. Box 669  
Ashland, KY 41105  
(606) 326-1667

Internet Address:  
jsfbooks.com  
E-mail Address:  
jsf@jsfbooks.com

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473

*SA was, I think, written  
during his lifetime. In 1972  
before he died, we built a new library tower. On the  
fifth floor of that facility we built the "Jesse Stuart Room"  
where we house, according to David Beck,  
"the most complete collection of Jesse Stuart's works  
and memorabilia that he formed." Jesse Stuart is  
closely connected to Morehead State University - he once  
told me "part of his relation includes his wife Naomi  
Dyer who was Morehead Graduate." One of our former poet  
honorary lecturers is from Morehead State University, and  
he had many close ties to Boone County. No heritage  
Jesse was about so much in his book or what we remember  
in Boone County as we celebrate with 50th birthday*

SA



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Saturday, May 18, from 9:30am-noon the Jesse Stuart Foundation will host a book signing for the following tri-state authors:

Billy C. Clark

a new reprint of his autobiographical classic, *A Long Row To Hoe* and many others

Linda Scott DeRosier

*Creeker*, an award-winning autobiography about growing up on Two-Mile Creek in Johnson County

Glennis Stuart Liles  
and Helen Shultz

*W-Hollow Cookbooks*, three very popular cookbooks that have been regional favorites

Edwina Pendarvis, Laura Traecy  
Bentley, Christina St. Clair

*Appalachian Love Stories*, short stories

Steve Holt

*Late Mowing*, poetry

Ken Slone

*At Home in the Mountains*, poetry

Doris Price

*A Bump in the Road*, junior book

Jack Ellis

*Morehead Memories*, a comprehensive history of Morehead and Rowan County

This book signing will be held at the Jesse Stuart Foundation, 1645 Winchester Avenue in downtown Ashland. For more information, call (606) 326-1667. All visitors will receive a gift copy of Jesse Stuart's junior book, *Old Ben*.



For your information:

A nice note from

Harry M. Candill's widow, Anne.

Mr. Jim Gifford  
Jesse Stuart Foundation  
P. O. Box 669  
Ashland, KY 41105

1611 Woodland Rd.  
New Albany, IN 47150  
June 21, 2001

Enjoy!  
Jim

Dear Jim:

Your enthusiasm for the Afterword which James has written, as well as the whole Night Comes to the Cumberlands project is heartening indeed. I look forward to seeing your proposed book cover illustration. Let me know when you think we should further implore Little Brown for action on the reversion of copyright.

Your recent packet of new publications is so much appreciated. Morehead Memories is a great collection of stories, and my daughter and her husband are especially enjoying that as they lived in Morehead for some seven years while Jack worked for the Forest Service. And I am so pleased to have the new copy of The Frontiersmen, and like very much its cover illustration. I read the book long ago, and have regretted including it in our gift of Appalachian books to North Ky. Univ. It contains a bit of information about my ancestor Benjamin Fry that I had not known before I read the book. He bought land from Simon Kenton near the mouth of Limestone Creek in Ky. and helped lay out the town of Washington.

Ken Slone's At Home in the Mountains is a nostalgic, tender and memorable collection. I am sending the copy as a gift for a young lady brought up at Whitesburg, with grandparents in the country, who is about to enter law school after having been away from the mountains for several years. It will serve as a beautiful reminder of her heritage.

Please send me another copy of At Home in the Mountains for my collection. I enclose my check for the copy plus postage in the amount of \$13.45. I do not use the order form as I am sending your catalogue to a friend in Ohio whom I visited last week-end. Please send me another catalogue.

Sincerely yours,

Anne Candill

Anne F. Caudill

P.S. Having Allen Eckert for a book signing is a coup!



# Jesse Stuart Foundation

Incorporated in 1979 for public, charitable, and educational purposes, the Jesse Stuart Foundation is devoted to preserving the legacy of Jesse Stuart, W-Hollow, and the Appalachian way of life. The Foundation, which controls rights to Stuart's published and unpublished literary works, is currently reprinting many of his best out-of-print books, along with other books which focus on Kentucky and Southern Appalachia.

With control of Jesse Stuart's literary estate—including all papers, manuscripts, and memorabilia—the Foundation promotes a number of cultural and educational programs. It encourages the study of Jesse Stuart's works, and of related material, especially the history, culture, and literature of the Appalachian region.

Our primary purpose is to produce books which supplement the educational system at all levels. We have now produced more than one hundred editions and printings and we have thousands of other regional books in stock. We want to make these materials accessible to teachers and librarians, as well as general readers. We also promote Stuart's legacy through video tapes, dramas, and presentations for school and civic groups. In keeping with Stuart's devotion to teaching, the Jesse Stuart Foundation is publishing materials that are carefully designed for school use.

Jesse Stuart's books are a guideline to the solid values of America's past. With good humor and brilliant storytelling, Stuart praises the Appalachian people whose quiet lives were captured forever in his wonderful novels and stories. In Jesse's books, readers will find people who value hard work, who love their families, their land, and their country; who believe in education, honesty, thrift, and compassion—people who play by the rules.

Today, we are so caught up in teaching children to read that the process has obscured the high purpose. Children require more than literacy. They need to learn, from reading, the unalterable principles of right and wrong.

That is why Stuart's books are so important. They allow educators and parents to "kill two birds with one stone." They make reading fun for children, and they teach solid values, too.

In a world that is rapidly losing perspective, we must truly educate tomorrow's adults. We must prepare school children for responsible citizenship, so we need to provide them with beneficial reading material.

Please help us make others aware of the books and materials available from the Jesse Stuart Foundation.

For more information, contact:

The Jesse Stuart Foundation  
P.O. Box 669  
Ashland, Kentucky 41105  
(606) 326-1667

*Internet Address:*  
JSFBOOKS.com  
*E-Mail Address:*  
jsf@jsfbooks.com



December, 2012



Jack D. Ellis  
552 West Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

Dear Jack:

In 2006, following a major fundraising effort spearheaded by board members Carl & Buzzy Leming and Don & Ruby Miller, we installed a new HVAC system to replace our terribly antiquated chiller system and radiator system. Utilizing the existing duct work in our nearly 100-year-old, 30,000 square foot historic building, our new heat pump system keeps us cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

However, the heat pumps cannot provide heat when the outside temperature drops below 20°. There simply is no heat that can be extracted from the air. So when the external temperature gets down to the low 20s, we have no heat in our building other than heat provided by space heaters. For the past six years, we have had some very cold winter work days here at the JSF.

There is a simple remedy to our situation. Heating units can be installed in the air handlers in our system, and those units will "kick in" and provide a backup to the heat pump system on cold days. Total cost of this project is \$17,090. Our revenue stream has declined over the past five years because of a poor national economy, and we do not have the money to purchase and install these much-needed heating units. I have tried, without success, to secure financial support from local funding sources.

So, I am asking our friends to consider making a tax-deductible gift to help with this project. I have already received eight donations that total \$2,650, and I have a pledge for a \$5,000 gift that will be made early in 2013. In general terms, we have a little more than \$7,500 of the \$17,090 we need.

With the new heating units, we expect to eliminate the need for space heaters, reduce electric bills during the cold weather months, and make our building more safe and comfortable for JSF employees, tenants, volunteers, and customers. In addition, an efficient system of climate control is essential to preserving our Stuart memorabilia, as well as our huge inventory of new and used books.

Best wishes for a happy holiday.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim", is written over the typed name of James M. Gifford.

James M. Gifford, Ph.D.  
CEO & Senior Editor

DONATION  
500.00  
12-12-2



AD FOR MY BOOK  
IN KY. BOOK FAIR PUBLICATION  
COPYRIGHT OF MY  
~~BOOK~~ MESSAGE  
MISSING CHRISTMAS

**JSF**  
JESSE STUART  
FOUNDATION

August 13, 2012

Jack Ellis  
552 West Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

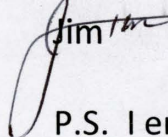
Dear Jack,

I want to thank you for participating in our booksigning. Always good to see you, my friend. I regret that I did not have more time to talk with you.

Your support, and the support of our other authors and editors, is essential to JSF survival and success. These are dark and difficult days for publishers and booksellers. For more than three years, I have worked without accepting a salary or any other form of financial remuneration from the JSF as my personal contribution to the economic survival of our organization. Our board members, like our mutual friend Keith Kappes, and many others also work as volunteers, because we know that what the JSF is doing is truly important. Our efforts to promote literacy and learning at all levels through our publications and projects are vital to our region's well being--and our books reach far beyond our region and our state.

I have devoted twenty seven years of my life to the JSF, and I am proud of its growth and success. However, unless we can get more community support, our future is not bright. Again thanks for your interest and support. I hope others will follow your lead.

Your friend,

Jim

P.S. I enclose a newspaper clipping.



January 2013

Jack Ellis  
552 West Sun Street  
Morehead, Kentucky 40351

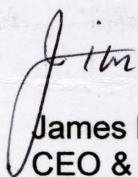
Dear Jack:

I am enclosing your royalty check for last year's sales. You receive a royalty payment on four (4) titles; your percentage of total sales is 70% for three (3) titles and 75% for one (1) title; and your royalty for FY 2012 is \$75.00.

The book publishing industry is facing many challenges. Please be assured that we are working hard to promote JSF books through traditional markets, as well as through the internet and the JSF website.

We appreciate your efforts on behalf of the Jesse Stuart Foundation and extend personal wishes for a happy, healthy, productive, and prosperous new year.

Sincerely,



James M. Gifford, Ph.D.  
CEO & Senior Editor

FEIN# 61-1959617



June 18, 2012

Jack Ellis  
552 West Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

Dear Jack,

On August 10, from 1-6pm, the JSF will be hosting an open house to commemorate Jesse Stuart's birthday. Activities include live music, prize drawings, refreshments, and book signings by JSF authors. In that regard, I invite you to join us for all or part of the day. Let me know what hour or hours you might be available to sign and I will develop a schedule that will, I hope, accommodate your wishes. Summer book signings are unpredictable. You might sell some books and you might not. But the fellowship will be good, and you'll get a piece of Jesse's 106<sup>th</sup> birthday cake. (Jesse's age—not the cake's!!)

Will you be able to join us?

  
Jim

AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup>

JSF

1:00-5:00





Making a point and never at a loss for words...

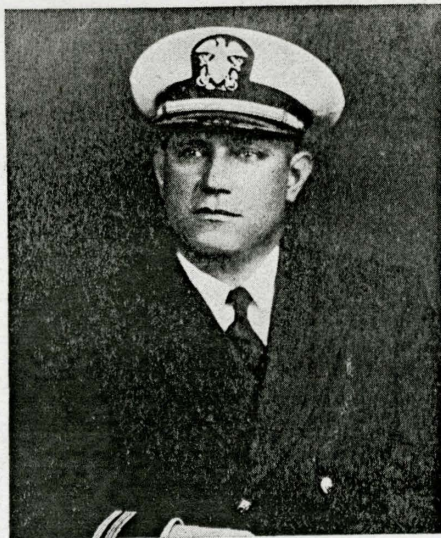
(Top) Taken at Jesse's home, February 1960. Photograph by James N. Keen, courtesy *Courier-Journal* and *Louisville Times*. (Middle) "Louisville—Brown Hotel, February 1959—speaking to youth interested in journalism selected from seventeen of Louisville's public, private, and church schools." (Bottom left) Jesse speaking to 2600 students and teachers at Eastern Kentucky State College, in Richmond, February 12, 1964. (Bottom right) In his yard.



Opposite: (Top left) At a writing workshop. (Top right) Wowing them at the University of Kentucky. (Middle left) In front of the Greenup County Courthouse. Photo by Allan Kain. (Bottom) Jesse Stuart, Parade Marshall at the 1976 Greenup Old Fashion Days. Photo by George Wolfford.

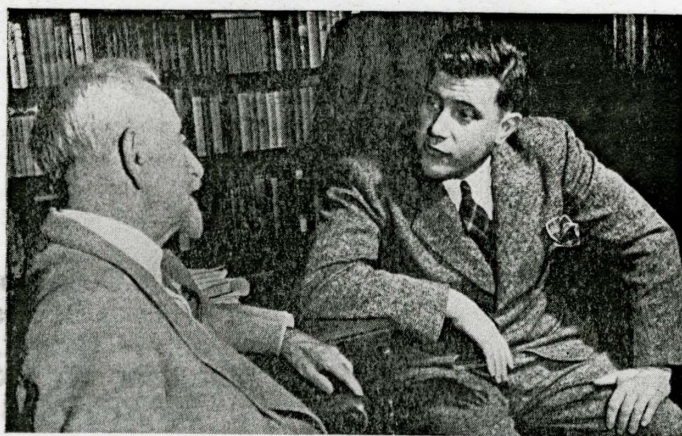






© Harris & Ewing

Lt. (j.g.) Jesse Stuart



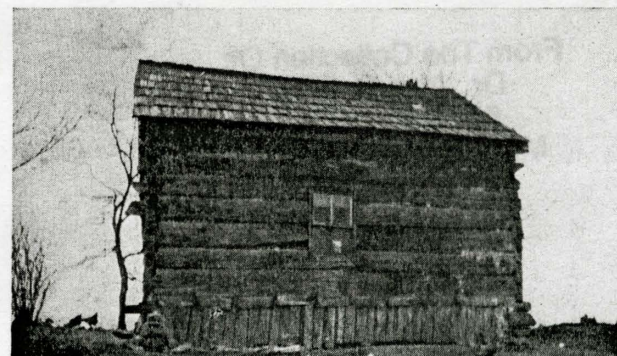
*In Earnest Conversation with His Publisher  
and Friend, the Late John Macrae*



## Jesse Stuart is the Author of

*Poetry*

ALBUM OF DESTINY



*Jesse's Birthplace in  
Kentucky*

JESSE STUART is well-known as a poet, short story writer and novelist. He has appeared in the country's leading magazines — *Harpers*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Esquire*, *Colliers*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, etc. In 1937 and 1938 he went to Europe on a Guggenheim Fellowship and came back with the manuscript of his novel, *Trees of Heaven*. He has been represented in both the O'Brien and the O'Henry short story anthologies. His novel, *Taps for Private Tussie* was a Book-of-the-Month-Club Selection for December, 1943 and Winner of the 1943 Thomas Jefferson Southern Award. He is married and has a baby daughter, Jessica Jane.

## About himself he says:

I was born in 1907 near Riverton, Ky., and attended



## Jesse Stuart Makes Address At War Bond Rally in Chicago



JESSE STUART

The following is reprinted from  
sheressosse see4P t,ttt

The Literary Spotlight by Fanny  
Butcher in the Chicago Sunday  
Tribune of July 9th, 1944:

"The men who wrote and signed the Declaration of Independence 168 years ago would have been pleased, I think at a scene after the book and author bond rally a week or so ago. . . Two American authors — one young, in the service of his Uncle Sam's navy, and just starting on his literary journey; the other the country's greatest historical biographer — met for the first time. . . Jesse Stuart author of "Taps for Private Tusie", was as excited as a navy man could admit being to meet Carl Sandburg. . . Also Louis Bromfield and Martha Ostenso, copies of whose books he carried under his arm to have autographed to send home to his wife, after the bond rally at Orchestra Hall, where Carl Sandburg's singing of three songs brought a record auction price of \$1,050,000 in war bonds.

Big, 225 pound Jesse Stuart, visibly melting in his navy blue and rawboned, white haired Carl Sandburg, somehow despite the heat looking cool under that icy thatching, went home with us for a talk before the sailor had to say ship-ahoy to Great Lakes at 7:30 the next morning. . . Carl Sandburg is by nature an all night talker, and Jesse Stuart forthright and outspoken. . . They acted upon each other conversationally like two sticks of dry wood. . . They kindled fires. . . They got to talking about what a great country America is, meaning passionately every word of their love for it.

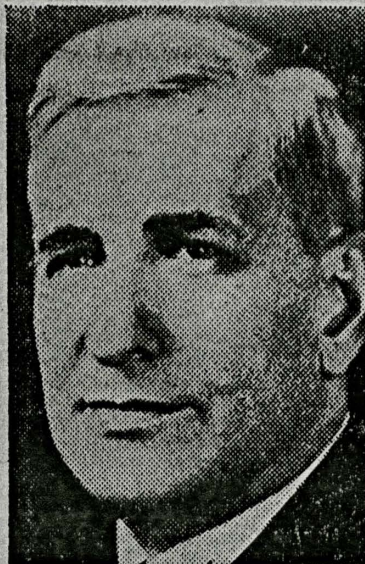
### American Illiterates

Stuart insisted, as he had at Orchestra Hall, that nowhere else in the world could a man like his father, who could not write his

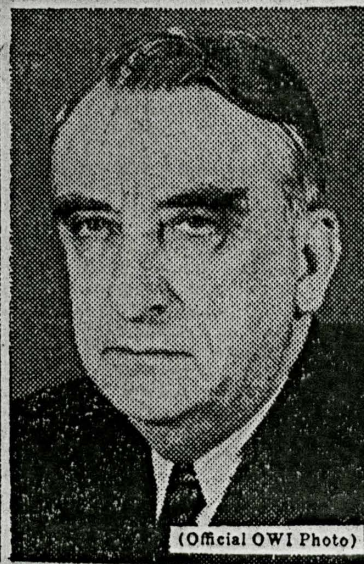
own name, provide a college education for his children. . . Whereupon Sandburg walked over, put his arm on Stuart's shoulder, said "My father couldn't write his name either", and then, with a great booming laugh, which starts in his heart and bursts the silences, he declared, "You and I, we're just a couple of typical American illiterates." . . . Yes, I think those signers would have liked to know, in those troublous days of 1776, that the country they were dreaming of could produce such "illiterates" and the kind of passionate devotion to their land which those two typical Americans feel."



Governor, Other Prominent Kentuckians  
To Receive Degrees From U. of Kentucky



GOVERNOR S. S. WILLIS



HON. FRED M. VINSON



DR. F. S. HUTCHINS



JESSE STUART, USN.

The four prominent Kentuckians above will receive honorary degrees at the 77th annual June commencement at the University of Kentucky, June 2. They are, left to right, top row: Kentucky's Governor, Simeon S. Willis; the Hon. Fred M. Vinson, director of the Office of Economic Stabilization; Dr. Francis S. Hutchins, president of Berea College; and Kentucky author and poet, Jesse Stuart, now in the United States Navy.





COMMANDER ROBERT A. WINSTON (left), Pacific hero, and Lieut. (j.g.) Jesse Stuart, noted author of "Taps for Private Tussie" watch the planes at the Smith Reynolds Airport before taking off to return to their jobs in Washington. The two naval officers came to Winston-Salem to participate in the United War Chest rally at the Reynolds Auditorium last night.—(Staff Photo.)

## Author Of "Tussie" Visits In Twin City

The lieutenant sat quietly in the car and listened in on the interview with Commander Robert A. Winston. Sometimes he volunteered a question or an additional scrap of information about the commander. The rest of the time he just sat quietly and listened.

"By the way," said the commander as the two men climbed out of the car to board their plane for Washington, "Lieutenant Stuart here's an author."

Lieutenant Stuart said nothing.

"He wrote 'Taps for Private Tussie' among several other books," said the commander.

"Maybe you've heard of it," said the lieutenant quietly.

And that just about sums up the quiet author of one of the year's best sellers, "Taps for Private Tussie." Lieutenant Jesse Stuart is now stationed with the Bureau of Aeronautics in the Navy Department in Washington. He's writing training manuals for the navy.

Lieutenant Stuart grinned. "Writing manuals is hard," he volunteered. "It's harder than writing a novel."

And Lieutenant Jesse Stuart ought to know because his novel was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection as well as a best seller.

But right now, the top thing in young Lieutenant Stuart's mind

(See Author, Page 2)

is getting overseas. He hopes to go soon or as soon as he can get this training manual job finished up, or at least to a stopping place.

"I tried to enlist in the navy twice," he said after several questions, "but they wouldn't have me."

He grinned again. "Then I got drafted and was lucky enough to get in the navy. After I finished boot training and was a seaman second class I got my commission."

Lieutenant Stuart flew down with Commander Winston to attend the Red Feather Rally of the United War Chest last night. But the young author stayed in the background and never volunteered the information that while he was pretty new in the navy, he had a considerable reputation as a civilian. It might never have come out, if Commander Winston hadn't mentioned it.

You'd never get the information from Lieutenant Stuart on a volunteer basis. He's ready to talk about Commander Winston or about the navy, but not about himself. Lieutenant Stuart's that kind of a guy.





**CREATOR OF PRIVATE TUSSIE** ties a bowline as a part of his training in the 10th Regiment. Jesse Hilton Stuart, apprentice chief petty officer of Co. 712, is the author of the current best seller, "Taps For Private Tussie," a Book of the Month Club selection which is now being filmed by MGM.

## Author of Current Best Seller in Boot Camp Here

Student, poet, school superintendent, novelist, farmer, apprentice chief petty officer — this is the medley of experiences in the life of Jesse Hilton Stuart, recruit in the 10th Regiment here.

Stuart is best known as author of that current best seller, "Taps For Private Tussie," a story of Kentucky mountain folk that has already reached a half million readers. The novel was the Book of the Month Club selection for December, 1943; it won the \$2,500 Jefferson Memorial Award for its author last year and is now being filmed by MGM.

"I wrote it for tragedy, but everybody tells me it's humor," said Stuart in referring to the story of Pvt. Tussie and his beneficiaries. "If I knew what I know now, I would have called him 'Seaman

Tussie,' but you see, I finished the book in 1942, and I didn't get into the Navy until March 31, of this year."

In Stuart's novel, Pvt. Tussie, who left his Kentucky hills for the Army, was reported missing. His wife received his insurance money, in a lump sum, and the story speeds on from there, telling of the wild spending spree carried on by the private's kinfolk. Yes, the hero returns. . . .

"Taps for Private Tussie" is only one of seven published books written by Stuart. His first, "Man With a Bull-Tongue Plow," was published in 1934. This won for him the Guggenheim Fellowship and provided the opportunity to study and travel in Europe. "Head O' W-Hollow," a collection of short stories, was published in 1936. "Beyond

Dark Hills," an autobiography, was the third Stuart book to be accepted by the publishers. "Trees of Heaven" came out in 1940 and a year later another collection of Stuart's short stories called "Men of the Mountains," was published. "Taps For Private Tussie" was on the book stands in November, 1943, and his latest, "Mongrel Mettle," went to the publishers in February of this year.

Stuart is a graduate of Vanderbilt University where he worked his way through as a janitor. After varied experiences, which included 14 months in Europe, he returned to his native Kentucky and was named superintendent of the Greenup City schools. He resigned his position in June, 1943, and moved with his wife and daughter to the old family farm.



my thesis, and the job which had given me eleven meals a week. From February 19 to June 2, I lived on one meal a day. I finished my graduate work but I did not rewrite the thesis.

I let Donald Davidson and Robert Penn Warren look at some verse I had done, and they told me to send it to *The American Mercury*.

I come from a hardy race of people. My mother's family ~~are Indian and~~ English. My father's are Scotch. They have lived in the mountains of Virginia, North Carolina and Kentucky all their days. My father's people, the Stuarts and the Stewarts, are, and have been, feudists, boozers, country preachers, Republicans and fine soldiers.

My mother's people, the Hilton's are, and have been, country school teachers, moonshiners, rebels and Democrats. They have all been pioneers in the Big Sandy valley and the mountains of Kentucky. I am the first of my people to finish college.



At fifteen I went to a country subscription school to give my grammar a brush. I went sixty days. Then I entered high school. Also, I had never seen anything like it. I cannot tell you the adjustments I had to make. I was like a mule in a new pasture. I finished in 1926, and tied for the best average in my class. Then I went to work in the American Rolling-Mills and spent eleven months of pure hell, forging steel. My eyebrows, eyelashes, and hair became singed. I learned to be a blacksmith there. I left with \$10. I was going somewhere: I didn't know where. But I knew I was leaving the steel-mills forever.

I tried several colleges but they would not let me enter. Finally, I ran on to Lincoln Memorial at Harrogate, Tenn. They took my \$10 (I bummed my way there) and put me to work in a hay field. It was like living in paradise to do the light work around the college. I went from the hay field to digging a water line, from a water line to a sewer line, and then to cleaning out man-holes. After the first year, I became editor of the college paper, and ran everything above two miles on the track team. I finished in three years, owing \$101.

I returned to my home county and taught school two years. The last year I became principal of Greenup County High School. During the next Summer I worked my way at Peabody College, Nashville, and then entered Vanderbilt to do a year of graduate work on \$130. I lived on eleven meals a week from September 22, 1931, to February 19, 1932. The hall I was rooming in burned, and everything I had burned with it save the clothes I



*Naomi Deane and Jesse Stuart Out*



# THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY ALUMNUS

## JESSE STEWART SWORN IN NAVY



Another Lincoln Memorial University graduate, Jesse Stewart, a Kentucky poet, author and schoolteacher, joined the ranks of the armed forces when he was sworn into the Navy as an apprentice seaman recently.

Jesse Stewart, a 1929 graduate, won the Thomas Jefferson Award for 1943 with his novel, "Taps for Private Tussie," which was selected as the Book-of-the-Month for December of 1943, and will soon be made into a movie by M-G-M. His latest novel, "Mongrel Mettle," is on the book stands now.

"I don't know what they'll do with me," Stewart said when being sworn into the Navy, "but whatever they do, I'll do my best."

"And I don't figure I'll have much time to do any writing," he added seriously. "I'm going to give it all to the Navy."

But the Kentucky writer still was thinking of writing new stories last week, when he appeared at the WINN studios where he had just

appeared as a guest on the "Navy Interviews" program.

"I'd like to write a story about the men I was sworn in with this morning—if I had time," he said. "I can feel with them. Most of the men up my way go into the Navy."

Jesse Stewart's entry into the Navy has cut short three careers, a writer, a farmer and educator.

He is looking forward to the publication of his latest volume of poetry, "Album of Destiny," this fall or next spring. He has been working on it since 1930.

(From Courier Journal)





C.-J. Photo.

GETTING TIPS on the Navy from Seaman Second Class Mary Payne, 2330 Crittenden Drive, first Wave sworn in here in 1944, is Apprentice Seaman Jesse Stuart, Riverton, Ky., author and poet who was sworn into the Navy here yesterday.

## Versatile Jesse Stuart Begins Career As Sailor

Kentucky Writer, Educator and Farmer  
Sworn In As Apprentice Seaman In Navy

Kentucky's Jesse Stuart—poet, author, school teacher, editor and farmer—took on his biggest job yet when he was sworn into the Navy as an apprentice seaman here yesterday.

"I don't know what they are going to do with me," Stuart said, "but whatever they do, I'll do my best."

"And I don't figure I'll have much time to do any writing," he added seriously. "I'm going to give it all to the Navy."

But the Riverton, Ky., writer, whose current bestseller, "Taps for Private Tussie," has sold over half a million copies, still was thinking about new stories yesterday at the WINN studios where he had just appeared as a guest on the "Navy Interviews" program with Seaman Second Class Mary Payne, 2330 Crittenden Drive, first Wave sworn in here in 1944.

Has New Story In Mind

book, "Mongrel Mettle," is on the bookstands now.

Stuart is looking forward to the publication of his "Album of Destiny" this fall or next spring, a volume of poetry he has been working on since the early 1930's.

The book traces the life cycle of sixty-four characters, many of them types Stuart has known in his own Kentucky hills.

"I've worked over the poems and revised them for a long time," he said, "and I think it's my most mature work. I had a hard time getting it done before I left and getting the corn in, too."

SS

LOUISVILLE, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1944

AP Wirephotos, International N

**Courier-Journal**



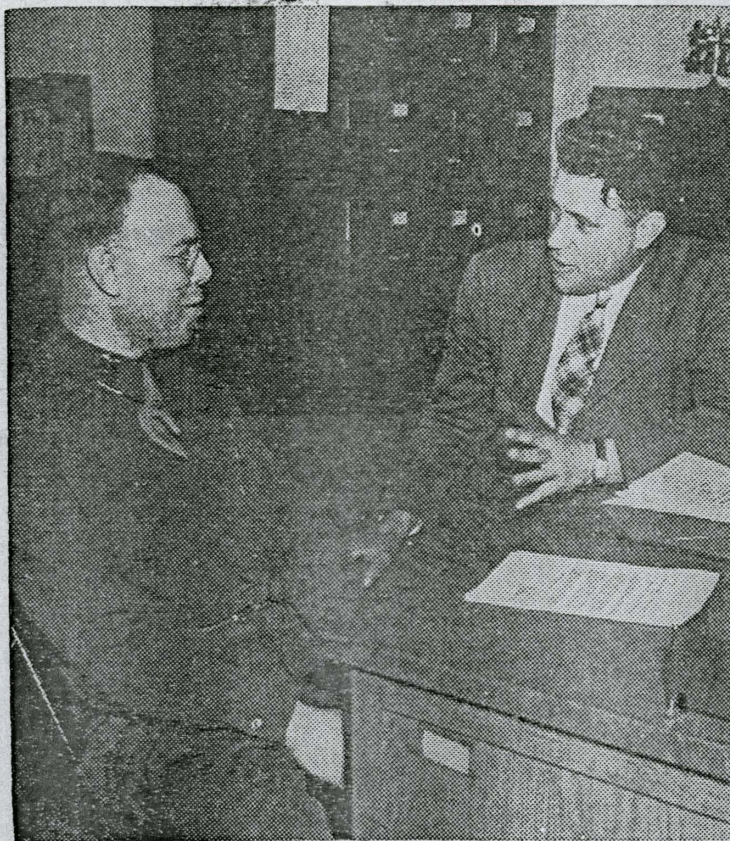
# The Herald-Examiner

HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 29, 194

## HIGHLANDERS, EXPRESS SECTIONAL FAVORITES

(See Sports, Page 10)

FOURTEEN PAGES



### CREATOR OF 'PVT. TUSSIE' GOING IN NAVY

Jesse Stuart, author of "Taps For Private Tussie," talked things over with Captain A. J. Blume yesterday after the Kentucky author passed his pre-induction examination at the Armed Forces Induction Station here and was assigned to service in the Navy. He returned to his farm in W-Hollow near Greenup, Ky., to await call to active duty. "Taps For Private Tussie" was the Book-of-the-Month Club's selection last December, and Mr. Stuart, whose brother James is an ensign in the Navy, sold the movie rights to M-G-M. Author Stuart has written several other books of prose and poetry, as well as magazine articles. He is married and has a baby daughter.



# The Herald-Dispatch

HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 29, 1944

## HIGHLANDERS, EXPRESS SECTIONAL FAVORITES

*(See Sports, Page 10)*

FOURTEEN PAGES





# Greenup Independent School District

JESSE STUART, Superintendent

GREENUP, KENTUCKY

LEWIS McCUBBIN  
Chairman of Board

RICHARD N. DORAN  
Secretary & Treasurer

July 12th 1942

Dr. Alfred Crabb,  
Peabody College,  
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Dr. Crabb:

Last winter sometime Ruby Ray MacDonald wrote me from Slippery Rock that you were going to have a book published. She didn't tell me the kind it was; I thought it would be a college textbook or something in the field of education. Just the other day, I was glancing through the book reviews in THE LITERARY MESSENGER and found a review of your novel. Now I'm ordering your book and will report some time later--I don't know when--what I think of your novel. I can hardly wait to read it. I knew you were full of this story when I saw you the last; I knew you planned to do something with it--but little did I dream that you would put it in novel form.

As you will notice by this letter heading that I am back in school work. It's been awfully hard to stay out of these last five years. I've thought a lot about schools, the pleasant work it is to work with youth and the high type of one's associations connected with school work. In my talks over this country, I've found the best groups in the land are school groups. In other words, I like school teachers. Many say they are a type; many condemn them--but I don't. I am one of them--

So Alfred is in the army; that is fine but I'll bet Mrs. Crabb is worried a lot. James will go to the army soon as he is called. While he is waiting to be called he's working in a defense plant in Detroit. Mr. Willis, chairman of our Draft Board told me I'd be called toward spring! It suits me; not only do I love a good fight--but I'm certainly sore enough at Japan and Germany to fight. I would have been there already if I were not married! And I'm liable to have been anyway if it had not been for our wreck last November and then next month our first child will arrive. You see how I am tied--pleasantly so--for I can hardly await the arrival of our little Stuart! But most of my friends are in the army. I get the urge every day--wanting to go!

Dr. Crabb this summer I've worked on this farm. I've ridden a mowing machine, a disk harrow; I've forked hay and wheat--I've done almost every kind of work--am in wonderful physical condition. But I've not done much writing. I've got things to do and things I want to do--but I can't get them done. It's been the hardest winter and summer that I have ever experienced. To you and Mrs. Crabb, Deane and I send our friendliest greetings.

Sincerely,

Jesse Stuart



# Greenup Independent School District

JESSE STUART, Superintendent

GREENUP, KENTUCKY

LEWIS McCUBBIN  
Chairman of Board

RICHARD N. DORAN  
Secretary & Treasurer

Feb. 6th 1943  
Riverton, Ky.

V.L. Sturgill, Esq.,  
American Red Cross,  
Fort Meade, Maryland

Dear Virgil:

I agree with you. You stayed at one post too long--a post where you weren't appreciated nor paid. I make just a little more here than you made in Ashland--and I think, as a whole, one can live more cheaply here--yet, we can hardly break even living on what I make here. You had to pay more rent in Ashland and you had a larger family. I don't see how in the world you came out on it. I don't see how you did as well as you did. And, as I say, I can't blame you one bit for leaving the short grass for greener pastures with better picking. I'd never return to the short grass unless I had to. That's what you had in Ashland--short grass. That's what I have here; that's what we all have in the commonwealth of Kentucky--and the grass is getting shorter. While grass all over America continues to grow, it continues to get shorter for the school teachers.

Virgil, I don't know of one single teacher coming back to Greenup next year. Miss Womack will not be back; Mrs. Merrill will join her husband; Mrs. Pickles will go to better picking--Miss Stevenson goes to work for the Government with a doubled salary--we can't compete with the Government--Mrs. Sammons will not teach nor will I--and that's that. I've had enough of it this year. I prefer to farm or to be in the army. I can make a better living at either than I can teaching school on death-colored wages. You were just a little more alert than your fellow teachers. You saw the chance and you jumped like a rabbit which is a clear sign of foresight and intelligence. And so, I applaud you, V.L. Furthermore, I think you are doing something that you will like and you will make a good man for the Services. You'll be right there with them to the last--working planning, fighting to the end.

Not any thing of any consequences has happened to me with the exception that Vanderbilt University is calling me back in April for two talks. You know of my struggle to live and to pass examinations in that institution. I'm not scholarly--and they are down there--that is, the majority of them. And Harvard University has also written me to come. These are two notes of encouragement through a veil of darkness that has practically had me surrounded while in this school business this year. I'd like to be like you--active and doing something to help win this war. Maybe, I am helping but I've always loved a little action and not so damned much sitting. In the past, I have acted--but not now--and it greatly disturbs me. I see you in action, you ten years older--and I sure as this world envy you. I really do. Write me when the spirit moves you.

Always,  
Jesse Stuart

Oscar Sammons is at Ashland, Maryland.



# Regional authors to sign works

The Jesse Stuart Foundation will host a booksigning for eight authors from the Tri-State area from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday.

►John David Preston, an attorney from Paintsville with a long and distinguished record of public service, is the author of "The Civil War in the Big Sandy Valley of Kentucky." Preston graduated with honors from

Harvard University and later earned a law degree from the University of Kentucky. This book represents a lifetime of research.

►Claudia Pemberton, will sign her first novel, "Love Leaves No One Behind." Pemberton works for the Cabell County school system. Her novel "weaves heroic action and down home charm into a timeless love story."

(Allyson Schoenlein, independent reviewer)

►Laura Tracey Bentley, a poet and fiction writer from Huntington and writer-in-residence for the Marshall University Writing Project, will sign "Lake Effect," a collection of her poetry.

## JAMES M. GIFFORD

Guest columnist

►JSF Board Member David R. Palmore, an administrator with the Erlanger/Elsmere Schools in Kenton County, will sign "New Har-

vest," an anthology of Jesse Stuart's forgotten stories.

►Danny Fulks will sign two books set in his native Southern Ohio: "Tragedy on Greasy Ridge," a collection of true stories, and a companion volume, "Tick Ridge Faces the South."

►Jack Ellis, retired from his longtime position as director of libraries at Morehead State University, is the author of four books:

"Morehead Memories," "Kentucky Memories," a biography of Rowan County banker and civic leader Alpha M. Hutchinson, and "Patriots and Heroes," a book about Eastern Kentuckians who served during WWII. Ellis, a WWII veteran, remains active in service to his Eastern Kentucky homeland as a minister, local historian, journalist and book evaluator.

►Stacey Nelson, Jesse Stuart's nephew, is well-known in the Ashland area for his expertise in restoring log cabins, but Stacey is now devoting his considerable ability and energy to writing. He will be signing his futuristic novel, "Gone Native." Later this year or early next year, the JSF will publish Stacey's novel, "Beneath the Weeping Skies," a post civil war story set in Eastern Kentucky.

►Jeff Davenport will sign his new book, "Chatter Up!" a book for parents, grandparents, and coaches

who want to help children succeed in Little League baseball. The author is a minister in southern Ohio, a former professional baseball player and an associate scout for the Atlanta Braves. The foreword is by Major League Umpire Greg Gibson, a well-known native of the Tri-State.

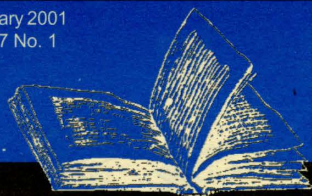
Please stop by on Saturday, get a book signed for you or a friend and enjoy live music provided by Carl and Buzzy Leming. If you can't come and want a book signed, call (606) 326-1667 and we'll take your information and get a book (or books) signed for you.

The Jesse Stuart Foundation is at the corner of Winchester Avenue and 17th Street in downtown Ashland.

**JAMES M. GIFFORD, Ph.D.,** is the CEO and senior editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation.



February 2001  
Vol. 17 No. 1



# Jesse Stuart Foundation

## A Regional Press & Bookseller

Preserving the legacy of Jesse Stuart and the Appalachian way of life.

*JSF Board of  
Directors on the  
steps of the  
Foundation's  
recently  
purchased  
property at 1645  
Winchester Ave.,  
Ashland, Ky.*



# Our New Home!





## Jesse Stuart Foundation Board of Directors

**Thayle Anderson**

Murray State University

**Delinda S. Buie**

University of Louisville

**Owen & Betty Burkinshaw**

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**Harvey & Mae Dixon**

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Ashland, KY

**E-Mail Address:**

jsf@inet99.net

**Website:**

**JSFBOOKS.COM**

(coming soon)

ISBN Prefix: 0-945084

Federal ID#: 61-0959617

Status: 501(c)(3)

# From the Director's Desk

## Dear Friends,

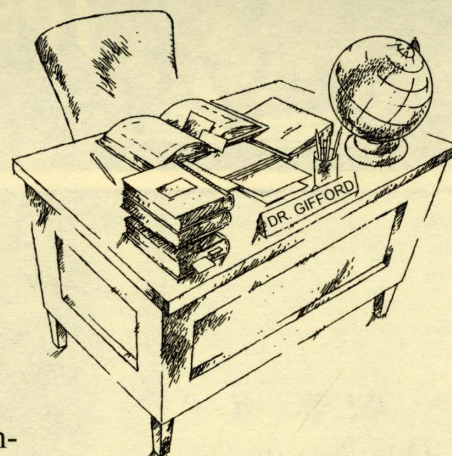
The Foundation has a new home!

On Thursday, November 2, 2000, The Jesse Stuart Foundation, Inc. concluded a difficult, two-year search for a new home by purchasing the former Ashland Post Office Building at 1645 Winchester Avenue, on the "Cultural Corridor" in downtown Ashland.

Thanks to the support of hundreds of friends across America, we now have a permanent home that people in the community and Stuart friends nationwide will enjoy. Our new facility will house our mail order business and our publishing operations. It will also enable us to expand our services. Beginning this spring, after we get moved, we will:

- consolidate our inventory
- open a gift shop that will specialize in Appalachian books and crafts
- have exhibits on Stuart's life and work for school groups and tourists
- host in-service training sessions for teachers
- offer Elderhostel classes for senior citizens
- provide office space for our editors, artists, and volunteers
- develop programs in cooperation with neighbors on the Cultural Corridor

With a new building comes an even broader range of responsibilities, so we would like to enlist some volunteers to work with our staff. Volunteers



From The Collection of  
Dr. James M. Gifford  
152 W. Ellis  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473

*Continued on page 4...*



We have been tearing down walls and building book shelves. By this spring, we will have an attractive shop.



3

*Fairview*

4

## THE JESSE STUART FOUNDATION

*the Jesse Stuart Foundation was established*

Incorporated in 1979 for public, charitable, and educational purposes, ~~the Jesse Stuart Foundation~~ is devoted to preserving the legacy of Jesse Stuart, W-Hollow, and the Appalachian way of life. The Foundation, which controls rights to Stuart's published and unpublished literary works, is currently reprinting many of his best out-of-print books, along with other books which focus on Kentucky and Southern Appalachia.

With control of Jesse Stuart's literary estate—including all papers, manuscripts, and memorabilia—the Foundation promotes a number of cultural and educational programs. It encourages the study of Jesse Stuart's works, and of related material, especially the history, culture, and literature of the Appalachian region.

*Here*  
Our primary purpose is to produce books which supplement the educational system at all levels. *and* We have *now* produced more than one hundred editions and printings *along with* and ~~we have~~ thousands of other regional books in stock. We want to make these materials accessible to teachers and librarians, as well as general readers. *may* We also promote Stuart's legacy through video tapes, dramas, and presentations for school and civic groups. In keeping with Stuart's devotion to teaching, the Jesse Stuart Foundation is publishing materials that are carefully designed for school use.

Jesse Stuart's books are a guideline to the solid values of America's past. With good humor and brilliant storytelling, Stuart

Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
852 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
800-784-7478



praises the *people of eastern Kentucky* Appalachian people whose quiet lives were captured forever in his wonderful novels and stories. In Jesse's books, readers will find people who value hard work, who love their families, their land, and their country; who believe in education, honesty, thrift, and compassion—people who play by the rules.

Today, we are so caught up in teaching children to read that the process has obscured the high purpose. Children require more than literacy. They need to learn, from reading, the unalterable principles of right and wrong.

That is why Stuart's books are so important. They allow educators and parents to "kill two birds with one stone." They make reading fun for children, and they teach solid values, too.

In a world that is rapidly losing perspective, we must truly educate tomorrow's adults. We must prepare school children for responsible citizenship, so we need to provide them with beneficial reading material.

Please help us make others aware of the books and materials available from the Jesse Stuart Foundation.

For more information, contact:

The Jesse Stuart Foundation  
1645 Winchester Avenue  
P.O. Box 669  
Ashland, Kentucky 41105  
(606) 326-1667

Internet Address:

[jsfbooks.com](http://jsfbooks.com)

E-Mail Address:

[jsf@jsfbooks.com](mailto:jsf@jsfbooks.com)

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
532 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473



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---

ALMA D. ROBERTS

---

---

335 Beech St.  
Monticello, Kentucky 42633  
(606) 348-4071

August 16, 2003

Dear Mr. Effort:

Thank you, thank you for Patriots & Heroes. I had no idea I was sitting at the table with a professional writer (Ellis). He is great!

I lived through W. W. II - Had a brother in the war, listened daily to Ernie Pyle - yet the book was so informative, a revelation; I found it compelling - read it in a days half. I heard many gory details that are sickening that I had not previously heard. What price for freedom!!

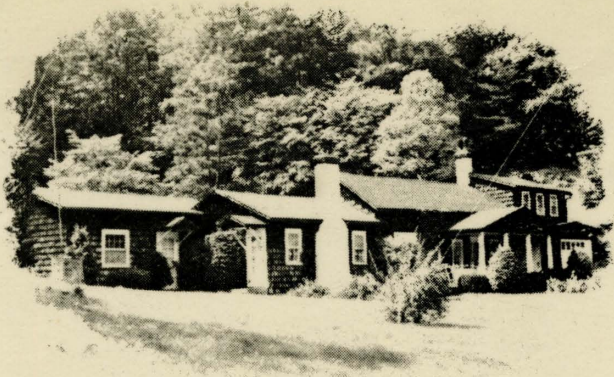
Pres. Eisenhower said war "is brutality, futility and stupidity." Please God give us peace.

Congratulations on your forward. What a historian as well as writer. I hope it isn't sinful to court your talent.

It's always so good to hear from you - no gift necessary. I do have one request, please pass it on your secretary. I have lost the list of names of the people in the pictures. The signers. I would appreciate another list.

Best wishes to a dear friend,  
Alma Roberts.  
? How about the address of Mr. Ellis? I would like to write him.





JESSE STUART

W - Hollow

Greenup, Kentucky 41144

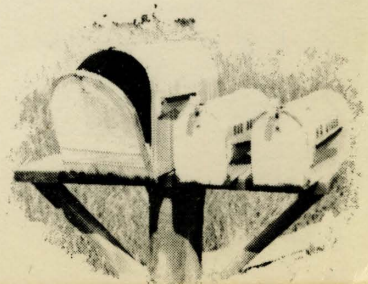
Feb. 7th 1975

Dear Luther Keeton:

Thank you  
for sending us this picture  
taken with Fern Creek High  
School students at the  
Salt House. We are very  
happy to have it. Thank  
you again for being so  
thoughtful.

Sincerely,

Jesse Stuart





# Jesse Stuart Foundation

A Regional Press & Bookseller

1645 Winchester Avenue

P.O. Box 669

Ashland, KY 41105

# JSF

(606) 326-1667

FAX (606) 325-2519

Email: jsf@jsfbooks.com

March 6, 2006

Jack Ellis  
552 West Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

Dear Jack:

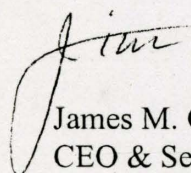
Just a note to thank you and Janice again for purchasing the Don & Ruby Miller collection of Jesse Stuart First Editions for \$10,000. You now own one of the best Stuart collections in America—better than what most colleges and universities have.

Don told me that he had more than \$11,000 of his money invested in the collection, and David Palmore and I think your collection will appraise at \$15,000-\$20,000. So even though you paid a handsome sum, I can say with confidence that you got a bargain and that your collection should appreciate in value in the years ahead.

Again, thanks! You and Janice are great friends to me and to the Jesse Stuart Foundation.

All best wishes from

Your friend,



James M. Gifford, Ph.D.  
CEO & Senior Editor

bec/jackellis03062006

From The Collection Of  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
808-784-7478



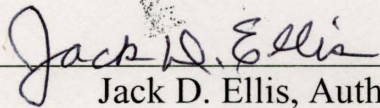
February 8, 2005

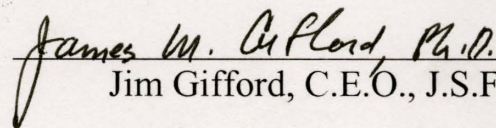
## AGREEMENT

This is an agreement between Dr. Jim Gifford, C.E.O. of the Jesse Stuart Foundation at 1645 Winchester Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky 41105 and Dr. Jack D. Ellis, Author, at 215 Knapp Avenue, Morehead, Kentucky 40351.

As per our phone conversation on this date, I, Jack D. Ellis, agree to pay the Jesse Stuart Foundation in Ashland, \$9,092 (plus shipping) for printing 2,000 copies of my book: ***KENTUCKY MEMORIES: Reflections of Rowan County***; c. 2005.

The books are to be stored at the J.S.F. at no additional cost, and may be picked up by the author at no cost as needed. Also, the books may be listed and sold in the J.S.F. catalog and credited to the author at 100 percent.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack D. Ellis, Author

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Gifford, C.E.O., J.S.F.

From The Collection Of  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
215 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473



# Jesse Stuart Foundation

A Regional Press & Bookseller

1645 Winchester Avenue

P.O. Box 669

Ashland, KY 41105

# JSF

(606) 326-1667

FAX (606) 325-2519

Email: jsf@jsfbooks.com

June 15, 2004

Dear JSF Authors:

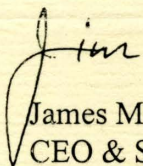
Please excuse this impersonal note, but I wanted to present a question to all of you. The JSF received an informal proposal from the Appalachian College Association to include our published materials in a digital library they are creating for their 35 member schools.

For a one-time fee, to be negotiated, the JSF is going to allow them to scan and create files for all of Stuart's books (and my publications, too) You folks know I'm low-tech, but my understanding is that the books would only be accessible by campus computers so that current students could call up these books and read them. We're not selling a permission; we're selling books in a digital format.

So here's my question to you. Do you want me to include your book(s) in this sale. If so, please sign this document, return the original to me, and keep a copy for your files.

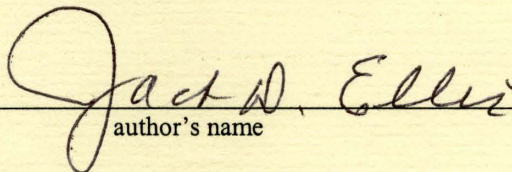
I will pay you a royalty fee from the sale that is consistent with your contract. Obviously I think this is the right thing to do, or I wouldn't be offering all of Stuart's published material.

Sincerely,



James M. Gifford, Ph.D.  
CEO & Senior Editor

Permission granted per the details of this letter.

  
author's name

7-3-04  
date

rem/digitallibrary06152004



## Nance named executive director of foundation

I'll be 62 next month. I'm amazed at how quickly I got to 62 and how "young" 62 now seems!

I have been doing the work of the Jesse Stuart Foundation for more than 25 years, and I have absolutely no plans to retire. I have no family and few interests outside of work, so I hope to continue working for many more years. But I think it is important for any organization to plan for the future, so when the day arrives (hopefully many years from now) when I can no longer work productively and provide leadership for the Jesse Stuart Foundation, I have chosen a successor.

At our May board meeting, I recommended that Brett

### DR. JAMES M. GIFFORD

*Guest columnist*

Nance be appointed executive director and charged with managing the daily operations of our business, which is the second largest publisher in the state. He will also have two bookstores, a reader's group, an art gallery, a photographic gallery, a Jesse Stuart Room, and a 30,000-square-foot historic building to "say grace over." It's a growing business and a big job.

Brett, a graduate of Coal Grove (Ohio) High School and Marshall University, has

been a Jesse Stuart Foundation employee for more than a decade and I'm confident that he will "keep the train on the tracks" in the years ahead.

I'll continue to serve as CEO and senior editor. Brett will answer to me, just as I will continue to answer to our board of directors, ably chaired by Morehead State University Vice President Keith R. Kappes.

Brett's promotion reflects a component of my leadership philosophy. When possible, I believe in promoting from within an organization. If you expect loyalty from employees, you should be loyal to them in return. For that same reason, I hope that Rob Ratliff will be selected as

Ashland's next chief of police. Like Brett, he's paid his dues; he knows his job; he's proven himself.

### Regional Readers

Our reading group will meet at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday to discuss Terry Ryan's wonderful family memoir, "The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio."

### Open house

On Aug. 8, we'll have an open house to celebrate Jesse Stuart's 100th birthday. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

*JAMES M. GIFFORD, Ph.D., is the CEO and senior editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation.*

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473



# Jesse Stuart Foundation

A Regional Press & Bookseller

1645 Winchester Avenue

P.O. Box 669

Ashland, KY 41105

# JSF

(606) 326-1667

FAX (606) 325-2519

Email: [jsf@jsfbooks.com](mailto:jsf@jsfbooks.com)

## JAMES M. GIFFORD

Dr. James M. Gifford is the CEO and Senior Editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation, a non-profit organization established in 1979 to manage Stuart's literary estate and to promote educational and cultural programs relevant to the late author's life and works. From his Ashland office, Dr. Gifford directs activities that include republishing and marketing Stuart's out-of-print works, along with other books that focus on Kentucky and Appalachia, developing film and theatre projects that focus on Stuart's works, cultivating new Stuart readers with programs for school and civic groups, and orchestrating the efforts of more than 5,000 devoted Associate Members in 50 states.

Dr. Gifford received the B.A. degree from Maryville College, the M.A. degree from Middle Tennessee State University, and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Georgia. He has published extensively in historical, educational, and literary journals, and he has won professional awards as a teacher, author, editor, and publisher.

James M. Gifford

SS# 414-64-6714

PO Box 669

Ashland, KY 41105

Work (606) 326-1667

Home (606) 324-6821

Fax (606) 325-2519

Email: [jsf@jsfbooks.com](mailto:jsf@jsfbooks.com)

Notes:



**MOREHEAD MEMORIES: PEOPLE & PLACES**  
**JESSE STUART: CHRONICLER OF OUR HERITAGE**  
**BY**  
**JACK D. ELLIS**

Jesse Stuart is a legend in eastern Kentucky. He was probably the most widely known person from this region and was one of this nation's most prolific writers. During this writer's years in Florida and traveling throughout the United States as an educational consultant during the 1950s - 1960s, I was often introduced as being from Jesse Stuart country. During his lifetime Jesse published 61 books, 460 short stories and more than 2,000 poems. Many of his works have been published in text books, in anthologies, as well as translated into several foreign languages, <sup>and</sup> ~~Also~~ they continue to be reprinted. Yet this charismatic author and educator's contributions are much more than literary. He served as a leader in education and spokesman for eastern Kentucky espousing such values as hard work, belief in education, love of family, devotion to country, and love of the land. He was a man ahead of his time, and is only now becoming recognized for his many contributions. His life and works continue to attract hundreds of tourists to eastern Kentucky each year.

Jesse Stuart was born on August 8, 1906, in Northeastern Kentucky's Greenup County, where his parents, Mitchell and Martha (Hilton) Stuart, were impoverished tenant farmers. From his father, Stuart learned to love and respect the land. He later became a far-sighted conservationist – donating over 700 acres of his land in W-Hollow



to the Kentucky Nature Preserves system in 1980.

Mitchell Stuart could neither read nor write, and Martha had only a second-grade education, but they taught their two sons and three daughters to value education. Jesse graduated from Greenup High School in 1926 and from Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee, in 1929. He then returned to Greenup County to teach.

By the end of the 1930s, Stuart had served as a teacher in Greenup County's one-room schools and as high school principal and county school superintendent. These experiences served as the basis for his autobiographical book, *The Thread That Runs So True* (1949), hailed by the president of the National Education Association as the finest book on education in fifty years. The book became a road map for educational reform in Kentucky. By the time it appeared, Stuart had left the classroom to devote his time to lecturing and writing. He returned to public education as a high school principal in 1956-67, a story told in *Mr. Gallion's School* (1967). He later taught at the University of Nevada in Reno in the 1958 summer term and served on the faculty of the American University of Cairo in 1960-61.

Stuart began writing stories and poems about Appalachia in high school and college. During a year of graduate study at Vanderbilt University in 1931-32, Donald Davidson, one of his professors, encouraged him to continue writing. Following the private publication of Stuart's poetry collection *Harvest of Youth* in 1930, *Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow* appeared in 1934 and was widely praised. Mark Van Doren, for



instance, likened Stuart to the eighteen-century Scotist poet Robert Burns.

Stuart began his autobiographical, *Beyond Dark Hills*, while he was at Vanderbilt. Published in 1938, it inspired readers to follow Stuart's example of overcoming great obstacles to obtain an education. His first novel, *Trees of Heaven*, appeared in 1940, followed by short story collections *Head o' W-Hollow* (1936) and *Men of the Mountains* (1941). More than a dozen other short story collections were published in Stuart's lifetime.

He was also a widely-read novelist, and critics such as J. Donald Adams ranked Stuart as a first-class local colorist. His first novel, *Trees of Heaven* appeared in 1940, followed by *Taps for Private Tussie* (1943), an award-winning satire on New Deal relief and its effect on Appalachian's self-reliance. *Taps* catapulted Stuart to success, but the critical reaction was mixed. Some saw it as nothing more than a comical, almost stereotyped story of poor, lazy mountaineers on relief, while others explained that Stuart wrote for a popular rather than a high brow audience.

Stuart was a successful poet. His ten volumes of verse include *Album of Destiny* (1944) and *Kentucky Is My Land* (1952). He was designated as the Poet Laureate of Kentucky in 1954 and was made a fellow of the Academy of American Poets in 1961. Stuart also wrote a number of books for children that are still highly regarded and much in use today. *The Beatinest Boy* (1953) and *A Penny's Worth of Character* (1954) are two of his eight junior novels for readers in grades 3-7. *Hie to the Hunters*, a novel



published in 1950, is a celebration of rural life that has been especially popular with readers in grades 7-12.

Stuart suffered a major heart attack in 1954. During his convalescence, he wrote daily journals that were the basis for *The Year of My Rebirth* (1956), a book recording his rediscovery of the joy of life. He later became an active spokesman for the American Heart Association.

Throughout his adult life, Stuart received numerous honors as a writer and educator. In 1944, the University of Kentucky awarded him his first of <sup>many</sup> honorary doctorates. October 15, 1955 was proclaimed "Jesse Stuart Day" by the Governor of Kentucky and a bust of Stuart, <sup>which</sup> ~~with~~ is still standing, was unveiled on the Greenup County Courthouse lawn. In 1958, he was featured on This Is Your Life, a popular television show. In 1972, the lodge at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park was named the Jesse Stuart Lodge. In 1981, he received Kentucky's Distinguished Service Medallion.

In 1978, Stuart was disabled by a stroke. In May 1982, he suffered another stroke which rendered him comatose until he died on February 17, 1984. He is buried in Plum Grove Cemetery in Greenup County, close to W-Hollow, the little Appalachian valley that was the setting for many of his works. But Jesse's death was not the end of his influence upon the literary culture and history of eastern Kentucky and Appalachia.

Incorporated in 1979, the Jesse Stuart Foundation was established for public, charitable, and educational purposes, and is devoted to preserving the legacy of Jesse



Stuart, W-Hollow, and the Appalachian way of life. The Foundation, which controls rights to Stuart's published and unpublished literary works, is currently reprinting many of his best out-of-print books, along with other books which focus on Kentucky and Southern Appalachia.

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That is why Stuart's books are so important. They allow educators and parents to "kill two birds with one stone." They make reading fun for children, and they teach solid values, too. ↗

In a world that is rapidly losing perspective, we must truly educate tomorrow's adults. We must prepare school children for responsible citizenship, so we need to provide them with beneficial reading material.

It was this writer's pleasure to serve as the Morehead State University Director of Libraries in 1977 when we built the new library tower. On the fifth floor of that facility we built the "Jesse Stuart Room" which houses, according to author David Dick, "The most complete collection of Jesse Stuart's works and memorabilia that he had found."

<sup>Stuart</sup> Jesse ~~Stuart~~ is closely connected to Morehead State University; he once <sup>said</sup> ~~told me~~ "sixteen of <sup>my</sup> ~~his~~ relatives including <sup>my</sup> ~~his~~ wife Naomi Dean were Morehead graduates." One of the famous Poet Laureate of Kentucky's honorary Doctorates is from Morehead State University and he had many close ties to Rowan County. The heritage Jesse wrote about so much in his books is what we remember in Rowan County as we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. *He did more to preserve our heritage than perhaps any other person*  
~~Jesse Stuart would have been the ideal speaker for Rowan County's~~



## LIEUTENANT JESSE STUART

1942 - 1945

JACE ELLIS

On December 7, 1941, when Deane came home to W-Hollow from the hospital, the Stuarts heard reports of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor over their battery-powered radio. Jesse was ready to go to war, but he had a wife with a broken back and a baby on the way, so he agreed to serve as superintendent of the Greenup City Schools for the 1942-1943 school year. The Stuarts temporarily moved into a house on East Main Street in Greenup to be near Jesse's work and Deane's family.

On the last day of 1942, Jesse finished a novel that he entitled *Inherited Indolence*. Deane thought the story was very funny, but did not like the title. With her help and input from Huntington journalist Raymond Brewster, Jesse renamed his book *Taps For Private Tussie*. It was published by E.P. Dutton and Company in 1943 and soon became a Book-of-the-Month-Club selection. "It's hard for us to believe," Jesse said, pleased that the book would be released with the club's seal in December, "the best month ... for people will be buying Christmas presents." He was also proud that it was not "a dual selection," meaning that it was the only book the Club endorsed for that month, which was unusual. It was "all an author [could] hope for." The next year *Taps* was condensed and serialized in *Ladies Home Journal*. MGM later purchased the movie rights for \$50,000, but Army representatives pressured them out of making the film. They felt that the basic story line, built around the mistaken identification of Private Kim Tussie's body, could never have happened. MGM shelved the project, and no film was ever made.<sup>2</sup> Ironically, the comedic novel with a World War II setting was published before Jesse



Stuart entered the armed services in 1944.

JS DEANE JANE NAVY UNIFORM. Jesse, Deane, and Jane.

"I want to walk around and look at these old immortal hills before I go," Stuart wrote as he prepared to join the Navy, "for here I was born and have lived all my days." He took his physical exam in Huntington, West Virginia, in February and was sworn in at Louisville on March 31, 1944. He left immediately for basic training at the Great Lakes Training Command near Chicago and was there for fourteen weeks, missing Jane, Deane, and their "little home, dogs and chickens" all the while.<sup>3</sup> Jesse dreaded the intense workouts "at [his] age" and losing "the freedom a civilian has in America," but "hope[d] to make a good seaman." He put forth a great effort, running so hard and so often that he lost six and a half pounds in a single week.

JESSE WITH CHICKENS. The farm Jesse left behind.

On July 12, 1944, he graduated and was commissioned as a lieutenant (j.g.). He was assigned to the Bureau of Aeronautics in Washington, D.C., where he worked until the war ended. In the Writers Unit, he was given weak assignments that did not stimulate his cyclonic energy, but at least he was with his family. Before his wife and daughter moved to D.C., Jesse worried that Jane would forget who he was. As frequently as possible, he "did some smooth and tall talking" to get out-of-bounds passes, which he used for visits with his family and friends.<sup>5</sup>

Jesse was torn over his role in the war. One breezy September afternoon, he was so strongly



appalled by the "spectacle of easy life" he and his coworkers were living that he said he would never forget it. He wondered if he could have been more useful as a farmer than as a bureaucratic figurehead in uniform. He wrote in his journal:

Since the weather was a little close, sultry outside and storm clouds hanging over Washington, office doors were thrown open and I could see inside. Office after office that I passed, all a small bureau in its own right, I saw groups of officers sitting with feet upon the desks ... or little groups talking to each other.... It was a spectacle of easy life. And then it made me wonder what it was all about. Wasn't there enough for us to do here to keep us busy? What was I contributing to the war effort? Would I have been better off on my farm producing food and writing books and stories and paying more taxes? I didn't know.

MICK MARTHA FIVE KIDS DURING THE WAR. From left to right: Mick, Martha, Jesse, Sophia, Mary, James, and Glennis.

Meanwhile, his brother, James, was in the Leyte, Luzon, and Okinawa invasions. The three Stuart sisters worked at the Clayton Lambert shell plant in Wurtland, Kentucky. Their father was unable to do much physical labor, so their Uncle Jesse was trying to manage the farm singlehandedly. It was a formidable effort, but the land was suffering. Jesse was unsure whether



he would ever see his home again, as he expected to be “shipped to the mid pacific ... unless some radical changes [came] about.” He lamented to his friend Gus Voiers, “Remember my chickens! Deane has sold them. I hated to sell them—would hate to see the house with the shades down, grass growing in the yard and the dogs gone. One of these days I hope to live there again.”

DEANE JANE AND JESSE IN DC. Deane and Jesse walk with Jane down the streets of “noisy, gossipy” Washington, DC.

Soon after Deane and Jane came to live with Jesse, the Stuarts lost a baby that was born prematurely. That, among other factors, depressed them. Not surprisingly, Jesse and Deane were ill-suited to big city life. “Washington, as I know it, is just another city—a noisy, gossipy one at that,” he complained, chaffing from inactivity. Jesse claimed that he would soon be assigned “to a carrier in the Pacific” on its way to Japan, but the war ended on September 2, 1945, without his seeing any action.<sup>12</sup> He was mustered out on December 31, 1945, exactly three years after having completed Taps For Private Tussie. He and his family left Washington “in a hurry” to get home. They departed at noon in poor driving conditions and drove seven-and-a-half hours to Clarksburg, West Virginia, a distance of almost 250 miles. The next day they weathered a “blinding snowstorm and icy roads” to Ohio, where conditions improved for the remainder of the trip. They stayed in Greenup with Deane’s parents for two days, waiting for the ground to freeze so they could drive the rutted dirt roads that led to their beloved W-Hollow.

When the Stuarts finally reached home, they were greeted by moldy books and furniture.

Carefully drying their belongings before a big fire, they realized, “It just doesn’t pay to go off and



leave a home empty for a couple of years.” Their home needed much work, and the farm was “in a hell of a mess.” After some consideration, Jesse determined that he “couldn’t escape these old boney acres,” so he reaffirmed his commitment to improve the land, knowing that it would be a slow process.<sup>14</sup>

Life in the military had not been all bad, however. In the Writing Unit, Jesse met John Bird, who became editor of *Country Gentleman* and later served as articles editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*. Bird became a valuable professional ally, a lifelong correspondent, and a good friend. “I wish to hell that I could have got to the Pacific in this last war. But you know your fate, you know mine,” Stuart wrote to Bird. “My little world was the Navy Dept. Washington, D.C. Really it was some world when you come to think about it.” More than a decade later, he observed that for “one year after I got out of the service all I wrote should have been burned. What was wrong? You tell me. I don’t know.”<sup>15</sup>



## **Lieutenant Jesse Stuart**

1. JS to GV, September 18, 1943.
2. JMG, introduction to Taps for Private Tussie, Ashland: JSF, 1992, x. See also Richardson, 309, and Foster, 109.
3. JS to Roland Carter, March 27, 1944
4. JS to ALC, January 25, 1945; JS to GV, April 12, 1944.
5. JS to GV, July 5, 1944.
6. JS' Daily Journal, September 12, 1944.
7. JS to GV, January 10, 1945; JS to LW&GV, April 24, 1945.
8. Glennis, Mary, and Sophia worked at Clayton Lambert until the war was over, according to Carol Abdon, Glennis' niece. Clayton Lambert made forty millimeter shells for the Navy and received an award from the federal government in 1945 for its contribution to the war effort. Ethel McBrayer said the Clayton Lambert employees "made a lot more money than the school teachers." JMG interview with Ethel McBrayer, December 27, 2005, at her home in Greenup.
9. JS to LW&GV, September 14, 1944.
10. JS to LW&GV, September 27, 1944.
11. JS to GV, January 10, 1945.
12. JS to ALC, January 25, 1945, U of L Archives.
13. Richardson, 320-321.
14. JS to JB, January 16, 1946.
15. JS to JB, May 10, 1946, and March 8, 1960.

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
555 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
808-784-7473



**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF  
JESSE STUART PRIVATE COLLECTION  
JACK & JANIS ELLIS  
1930-2005**

**BOOKS - ALPHABETICALLY**

- |  |                 |   |
|--|-----------------|---|
| <u>Album of Destiny</u>                          | 1944 1st. S.    | Sonnets of mountain people.   |
| <u>Andy Finds A Way</u>                          | 1961 1st.       | A farm boy learns self reliance.  |
| <u>Autumn Love Song</u>                          | 1971 1st. S.    | A poetic celebration of the joys of maturing.                                   |
| <u>Beatinest Boy</u>                             | 1953 1st. S.    | A Young boy's coming of age.  |
| <u>Best Loved Short Stories of Jesse Stuart</u>  | 1982 1st.       | A collection of his writings introduced by Robert Penn Warren.                  |
| <u>Beyond Dark Hills</u>                         | 1938 1st. S.    | A personal story.   |
| <u>Beyond Dark Hills</u>                         | 1972 S.         | Limited edition 3 of 60 printed.  |
| <u>Beyond Dark Hills</u>                         | 1972 S.         | Limited edition 4 of 950 copies (deluxe edition)                                |
| <u>Clearing in the Sky</u>                       | 1950 1st. S.    | Humorous short stories.   |
| <u>Come Back to the Farm</u>                     | 1971 1st. S.    | Stories about the pioneering spirit of hill people.                             |
| <u>Come Gentle Spring</u>                        | 1969 1st. S.    | Collection of twenty short stories.   |
| <u>Come To My Tomorrowland</u>                   | 1971 1st. S.    | Inspiring story of a young girl with polio and her love of nature.              |
| <u>Cradle of the Copperheads</u>                 | 1988 1st.(1983) | An autobiographical novel.  |
| <u>Dandelion on the Acropolis</u>                | 1978 1st. S.    | (limited edition) Journal of Jesse's travel and teaching in Greece.             |
| <u>Dandelion on the Acropolis</u>                | 1978            | (limited edition)   |
| <u>Daughter of a Legend</u>                      | 1965 1st. S.    | Stories about isolated Mulungeons.  |
| <u>Dawn of Remembered Spring</u>                 | 1972 S.         | A collection of stories published in various periodicals, 1940-1972.            |
| <u>Foretaste of Glory</u>                        | 1946 1st. S.    | Stories of human nature. Forward by Robert Penn Warren.                         |
| <u>God's Odding</u>                              | 1960 1st. S.    | The story Mick Stuart, Jesse's father.  |
| <u>Good Spirit of Laurel Ridge</u>               | 1953 1st. S.    | A novel about a self-sufficient squatter on the land.                           |
| <u>Good Spirit of Laurel Ridge</u>               | 1953 1st.       | A novel about a self-sufficient squatter on the land.                           |
| <u>Harvest of Youth</u>                          | 1930 1st. S.    | Stuart's first book and he later destroyed most of the copies.                  |
| <u>Head O' W Hollow</u>                          | 1936 1st. S.    | Jesse's stories of Eastern Kentucky hills.                                      |
| <u>He'll Be Coming Down the Mountain</u>         | 1946 1st.       | Publ. in London. Publ. in America as <i>Taps for Private Tussie</i> .           |
| <u>Hie to the Hunters</u>                        | 1950 1st. S.    | A city boy goes to live with a farm family.                                     |
| <u>Hold April</u>                                | 1962 1st. S.    | Collection of poems about acceptance of life.                                   |
| <u>Honest Confessions of a Literary Sin</u>      | 1977 1st. S.    | (and numbered) Jesse's analysis of his first book, Harvest of Youth.            |
| <u>Huey the Engineer</u>                         | 1960 1st.       | Old railroad story originally published in Esquire Magazine, 1937.              |
| <u>If I Were Seventeen Again</u>                 | 1980 1st.       | How he would change his ideas about education.                                  |
| <u>Jesse Stuart Harvest</u>                      | 1965 1st. S.    | Collection of eighteen short stories of self reliance & human frailties.        |
| <u>Jesse Stuart Reader</u>                       | 1963 1st. S.    | Stories and poems for schools.  |
| <u>Jesse Stuart Reader</u>                       | 1963 1st. S.    | Textbook edition for schools.   |
| <u>Jesse Stuart The Heritage</u>                 | 2005            | A biography by David Dick. Signed by the author.                                |
| <u>Jesse Stuart the Man</u>                      | 1977 1st. S.    | A Biography by Gilpin.  |
| <u>Jesse Stuart the Man and His Books</u>        | 1988 1st.       | A biblio. & price guide to Jesse's publ. works. By Jerry Herman & George Brosi. |
| <u>Jesse Stuart, The Boy From the Dark Hills</u> | 1990 1st.       | by Jimmy Lowe.  |
| <u>Kentucky Is My Land</u>                       | 1952 1st S.     | Poems celebrating hill people and patriotism.                                   |
| <u>Kentucky Is My Land</u>                       | 1952 1st. S.    | Author's edition.   |
| <u>Kingdom Within</u>                            | 1979 1st.       | A spiritual introspective of his first heart attack.                            |
| <u>Land Beyond the River</u>                     | 1973 1st. S.    | Saga of a poor Appalachian farm family's struggle to do better.                 |
| <u>Land of Honey Colored Wind</u>                | 1981 1st.       | Jesse Stuart's Kentucky resource book for teachers and students.                |
| <u>Lost Sandstones and Lonely Skies</u>          | 1979 1st.       | Essays that capture the essence of nature.                                      |
| <u>Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow</u>               | 1934 1st. S.    | 703 Sonnets of rural life.  |
| <u>Men of the Mountains</u>                      | 1941 1st. S.    | Twenty-one short stories.   |
| <u>Mister Gallions School</u>                    | 1967 1st. S.    | A novel about teaching and education.   |



<u>Mongrel Mettle</u>	1944 1st. S.	Autobiography of a dog.
<u>Mr. Gallions School</u>	1964 1st. S.	Jesse's first attempt at writing a play.
<u>My Land Has A Voice</u>	1966 1st. S.	Twenty one Stuart stories about courage and human nature.
<u>My World</u>	1975 1st. S.	Jesse travels from W Hollow to the rest of the world.
<u>New Harvest, Forgotten Stories of Ky's J. Stuart</u>	2003 1st.	By David Palmore. Reveals many lesser known stories never publ. in his bks.
<u>Old Ben</u>	1970 1st. S.	About a big bull blacksnake.
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<u>Rebels With A Cause</u>	1967 1st. S.	Booklet published by Murray State University.
<u>Red Mule</u>	1955 1st. S.	Virtue of mules in an age of tractors.
<u>Ride With Huey the Engineer</u>	1966 1st. S.	A boy rides the train with the engineer.
<u>Rightful Owner</u>	1960 1st. S.	A boy learns to respect others.
<u>Save Every Lamb</u>	1964 1st. S.	Stories of animal relationships.
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<u>Tales From Plum Grove Hills</u>	1946 1st. S.	Short stories that reflect Stuart's love of the land.
<u>Taps for Private Tussie</u>	1943 1st. S.	Satire of new deal program.
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<u>Taps for Private Tussie</u>	1969 1st.	World edition.
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<u>The Thread That Runs So True</u>	1958	An adopted three act play.
<u>Thirty-two Votes Before Breakfast</u>	1974 1st. S.	A story of politics at the grass roots level.
<u>Thread That Runs So True</u>	1949 1st. S.	Classic stories of an educator and teaching.
<u>Tim, A Story</u>	1939 1st. S.	Short Story of humor and realism.
<u>Tim, A Story</u>	1967 1st.	(hardback ed.) Limited to 100 copies.
<u>To Teach, to Love</u>	1970 1st. S.	Collection of essays about education.
<u>Trees of Heaven</u>	1940 1st. S.	Stuart's first novel.
<u>Up the Hollow From Lynchburg</u>	1975 1st.	Census takers from Tennessee to the Bluegrass.
<u>World of Jesse Stuart</u>	1st.	His life in poetry.
<u>Year of My Rebirth</u>	1956 1st. S.	Story of Stuart convalescence from his first heart attack.

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<u>Harvest of Youth</u>	1930 1st. S.	Stuart's first book and he later destroyed most of the copies.
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<u>Head O' W Hollow</u>	1936 1st. S.	Jesse's stories of Eastern Kentucky hills.
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From The Collection Of  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
352 W. 8th St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
608-784-7478



# MOREHEAD MEMORIES: PEOPLE AND PLACES

By  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis

~~JESSE STUART: The Man, The Myth, and The Mortal~~

"WE LIVE OUR LIVES AS A TALE THAT IS TOLD"

(Psalm 90:9)

Over the years this column has included several book reviews of local interest. This recent book will be especially interesting to the people in our community, our region and across America.

JESSE STUART: An Extraordinary Life: By Dr. James M. Gifford and Erin Kazee. Published by the Jesse Stuart Foundation, c.2010.  
Copious photos, letters and graphics never seen before

This blockbuster biography could be subtitled "The Good the Bad and the Ugly" or "The Man and the Myth" or "The Truth and the Fiction" of Jesse Stuart because it promises to be a whole new genre of literature. It separates the truth from the fiction about Jesse Stuart, pointing out that much of the "Paul Bunyon" like myth was created by Jesse himself and perpetuated by the publisher of his more than 60 books and hundreds of periodicals. Together they helped keep alive his rugged mountaineer image which helped sell his books and appealed to Jesse's ego.

At one time Jesse considered himself the most published author in America. He based it on the number of years that many of his short stories had been printed in the state adopted textbooks in California, Texas, Florida, New York and many other states. (The writer was a librarian in Florida during the 1950's and 1960's and was once introduced as a State Library Conference as being from Jesse Stuart Country.) He was certainly well-known throughout Florida during that era.

This book is well documented with interviews, graphics, photos and hand-written letters. Many in Jesse's own scrawling handwriting from and to such people as: family members, high school and college friends, old girl friends and the lady who became his wife. Also included are contemporary library figures, political friends and enemies. All are integrated together in a skillful fashion to present Jesse Stuart as educator, author, and library legend, as well as a man with a chip on his shoulder. One who let his opinions be known whether it was on women, education, religion or politics which often times got into trouble.

Once in a public setting in his hometown of Greenup, Kentucky he was accosted by a local constable who took issue with some of Jesse's political views. As Jesse, tried to walk away from the constable, he was "blindsided" from the rear, splitting his skull open with a black jack knocking him to the ground. Jesse, covered with blood got and would have beaten the man to death but by-standers pulled him off of his attacker. Jesse was certainly no shrinking violet in life or literature.

NAOMA

Messages from  
Contemporary

literary



The world traveler, Jesse Stuart, had 16 honorary doctor's degrees (one from Morehead State University) and ~~was one of the~~ <sup>and a</sup> Guggenheim Award (1937) Book-of-the-year Award in (1949). He still slept with a loaded pistol under his pillow. He was bloodied and unbowed literally in life and figuratively in his literary life. The fact that the literary academics often were critical of his writing never bothered Jesse. He cried all the way to the bank.

From the  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
322 W. 2nd St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-764-7473



## JESSE'S MILITARY DILEMMA

By

Jack D. Ellis

"Here am I: send me." (Isaiah 6:8)

When America was bombed into WW II on December 7, 1941, Jesse Stuart ~~was~~ deeply involved in his literary career. Therefore, Jesse, just as every able bodied man in America, was torn between serving this country in its hour of greatest need, or continuing your own personal ambitions. ~~The men~~ <sup>These able bodied men of military age</sup> were all at the height of their professional careers. ~~Athletes in every sport~~ <sup>whether they were professional athletes</sup>, movie stars, doctors, lawyers, ~~authors~~ <sup>or</sup> farmers, teachers ~~and~~ <sup>they were all</sup> students were faced with the same decision – do I answer the call of my country or do I continue my own personal goals? Jesse Stuart, author and writer ~~was just beginning to be recognized as a literary icon in America, and~~ <sup>he faced</sup> he faced his own dilemma. <sup>to answer the call of his country?</sup>

This writer can understand to some extent what Jesse was facing, because on December 7, 1941, I was a sophomore in high school. From that very day I began to count the days until I would be old enough to join the military. I volunteered at the age of 17, passed my physical exam at Huntington, West Virginia and was sworn into the Army on April 21, 1944. I was permitted to finish high school and was called into service July 4, 1944. <sup>I felt that deep in my own heart</sup> Deep in my own heart I believed my life <sup>that I should answer</sup> ~~could not be complete until I served~~. <sup>Personally, I felt that I had not served my</sup> would never have been complete had I not served, and I would have regretted it the <sup>country during WWII. I would have regretted it the rest of my life. My question</sup> rest of my life.



Jesse and his brother James, like most of the men of military age in WWI, were simply bidding their time awaiting their call to service. While Jesse's brother James awaited his call to service, he went up to Detroit

and worked in a defense plant. It was about that time that Mr. Watson, Chairman of the Greenup County Draft Board, told Jesse that he would probably be called in the spring. Jesse said, "That suits me just fine." Jesse went on to say:

"Not only love a good fight, but I'm certainly sore enough at Japan and

Germany to fight. I would have been there already if I were not married! And I

would have been there already had it not been for our wreck. Also, our first child

is soon to arrive. You see how I am tied, pleasantly so, for I can hardly await the

arrival of our little Stuart! But many of my friends are in the Army, and I get the

urge every day wanting to go." (1)

While Jesse waited for his notice from the Draft Board he ~~At that time Jesse not only~~ was Superintendent of the Greenup Independent

School District, and was working hard on his farm. He writes, "I've ridden a mowing

machine, disk harrow, raked hay and wheat—I've done most every kind of work and

am in wonderful physical condition." That is ironic because Jesse later failed his

physical exam for the Army because of high blood pressure.

The young author was now <sup>nationally</sup> beginning to be recognized for his literary skills.

He was called back to Vanderbilt to speak on two occasions, <sup>however, he</sup> but appeared to be

uncomfortable in that role. He wrote in a letter to his good friend, V.L. Sturgill,

"You know of my struggles to live and to pass my examinations in that institution.



I'm not scholarly and most of them down there are scholarly. But I'm more

encouraged now that I have been invited to speak at Harvard."

*(This writer attended Vanderbilt in the early 1950s and Jesse's exploits they were still legendary.)*

Although Jesse Stuart's literary career was blossoming, <sup>but</sup> he still held his inner sense to serve his country.

*Jesse dramatic*  
Again in a letter to V.C. Sturgill, who is now in the Army, *War began was said!* "It greatly disturbs me that you are ten years older than I am and you are now in service to your country. I'd like to be more like you, active and doing something to help win this war. As you know, I've always loved a little action. But regret now I'm doing too damned much sitting in this School Superintendent's job?"

By November, 1942, Jesse's *Taps for Private Tussie* had made him well known through the literary world. In another letter to his good friend Virgil Sturgill, he pinned these lines: "My mail call today was something like eleven letters under 100." Jesse was wrestling with the dilemma that millions of us faced during those years of WW II. But the fact that he had failed his first physical exam

*military*  
for the service, must have given him some comfort.

*to serve*  
*ANSWERING THE CALL*  
*later called by his draft board*

On March 31, 1944, Jesse was given another physical exam, *it passed that exam* at that time he

~~passed~~ and was sworn into military service March 31, 1944. *(That was three weeks before this writer was sworn into service at the age of 17.)*



THE CHILL CHINE

The young author was then

Jesse was soon inducted into the Navy and left immediately for the rigors of basic training at Great Lakes, Illinois. There he was assigned to Company 712 —

Basic Training Unit. Basic Training was designed to change It was there they changed raw recruits from civilians to war time

sailors. Jesse had difficulty with some of the basic training but survived the swabbing of decks, cleaning of heads (bathrooms), K.P. (kitchen police), guard duty, close order drill — all designed to teach men to obey orders. However, the

Navy in its infinite wisdom must have had special basic training camp for those

who would soon be commissioned officers in Uncle Sam's Navy. (Jesse was

commissioned as Lt. J.G. on July 12, 1944.) Later in a letter to one of his basic

training buddies, he referred to some of the many arguments they had while in

basic training. He wrote, "When I left Great Lakes, I came to Washington, D.C.

where I was put in the writers unit. There we had as many arguments as we had at

camp at Great Lakes, offices. Of course, I was as usual on the minority side. Since I left

the writer's unit, I go back occasionally to ask them what they think of things, as I

try to start an argument. But they won't argue anymore. They are rather silent and

cold."

POLITICS & WAR

Jesse's unhappiness with the Roosevelt Administration was clear in a letter written on December 29, 1944, on U.S. Navy Department stationary, written to one of his former basic training buddies: "I remember you well in basic training. You were a good worker, always neat, and one with a lot of common sense and many



times in the barracks arguments, we were in the minority. But one day when you 'cut loose' on the President's (Roosevelt) Administration, it seemed we were of like minds. I hadn't paid much attention to the 'New Deal' during the 1930s, but voted for Willkie in 1940. This year I voted against Roosevelt, <sup>again</sup> but lost again."

With his brother James on a L.S.T. (Landing Ship <sup>Troops</sup> ~~Tank~~) in the Pacific, and most of his shipmates from basic training ~~Company 712~~ assigned to combat duties, Jesse <sup>wrote</sup> writes to Sir Robert Botts in Norfolk, Virginia, "I think you and I are the only ones from our company still on American soil. But I am liable to ship out at any time for the Pacific. But I'm sure it will be early in January." Jesse never shipped out and remained in Washington in the writers unit where he felt he was doing his part in the war effort.)

Jesse writes, "Now a word about my work. I'm in the Writers Unit of the Bureau of Aeronautics, and since I've been here, I've worked harder than I did in 'Boot Camp.' My easiest days in the Navy were in Officers Candidate School.

There I did my work and slept. But here, I leave before daylight and return after

dark. But with my wife and daughter here it is wonderful to come home each day. *Jesse never did ship out to the Pacific but remained in Washington in the writers unit where he felt he was doing his part in the war effort.*

Jesse solved his own personal dilemma as all 16 million men who served in

WW II. They put their own personal ambitions on "hold" and answered their Country's call to military service.



SINGLE SPACE

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4 THE COURIER-JOURNAL MAGAZINE

The Courier-Journal  
**MAGAZINE**

JAN 1978

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473

This is Stuart at the typewriter on which he has tapped out four books. He composes rapidly, sometimes turning out two short stories

**JESSE STUART—A LITERARY KING MIDAS**



Stuart in his living room with his wife, Deana, and their daughter, Jane, 4. The house, more than 100 years old, was made over from a

**Among his neighbors in Greenup,  
while working on a 600-acre  
farm, Kentucky writer Jesse  
Stuart found literary diamonds**

The Stuarts live in W-Hollow, some six miles from Greenup, the county seat. His folks have lived there for four generations. Within sight of the home where he lives is the tiny cabin where he was born. Just over a little hill toward Greenup is his mother's house. W-Hollow, so named because of the shape of the hills, is reached by turning off U. S. Route 32 at Riverport onto State Route 1 and going about three miles before taking a narrow, county dirt road the rest of the way. The only trouble with this road is that it's possible only about half the time. During most of the winter, the Stuarts leave their car in Greenup and hike between town and their home, a distance of only three miles over the hills.

The Stuart home is like something straight out of a Technicolor movie. A real log house, it's more than 100 years old and was being used as a stable when they bought it.

The 600-acre farm that Stuart has bought over the years, mainly during the time when his stories and poems were bringing from \$15 to \$40, is the fulfillment of a pledge he made to his father years ago. One day, while plowing land his father, a coal miner and railroad section worker, was renting, he vowed that some day he would own all the land he could see in W-Hollow.

And now, just as Stuart might end one of his stories, he does.

**INCOME TAX BLANK?** At first glance, that's what it looks like but it's Stuart revising a manuscript. He lets his material rest a week, then reads it again. Sometimes it goes without any alteration.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 1947

TO RELAX THE EYES  
AND TASTE THE FEET



come into stories by Stuart  
millions read the world over

## JESSE STUART Continued

While, perhaps, the best known, "Private Tussie" is just one Stuart work to gain wide acclaim. His first book, "The Man With the Bull-Tongue Plow," a collection of his poems published by Dutton in 1934, stamped him in the opinion of those who know such things, as one of America's outstanding young literary figures. His subsequent work before he volunteered for the Navy in 1941, which included, among others, the books "Head & W-Hollow," "Men of the Mountains," "Trees of Heaven," "Mongrel Mottle," "Album of Dearth" and "Private Tussie," added to his stature.

His first novel, "Trees of Heaven," published in 1946, missed just one vote of being the Book of the Month selection, a feat hailed as approximately remarkable for a first-timer. Curiously, the only alteration suggested in that book by the publisher was the deletion of an entire chapter, which led to an interesting development.

Stuart pruned the chapter, but later took that chapter, tacked a couple of new paragraphs at the beginning and end and sold it for \$16 in 1941 to Commonwealth as a magazine short story called, appropriately, "Chopped From a Lost Novel." It is ironic that that story has been featured in "Approach to America," a college literature text book, as an outstanding example of good writing, characterization and story.

As a matter of fact, Stuart stories may be found in something over 26 high school and college text books. "Thinking of Humber" is included in five separate high school texts. Strangely, none of the books are used in Kentucky schools.

During the early years, Stuart sandwiched his writing in with his school teaching. After a fling at rural schools, he taught mathematics and literature at various Greenup County high schools. Now, however, writing—and manicuring his 200-acre farm—is his sole occupation. Since returning from the Navy, he has completed two books, "Foretaste of Glory," a novel built around an incident that took place in Greenup some years ago, and "Tales From the Plum Grove Hills," a short story collection. In addition, he has turned out countless short stories for such magazines as Esquire, Harper's, Collier's and The Country Gentleman.

Stuart is unusual in many ways. Although he's a young writer who hit the jackpot early, he remains as unmarked and natural as freckles on a country boy's nose. Even more unusual are the sources of his stories and the unobtrusive way he does his work.

He can turn the most insignificant things into short stories, or even novels. For instance, there's "Mongrel Mottle," which is an autobiography of a dog. A great dog lover, he owned three dogs (now just two)—a highly pedigreed Weimarer, an aristocratic Irish setter and a little mongrel of dubious extraction, named Jerry B. Booneyard. The dogs were the central characters of the book. Booneyard on position and background.

Incidentally, Stuart claims that "Happy" Chandler indirectly was responsible for "Mongrel Mottle." It seems that while passing the manuscript to the publisher, it was stolen from Stuart's hands and was about to slide under the wheels of an approaching train when it was stomped upon and rescued by a more than somewhat sizable pair of brogans. The shoes were connected to the feet of Chandler. Now Stuart claims he possesses the only manuscript ever to bear the footprint of a Governor, senator and baseball commissioner.

Writing seems as easy to Stuart as walking through an open meadow. "Another April," a Book of the Month Club short story choice, was written in one day. Recently in a single day he wrote two short stories for sale to national magazines and still had time before dark to haul several loads of gravel to put on the private road which leads from his house to a tortuous country road half a mile away. Perhaps this is due to the fact that writing is in his blood. As he puts it, writing is a sort of natural process with him, like eating (which he dearly loves to do), and he has been writing down poems and stories for almost as long as he can remember.

Stuart never bothers to get the plot of his short stories or a description of characters down on paper. It's all done in his mind before the actual writing starts. He has things so well thought out that, when he sits down at his typewriter, he can finish it about as fast as he can type. However, he does put ideas for stories down on paper, often getting up in the night to jot down a few lines before he forgets it. After he has written a story, he lets it set for a

ON THE FRONT PORCH of his log home in W-Hollow, Stuart pets Rusty, a pedigreed Irish setter. The little mutt at the left is Jerry B. Booneyard, the hero of Stuart's dog book "Mongrel Mottle."

others. Then he goes back, polishes the story, has it typed by a professional stenographer in Greenup and sends it to his agent, Marion Ives, in Connecticut. She places all his short stories.

Stuart has few of the notorious temperamental characteristics of authors. He enjoys a normal home life and certainly doesn't have the haggard, under-vitaminated look popularly associated with those who make up stories for a living. However, he does demand that he be alone with writing. For that reason, during the summer, he isolates himself in the smoke-house, which he has made into a sort of workshop. When materials become easier to get, he plans to make himself a writing house.

If it's ever right to call a man self-made, then that well-worn and trite phrase fits Stuart like a rubber glove. He started to work for 25 cents a day when he was 9 and walked 18 miles to and from rural school. In 1926, after graduating with honor from Greenup High School, he enrolled at Lincoln

to finish college, his fund was increased with an additional \$2 from home. He waited on tables and various odd jobs in paying his own way.

While at Lincoln Memorial, he was editor of school paper and took advantage of that fact to many of his own poems, he says. He also found to star as a distance runner on the track team. After starting to teach school, he took graduate at Peabody and Vanderbilt before winning a Guggenheim Fellowship for creative writing in 1938.

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As to personal appearance, Stuart stands 6 feet



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After he has written a story, he lets it set for as long as a week before going back over it and filing off the rough edges. Meanwhile, he may have started

**ON THE FRONT PORCH** of his log home in W-Hollow, Stuart pats Rusty, a pedigreed Irish setter. The little mutt at the left is Jerry B. Boneyard, the hero of Stuart's dog book "Mongrel Mettle."

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In 1939, Stuart married Naomi Deane Norris, who was teaching the second grade at Greenup. They have a daughter 4.

As to personal appearance, Stuart stands 6 feet 10 inches, weighs a solid 220 pounds, and has shoulders as broad as the Ohio River just below Owensboro.



**Jesse Stuart Foundation**

---

**From:** "Jim Gifford" <gifford@jsfbooks.com>  
**To:** "Jesse Stuart Foundation" <jsf@jsfbooks.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2010 12:56 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: the third message--questions for Jack

----- Original Message -----

From: "Pendarvis, Edwina" <pendarvi@marshall.edu>  
 To: <gifford@jsfbooks.com>  
 Sent: Monday, January 04, 2010 8:00 AM  
 Subject: the third message--questions for Jack

Questions for Jack Ellis:

1. I can't find a reference to "workships" anywhere else. Was this a common term used in describing CCC workers? Is it a group or workers assigned a certain detail? (pg. 19)

2. Where is the quote on page 28 from? (The CCC) "permitted pride of purpose, keeping families from starving, giving gainful employment to the unemployed, AND CONTRIBUTING BEYOND ANYONE'S IMAGINATION TO THE FUTURE OF ROWAN COUNTY."

3. Jim would like more detail on riding in cattle trucks to school after the dozer cleared a road, made into a gravel road, in front of your house and you could get to Breckinridge to school. (pg. 29)

4. On page 23, you write that the CCC was under the administration of the US Forest Service, and later, on page 29, you write that it is administered by the US War Department. I think the latter is the case, though the Forest Service did oversee some CCC programs, though. I omitted the statement on page 23 about under the administration of the US Forest Service. Is that all right?

5. Jim has a question about the "Fifth Corps Recruiting Officer" on pg. 46. (Jim, I'm not sure why you have a question mark here. You'll probably need to see the text.)

6. Are you speaking metaphorically when you say Christmas bells rang out only in this country? Surely Christmas was celebrated in Germany and other European countries even during the war. To me, it's not clear whether you intend this to be metaphorical. Do you mean this to be taken literally? (pg. 47)



7. Jim asked for more detail on "bluejackets" in dorms on MSC campus. (pg. 88). Could you elaborate a little?

8. Is "Scattergia" (pg. 102) the correct spelling? In the book text, it's spelled that way, but in the photo captions list, it's spelled "Scatteregia," which seems more likely to be correct.

9. Would you elaborate a little on what languages you heard in New York City when you were there in 1946? It seems really surprising that you heard little English in the city. Were in the city were you? Just explain a little so it's not so puzzling to readers. (pg. 162)

10. Can you find the publisher for the Van Reken book and the publisher and place of publication for the West book? If you have copies, it would be good to include the publishers' names in the bibliography with the book titles.



TO: James Gifford at J.S.F.  
FROM: Jack D. Ellis  
DATE: January 14, 2010  
RE: Questions for Jack Ellis from Edwina Pendarvis

1. (p. 19) "Reference to Workshops." This had nothing to do with the CCC program. ~~This is in the Depression Chapter.~~ <sup>It was</sup> This was a program that assisted young men enrolled at Morehead State College. They received "workships" (a term given to college students) by the College to these working under the (N.Y.A.) National Youth Administration, or other of the so called alphabet Agencies.
2. (p. 28) Please remove these quotes from "permitted pride of purpose, keeping families from starving and giving gainful employment to the unemployed and contributions beyond anyone's imagination to the future of Rowan County. The quotes should not have been there. It was this writer though who had lived through the Great Depression and whose father had worked for the CCC Program and now sees the extensive road system in our county that connects Morehead with all of the surrounding counties. Now with Cave Run Lake, St. Claire Regional Hospital and the UK College of Medicine: Morehead Campus, Morehead State University and the million dollar Caudill-Little Arts Center, Morehead has indeed become the educational, medical, cultural and recreational county of Eastern Kentucky. This writer has lived to see this – and believes much of it would not have happened without the extensive roads and bridges built by the CCC Program.
3. P. (29) Jim would like more information about riding in the back of a truck to school each day in order to attend school at Breckinridge after the ~~work~~ <sup>work</sup> "school" (on page 29) with a new paragraph.

After the road was finished it provided a year-round, all weather <sup>limestone</sup> gravel road from our house to Morehead. Therefore, when school opened in September I enrolled at Breckinridge. My mother would awaken me each



morning at 5:30 a.m. After a hearty country breakfast, I would walk out to the road and wait for the cattle truck that was my means of transportation for the 12 miles into Morehead. The truck had an open wooden slat bed topped with a tarpaulin folded down the sides and tied tightly.

I would climb into the truck and sit with my back against the ~~cab~~ cab. There were usually six or eight men in the truck that worked at the Clearfield Tile Plant or attended college. The driver had two daughters that rode in the cab who attended Morehead High School. After school I would walk down to Morehead High School and wait with the truck driver's daughters for our ride home. This system worked fairly well even though I was usually covered with a lot of limestone dust.

As the weather got colder, even though I was dressed warmly and covered with blankets in the back of the truck it became a cold ride. I was really glad when Christmas vacation came, however, during that time I was extremely ill. I missed Christmas completely that year because I was in and out of consciousness. My parents said "I was out of my head." But a couple of days after Christmas, old Dr. Homer Nickell made a house call and examined me. His diagnoses was "Intestinal Flu," and he gave me some pills that must have helped because I survived even though I did miss the first of what would be many Christmases that I was destined to miss throughout my lifetime. When Christmas vacation ended I was still recuperating from my bout with the Flu. Therefore, my mother, who was a school teacher, because of the cattle truck ride back and forth to school, elected to keep me out of school for the remainder of the school year. I was devastated because I did not want to fall behind my classmates.

By the time next school year began the next year, we had thankfully moved back into Morehead. When I returned to school that fall, I ~~enrolled~~ <sup>expected to repeat</sup> in the same grade again. However, I was not happy with my new classmates. <sup>But my</sup> The sensitive teachers must have realized this, and after I was in that room <sup>case</sup> for about two week, I was moved up to the next grade with my former classmates, <sup>That was a happy day in my life.</sup>



4. (P. 23) "CCC under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service." Yes, eliminate that sentence. You are absolutely correct it was under the administration of the War Department.
5. (P. 46) I'm not sure what the question is regarding the Fifth Corps Recruiting Officer.
6. (P. 47) This writer meant literally that the Christmas Bells were silent throughout the war-torn world in 1941. Only in America were there any Christmas Bells ringing. The readers may take it literally or metaphorically.
7. (P. 88) When the Navy took over Men's Hall and Thompson Hall (now Grote-Thompson Hall) some remodeling was done to meet the Navy's specifications. While this was being completed, the female students on campus were all moved to Fields Hall and the male civilian students were assigned to the upper three floors of Allie Young Hall. The College cafeteria as well as the ships galley (mess hall) were all located in the basement of Allie Young Hall. Of course all the civilian campus personnel as well as all of the sailors ate in the cafeteria. But there was a separate section for all the Navy personnel.

The sailors were all under strict military discipline and there was no fraternizing during the meals between civilians and military male and female, except maybe when the sailors would see a pretty campus coed and say quietly to each other, "Hubba Hubba."

During the evenings the sailors were confined to their quarters under strict supervised <sup>study</sup> recreation, and/or sports. Of course they were sometimes assigned to guard duty and clean-up detail. Also, after their day <sup>duty for the</sup> was over they were allowed just outside the dorm on the lawn. There they were unsupervised and they could whistle at the girls and occasionally talk to them as they walked by their dormitory. But the dorms emptied every Saturday at 12:00 noon when (if they had no de-merits) they were given Liberty until Sunday 12:00 p.m.

The campus was quiet on Saturday and Sunday but the community was filled with blue jackets on Saturday night. (In the winter-time, but they wore white jackets in the summertime.)



8. (P. 102) "*Scatteregia*" is the correct spelling of the name of the sailor from Brooklyn who married a Morehead girl and is buried in a Carter County cemetery next to his bride. There is a post card in the book he wrote to his sister in Brooklyn and it is spelled correctly. But it is spelled many different ways by the Navy.
9. (P. 162) Beginning at the end of the paragraph ending "in 1946." Perhaps this was because in Germany the only languages I heard were German and English. Perhaps it was because it was Christmas Day and New York City and all of the English speaking workers were celebrating Christmas at home. But we were all in the downtown Time Square section on Christmas Day ~~and~~ I heard Italian, Spanish, Greek, Russian and Jewish spoken that I recognized. Also, there were several other languages I did not recognize.
- 10.

## BIBIOGRAPHY OF SOURCES

### BOOKS

You requested the "Publisher of the Van Reken Book and the West Book." Both are self-published. Complete Bibliographic information would include:

Van Reken, Donald L. **THE 32<sup>nd</sup> TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON: An Air-Borne C-47 Squadron. 1942-1945.** Self-published, Holland, Michigan. C. 1989.

West, Rodney T., M.d., **HONOLULU PREPARES FOR JAPAN'S ATTACK: An Oahu Civilian, Disaster Preparedness Program.** May 15-1940 - Dec. 8, 1941. Self-published. C. 1993



# Jesse Stuart Foundation

A Regional Press & Bookseller

1645 Winchester Avenue

P.O. Box 669

Ashland, KY 41105

# JSF

(606) 326-1667

FAX (606) 325-2519

Email: jsf@jsfbooks.com

July 3, 2003

Jack Ellis  
550 West Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

RE: PATRIOTS AND HEROES

Dear Jack:

You and I have worked on this wonderful project for years, and now I am pleased to present our proposal for the publication of the above work based on the accompanying specifications which include current labor and material costs.

**Editorial:** The Jesse Stuart Foundation has edited the manuscript. We have also secured Library of Congress Cataloging-In-Publication data, illustrated the text with photographs provided by the author, designed the pages and the dustjacket, and acquired a bar code. We will assume all responsibility for printing, shipping, storing, and marketing your book.

**Author's Involvement:** The book will be copyrighted in the author's name. The author has reviewed and approved the camera-ready pages before printing. The author was involved in developing concepts for the book cover. The author will be greatly involved in marketing.

**Trim Size:** 7" x 9 1/4"

**Quantity:** 3,000 hardcover books in the First Edition

**Presswork:** Body—We will carefully makeready and print pages in one color black throughout by the web offset process.

The dustjacket will be printed in four colors by the sheetfed offset process.



**Stock:** We will select an appropriate paper color and weight.

### PRICING

3000 copies	\$22,100.00
<b>Unit Cost</b>	\$ 7.36
Retail Price	\$ 35.00
Wholesale Price	\$ 21.00

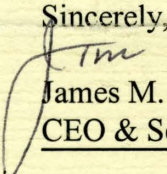
**Financing:** The author will pay \$10,400 and will receive 70% of all sales proceeds, payable to the author in January of each year. The Jesse Stuart Foundation would not agree to publish your book unless we felt that you could eventually recoup your investment—or even make a modest profit, and you have found that to be true. But there's no guarantee. The reading public is hard to predict, but, with your active involvement, we can do a good job of marketing your book. We will also supply you with copies for your personal distribution.

**Timing:** The book is at the printer now. Barring unforeseen delays, we will have the finished product in your hands by early fall, 2003.

**Notes:** The total cost includes Jerry Crouch's editorial fee.

If this proposal meets with your approval, kindly sign both copies, retain one for your files, and return the other to me. Thank you very much!

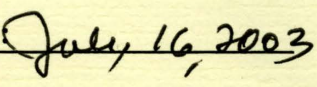
Sincerely,

  
James M. Gifford, Ph.D.  
CEO & Senior Editor

APPROVED: 

Jack D. Ellis

DATE



JMG/bm



# Jesse Stuart Foundation

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1645 Winchester Avenue

Ashland, KY 41101

# JSF

(606) 326-1667

FAX (606) 325-2519

Email: jsf@jsfbooks.com

1-800-504-0209

February 10, 1010

Dr. Jack Ellis  
552 West Sun Street  
Morehead, KY 40351

Dear Jack:

I think you will be pleased with our production of your book, *Missing Christmas: A Memoir of the Depression and World War II*. Your informative and highly readable book is very consistent with the Jesse Stuart Foundation's emphasis on preserving Appalachian history and heritage.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, and in accordance with previous discussions, I am pleased to submit this letter of agreement to formalize a working relationship between Jack Ellis of Morehead, KY and the Jesse Stuart Foundation (JSF).

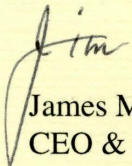
- 1) Jack Ellis assigns to the Jesse Stuart Foundation the exclusive rights to publish and market his book.
- 2) Jack Ellis will present to the JSF a final and paged-up version of his book, ready to go to the printer.
- 3) Jack Ellis agrees to pay the production expenses for the first print run of 1000 softbacks. (probably in the range of \$3500 – \$5000)
- 4) JSF will handle all subsequent matters of printing, shipping, storage, marketing, and accounting.
- 5) JSF agrees to an annual payment to Jack Ellis of 75% of the total sales of *Missing Christmas* (wholesale and retail volume). This payment will be made once per year, in January, based on sales for the previous calendar year.
- 6) Jack Ellis may purchase copies of *Missing Christmas* at 75% off the retail price. For example, if the book retails for \$16.00, Dr. Ellis can purchase copies for \$4.00 and resell them for \$16.00.



- 7) Jack Ellis agrees to assist the JSF with sales and promotion, as his time and schedule permits.
- 8) This book will be copyrighted in the name of Jack D. Ellis with the understanding that Dr. Ellis, or his heirs, will maintain the copyright renewals.
- 9) In the event that the JSF should ever decide to let the book go out of print, the exclusive publication rights to this book will be returned to Dr. Ellis or his heirs.

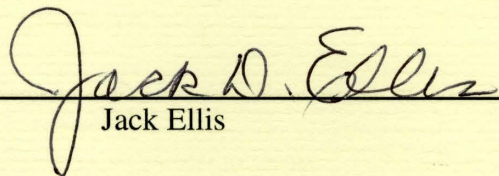
On behalf of our Board of Directors, I pledge JSF support and enthusiasm for this exciting project. You may indicate your commitment to this agreement by signing this letter and returning it to me at our letterhead address.

Sincerely,



James M. Gifford, Ph.D.  
CEO & Senior Editor

ACCEPTED AS STATED ABOVE

	<u>2-15-10</u>
Jack Ellis	Date

NOTES:



Dear Virgil; Shusil

Princeton, N.J.  
Jan. 3rd 1943

I believe you got out of this Valley at the right time. The whole Valley is flooded again. You know this Valley is decaying - pretty yes - in the spring, and summer - but these awful floods that spring up over night and ruin the few belongings people have.

The night you were here, I would have taken you down to Princeton or to the bus-stop in Meenap but I had a flat tire. I forgot to tell you the reason why and I guess you thought I was terribly inhospitable but thoughts were nothing in my head, I'd known you so long and now that you were leaving and I had to stay put a strange feeling over me - the fact that you were ten years older and going into service for your country and that I was not going touched me deeply. And I curse this state school system for everything - I would think I - I did it starting over the way it has



treated its teachers, I think it's terrible  
that so many capable teachers and leaders  
of young people have to leave because  
they can't make enough to support their  
wives and children. Will there ever come a  
day of ~~justice~~ justice and fair play?

yes, Mr. Meene can make his  
speeches for the A. F. of L. he can  
speak of "the great sacrifices" of ~~slaves~~  
that Labor is making - but he.

doesn't mention the \$125<sup>00</sup> and more  
per week - the double time payment for  
overtime or time-and-a-half - I'd  
like to ask him how much the  
Marines are getting in the Solomon  
for overtime - there's is more  
than an 8 hrs day, more than  
a 40 hr. week too! What about  
the men in the Navy - I hope  
there will be a day to come  
when there'll be some fair play -  
even for school teachers.

Always,  
C. E. Stuart

Solomon



May 10th 1943  
Riverton, Ky.

Dear V.L.;

I've received three cards from you but have been expecting a letter. Cards never meant much to me - just a small message and have never regarded one as a letter. But never have you written me a letter as I did when peace and plenty were here - plenty, but not for school teachers.

The rain keeps fallin' here, I hope it's not goin' to be a spring like last spring - wet most every day - It's startin' out much the same and the road to W-Hollow is gettin' terrible. We're back in W-Hollow now; I'm tryin' to



I am, teach, and write and am working  
either very well. I'm doing  
these things and waiting for my  
call.

Wigil just what is your work?  
what is the nature of it? Does  
it pay you well? And do you  
like it? Have you gained weight?  
Do you wear a uniform? The  
fellow from Lewis Co. an ex  
politician and whiskey-sot was  
fired from his Red Cross appointment.

The way I feel this morning  
You know it's good to hear  
from you - even your little cards.  
And I'll be looking for you  
down this way, I've got a  
couple of your relatives in school  
Bos from Ohio - are certainly  
nice chaps. Must close this  
letter as am writing it on  
school time.

Always  
Tessie Howard





Remerton, Ky,  
Nov. 19th 1943

Dear Virgil:

I'm glad you like Tapas for Private  
Jessie, that you and Ruth are enjoying it,  
as she down in Florida with you? and where  
is Camp Blandin? It wasn't named for the  
Blandin, who used to write so much sentimental  
Hawaiian poetry was it? Remember he used  
to serve in the U.S. Army.

Virgil do you realize I've written  
you a letter for each card you've  
sent me, one letter has been returned  
and probably the others will be for you  
never give me your address, I just  
send them to the Camp where you  
send your card from. That's all I  
can do since you don't send me  
an address. My mail call today  
was something like eleven letters short  
of 100 — I wish you'd see some —  
many similar to Mr. Bowman's whose  
Remfro Valley you were the judge  
I've got some more Remfro Valleys  
on my hands.  
You should have been here



for this election, Day before I went to  
Zanesville, Ohio and gave a lecture there  
that evening - next day I crowded ahead  
in bus line to get tickets from town  
to town to get back in time to vote, &  
made it by ten minutes before the polls  
closed. Group Co. normally 4400 Democrats  
went almost 700 Republican. Ashland  
cleaned house; everything Republican -  
city, county - everything - there's never  
been anything like it. Sam Willis is  
now a national figure. He grew up  
down around South Portsmouth in  
this county, later, as a young man  
moved to Ashland.

Wigil, yes - Man Barbler, Happy  
(~~man~~ <sup>man</sup> around here call him Swimming-  
Pool) Chandler, the great Joe Bates,  
men to John Y. Brown came  
back from Washington with oodles  
of New Deal strategy. It is said  
if they had spoken two more  
weeks this state would have  
gone 100,000 Republican. Now,  
Donaldson, Johnson, Chandler  
have fallen out -



3,  
I am glad you like the army, Virgil.  
Ensign James Stuart is here for a Rabbinist  
bunt before he goes on to Brooklyn. He  
really looks swell in his uniform, and he's  
always been particular about his clothes (unlike  
his brother) and he's more particular  
about his uniform - won't even let a  
speck of dust get on it. See, he's tall,  
broad-shouldered and he looks swell.  
He asked for Far Eastern Service, his  
wife, nor mother, don't know this -

I have a bitter article about school  
teachers' pay in N. E. A. Journal, ~~and~~  
next month. John Fred Williams  
is a fine man; I ~~don't~~ know about  
his caliber for S. Supt. but I know,  
judging from knowing the man, he'll  
be a hell of a better Supt. than  
a few we have had in Ry -  
namely, little screwed-off ~~knobby~~  
Brother - John Fred Williams  
is a quiet, thoughtful, well-read  
man.

Virgil I've been writing poetry  
a lot. a soldier. Hail. n. l.



which, will soon be in the Reading  
public's hands,

One man, John Griffith, a neighbor  
and a good Democrat kept, actually  
he did on my shoulder, after the  
election reports came in. He lost the  
state seat he'd been sucking for  
years on the state highway - Certain-  
men around here have just had  
a pension. I had to laugh when  
he wept; I couldn't offer him  
consolation. You know yourself  
for many years a Republican had  
to take what he could get and keep  
his mouth shut, when he talked  
it was dangerous. How well I know -  
I saw John Bates, and he looked like  
a walking dead man. And I thought  
about his hours of triumph when  
he wielded the big stick - and  
as you say, so will change  
this nation, brother, and how -  
But there's not anything under the  
sun can stop it -

Always your friend

I know you  
want to see  
my arm water  
wouldn't you  
organize to do  
what you  
I am  
Republican



Phuerton, Ky.,  
Feb. 15th 1944,

V. S. Sturges,  
Red Cross,  
Camp Blanding, Fla.

Dear V. L.:

It was good to get  
your letter but again you didn't give  
me your address; however, I'm going to  
take a long shot on my getting this one  
to you. I've had several letters returned  
that I've written to you.

I heard from Charles Ramey the other  
day. He's 1st Lt. in the Marines stationed  
at San Diego, Calif. Charles will  
make a good man wherever he goes -

I've gotten a lot of kidding  
since I failed my physical for the  
Army. I offered to bet 10 to 1 that I'd  
pass the physical - never had at that  
time failed any physical I'd taken -  
until I believe I had a Commission  
right in my hands, though I'd be  
afraid to say for sure (1st J.P.) which  
corresponds to 1st Lt. in the Army.



Nine days after my try for the army  
my blood pressure was normal. Can you  
figure it out? It means I can't try the  
Navy for another six months and that  
this month I go to Huntington, W. Va,  
so you see the break I got —

Virgil, I wish you'd read Mungul  
Meth. I wanted your opinion of this  
book. If you're on this side, I'll  
have another one for you this autumn  
and it's a fine book I believe — a  
book of verse, one that's a hell of  
a sight better than Bull-Frog plow —

Virgil do you have Ruth and the  
boys with you? Do you have a  
garden? How do you all like  
Florida? Today I drove over ice and  
snow out of W. Hollow, stuck twice —  
spun ~~off~~ on the ice — it's terrible  
weather here now. Florida is  
wonderful this time of year. It's like  
April up here. Write me Virgil —  
all the best to you and Ruth  
and boys from Deane, Jessica  
and me —

Sincerely,

Edith Thwait.



NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

Dec. 29th 1944  
3539 A St, S.E.,  
Apt. 204,  
Washington 19, D.C.

Robert A. Batts,  
Camp Bradford,  
Norfolk, Va.

Dear "Sir" Robert Batts:

It's fine to hear  
from you. I think you, Lewis and I are  
about all left of our Co. 712 on American  
soil. And I'm liable to show off any time  
for the Pacific. I'm sure it will be sometime  
in January (late) or February. Yes, I remember  
Lewis, the boy who used to run a hoxer of  
an A & P. store in Danville - Lewis who wouldn't  
mum. Lewis who had the rum-ins with Sandy -  
and Lewis, who, was so skinny at first but  
the last time I saw him was really looking  
like a man with about 20 added pounds.

Batts I've heard that Power (remember  
him - Corporal of the Guard - was here in Washington  
going to some sort of a school - medical - I  
wonder if the other two boys are with him -  
the small boy (the two's from Danville) the  
one that was strong man of our company  
and the other is the boy who wouldn't



take a bath (Sandy's word for it) and Sandy  
wanted to put him under the shower - I wouldn't  
let him - This boy was from Chicago, an able  
child and his father was a Gellite Blue Blade  
Razor salesman. Both names have slipped my  
mind - but I imagine ~~all~~ these two are still  
with power.

Through the Russell paper at home I've seen  
letters from the East Idy. boys of our Co, they  
are scattered to the far ends of the earth -  
I got a letter from Holly (from your part of  
the State) and he's in Hawaiian Islands - and  
the other day I ran into Comdr. Cannon -  
remembers him, Comdr. of 10th Battalion? He's  
the one that kept Wheeler with our company -  
I still think Wheeler and Cannon among the  
finest men I've met in the Navy and I've  
really met a group of officers here and have  
worked with them.

Now a word about my work, I'm in  
the writers' unit of the Bureau of Aeronautics -  
and since I've been here, I've worked  
harder than I did in "hoo" - my easiest  
days in the Navy were in O. & C., I got  
my work done and slept - But here, I  
leave before daylight and return at dark -  
from the time I go until I return over 10  
hours - But I have my wife and daughter  
with me and that is wonderful.

I remember you, and remember you  
well, as a good worker - one neat with  
his clothes always neat - me with a lot



of good common sense, (the fifth sense in other words  
horse sense), That's what we call it in the  
and I remember you used to get ~~good~~ boxes  
of good food from your wife - especially the homemade  
Candy. Furthermore, I remember another thing -  
I hadn't paid so much attention to the Newsdeal  
back through the 30's - not until 1940 - and I  
felt for Willie but didn't get to vote for him - I  
was in Utah at the time of the election.

Then I heard you cut loose on the present  
administration, This time when the election  
rolled around my wife and I voted for Dewey -  
I remembered how little you were - even lower  
than Kelly V. Rose - But we lost again -  
I can't do a lot of talking Batts - nor writing  
in this letter but you should live in  
Washington - no, I won't wish that on you.

My brother, James Stuart, is a summary  
officer (he's about your age and you'd like him)  
on LST-625 - so if you ever run into  
this LST look him up. I'll tell you  
frankly, you don't have the mildest assignment  
in the Navy. They lucky boys were armed guard.

If you have a chance, after you're  
assigned on LST write me the number -  
Maybe our paths will meet again - all  
the best luck in the world to you - I'm  
awful glad to hear from you. Give Louis  
my best regards and if you ever run  
into any of the fellows say "hello" to me -

always -

Jesse Stuart



P.S. you may be interested in what has happened  
to my books. Taps for Private Jussie sold about  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  million - the day book published last February sold  
through 3 editions - And the book of poetry that  
I went over in our room here in "boat" camp  
is through three editions ready for the 4th -  
but my publishers are out of paper and that  
is all right for me as far as I'm concerned for  
I don't know when I'll find time to do  
another one. of the M.D. M. has started  
making Taps yet, I've not heard about it.

P.S. I had to scrap this paper together  
to write you - it's different kinds as  
you will notice -



22 June 1945  
3539 A St. S.E.,  
Apt. 204,  
Washington, D.C.

Thomas Jones - one Jesse  
Tom James, not base training  
Somewhere in the Pacific, was at Green  
Lake Id

Dear Tom:

It brings back Bldg. 222  
Great Lakes N.T.S. and the memories of the place to  
get a letter from you. When I think of that room  
I remember you, Dave, Schubert, Dee, Williams, Kirsin,  
Lancaster, Leo, Hoffman (who got in the wing tour  
and was going to bed one night when he was  
picked up by the MP's and restricted for one week),  
yes, and Smaherskin and a half dozen others  
I'm forgetting - some good old times, but  
conversations and arguments passed through that  
building.

Tom do you remember that little fellow  
from Detroit who knew everything - he came in  
there popping off until I looked him off about  
the election. Well, I want to tell you. The last  
time I saw him, I was in my uniform, leaving  
the base and he came running up, saluted  
and tried to sell me some Hershey bars for 10  
cents each. He was buying them 80 cents  
for 24 and selling them to the boys that come  
into boot train for 10 cents each. Can't  
you beat that! That tells you what kind  
of a guy he was. I was sorry how I plowed  
into him at the election until I saw  
him and then I wished I'd



after him more than ever.

You see, I had just about everybody on my back. Not anyone chose to argue with me alone. When I didn't argue, he had Lancaster & Snakestein - even Dave learned though he said but little. Now, I guess those old boys, wherever they are, know who was right and who was wrong. If they don't know now they will know a little later on. You'll hear plenty of noise about the past. Too much to write in this letter.

When I left Great Lakes, I came to Washington where I was put in the Writers' Unit. There we had as many arguments as we had at Great Lakes - all officers - And, of course, I was as usual on the minority side. Since I left the Writers' Unit, I go back occasionally to see what they think of things - to start an argument - but they won't argue. They are rather silent and cold.

Remember how Pat and Lancaster hated Happy Chandler - how they talked about him - I said he would get something - he'd never go down - that he was too much of a fixer and good-willer - Well, you know that he's baseball's high Commissioner. Wonder what Pat and Lancaster think of that - yes, to the tune of \$50,000 per year. So Happy must be happy.

I'd like to see old Pat - not so much though for he left Great Lakes and never wrote to or from me since then. All the fellows were surprised that he did. I never heard from



H. (79) Jesse Street  
3539 A St. S.E.,  
Apt. 204,  
Washington 14, D.C.



Thomas James Y2C 634-88-06  
Staff, Com Ad Com, 7th Air Force  
c/o F.P.O.  
San Francisco, Calif.

From the Collection Of  
Dr. J. W. L. Ellis  
220 W. 2nd St  
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A Regional Press & Bookseller

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Dear ~~booksigning~~ <sup>Jack</sup> authors:

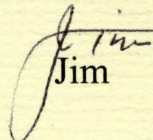
Here's my brief article which appeared yesterday in the *Ashland Independent*. I will send this article to the Ironton paper and to Dave Lavendar in Huntington, Clyde Pack in Paintsville, Sam Piatt in Portsmouth, and Jack Ellis in Morehead. I will also e-mail an announcement to thousands of people in the Ashland/tri-state area.

Please use the enclosed information to promote our/your booksigning. Send invitations to your friends; make announcements to groups, etc. If you wish to receive this information by e-mail, send Rachel a note to [jsf@jsfbooks.com](mailto:jsf@jsfbooks.com).

If the JSF does not have copies of your book in stock, please bring and sell your own. We'll work out the details when you get here or you can call me in advance at 606-326-1667. We'll begin the signing at noon. Try to get here by 11:30 to get set up. There are off street parking spaces surrounding our building. We'll have coffee, cookies, and bottled water for you.

Call me if you need additional information. See you Saturday.

Cordially,

  
Jim





# The Jesse Stuarts

W-HOLLOW

GREENUP, KENTUCKY 41144

Mar. 9th 1967

Dear Rev. Lloyd Dean:

Thank you  
for this invitation to visit  
your church. If and when  
we are that way, we  
won't fool you. We're traveling,  
when we can, we stop  
for church services.

Sincerely,

Jesse Stuart



T. Stuart, Greenup, Ky.  
Personal Mailing Card



Lloyd Bean, Pastor  
United Pentecostal Church  
Morehead, Ky. 40351



The Jesse Stuarts

W-HOLLOW

GREENUP, KENTUCKY 41144



Rev. Lloyd Bean, Pastor  
Pentecostal Church  
Morehead, Ky.



July  
2nd  
1968

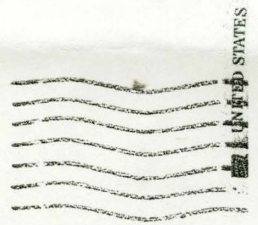


Dear Rev. Lloyd Bean  
Thank you for sending  
me this clipping - we  
try to find  
news of the kids. There  
is such a price on  
this book now. One  
sold for \$125.00  
Reason I've not written  
some one is been in  
France, got the ship  
in the strike. Mail  
never reached us.  
Sincerely, Jesse Stuart

The Jesse Stuarts

W-HOLLOW

GREENUP, KENTUCKY 41144

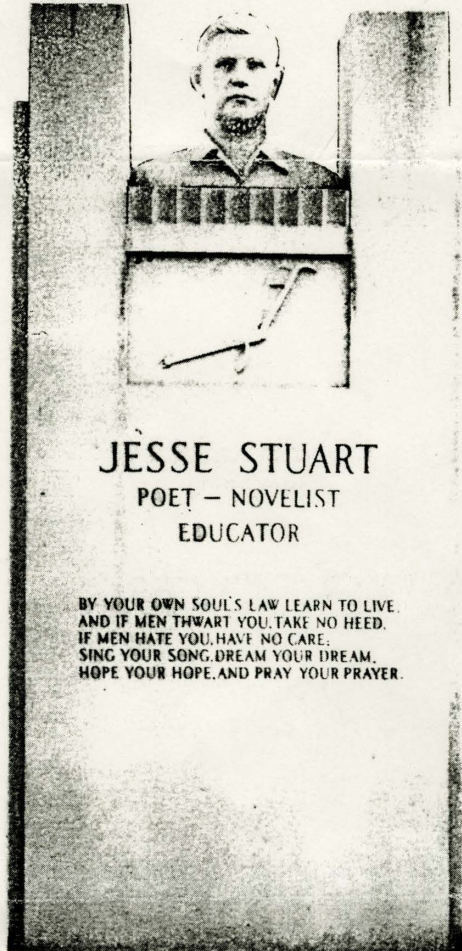


Rev. Lloyd Bean, Pastor  
Pine Crestal Church  
Morehead, Ky.



# ODE TO JESSE STUART

COMPILED BY  
HELEN HUNT



*Book Decent Pair  
for your collection  
Page 2  
2-25-07*

*The Jesse Stuarts*  
W-HOLLOW  
GREENUP, KENTUCKY 41144

*Rev. Lloyd Bean, Pastor  
Pine Crest Church  
Morehead, Ky.*





**KENTUCKY WEPT**  
(Continued)

Seldom does a grief descend,  
In rolling waves so wide.  
But all Kentucky wept the day,  
That Jesse Stuart died.

Charles M. Whitt  
South Shore, Kentucky

**I REMEMBER JESSE**

Probably the first time I heard Jesse  
Stuart speak,  
I was in 49 or 50 in my Morehead College  
chapel seat;

Even in those years, we felt it was an  
honor,  
Sharing Jesse share experiences within  
our borders;

He told stories that came out of  
Kentucky's past,  
And shared the folklore of those times  
back;

He told of the Northern Lights of the  
1940s,  
How it turned many to the thoughts of  
Glory;

Jesse took common events of the day,  
And used them to relate it in his own  
way;

Here was a man in Button Auditorium,  
Being introduced by President Dr. Baird,  
As one that ought to be heard;

As Kentucky's own writer, he climbed  
higher,

CONTINUED...



I REMEMBER JESSE  
(Continued)

To become one of its sons best known  
writer;

Yes, here was a man by the name of Jesse,  
Who spoke before an eager audience of,  
Mostly young Eastern Kentucky students,  
To share his dream of KENTUCKY IS MY LAND.

Lloyd Dean  
Morehead, Kentucky

TRIBUTE TO THE POET

It was summer time,  
A young resident on his farm  
Was showing off his home.  
Out he came to see  
What was goin' on.  
He made her just as welcome  
Had it been his daughter's friend.

A crowd was on the streets  
of Greenup  
A crowd of New Yorkers no less.  
Accompanied by the author and poet.  
He looks up from the crowd,  
Sees a little known Kentuckian  
And treats her as he treated all  
Of his beloved Kentuckians.

To him everyone was the same.  
A person to be honored  
And made happy when their  
Path crossed his.  
Thank you for loving..  
Your fellow man.

Anonymous



### KENTUCKY'S JESSE STUART

Jesse Stuart came out of the loins of his ancestors....to attain a symbol of worth....that his name become a household word in his native state of Kentucky.... W-Hollow his home in Greenup County is almost as well known as the name Jesse Stuart....Jesse Stuart and his wife Naomi Deane Stuart....became one of Kentucky's best known Ambassadors of good will.... His work stands tall in the annals of Literature....Having been read by millions over the past six decades.... Here was a man who loved his native state....and spent a lifetime bringing fame to it....The work of Jesse Stuart will live on....not only in his native state but in all of America....in generations to come....Yes, Kentucky was his land and he belonged to Kentucky....A legend in his own time.

Lloyd Dean  
Morehead, Kentucky



## RULES FOR WRITERS

1. Verbs has to agree with their subjects.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.
4. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat.)
6. Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.
7. Be more or less specific.
8. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.
9. Also too, never, ever use repetitive redundancies.
10. No sentence fragments.
11. Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used.
12. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.
13. Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
14. One should NEVER generalize. ?
15. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
16. Don't use no double negatives.
17. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.



18. One-word sentences? Eliminate.
19. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
20. The passive voice is to be ignored.
21. Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary.
22. Never use a big word when a diminutive one would suffice.
23. DO NOT use exclamation points and all caps to emphasize!!!
24. Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
25. Understatement is always the absolute best way to put forth earth shaking ideas.
26. Use the apostrophe in it's proper place and omit it when its not needed.
27. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
28. If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times: Resist hyperbole; not one writer in a million can use it correctly.
29. Puns are for children, not groan readers.
30. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
31. Even IF a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
32. Who needs rhetorical questions?
33. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
34. The passive voice should never be used.



35. Do not put statements in the negative form.
36. Verbs have to agree with their subjects.
37. A writer must not shift your point of view.
38. Place pronouns as close as possible, especially in long sentences of 10 or more words, to their antecedents.
39. Writing carefully, dangling participles must be avoided.
40. If any word is improper at the end of a sentence, a linking verb is.
41. Take the bull by the hand and avoid mixing metaphors.
42. Avoid trendy locutions that sound flaky.
43. Everyone should be careful to use a singular pronoun with singular nouns in their writing.
44. Always pick on the correct idiom.
45. The adverb always follows the verb.
46. Be careful to use the right homonym. And finally...
47. Proofread carefully to see if any words out.



**MOREHEAD MEMORIES: PEOPLE & PLACES**  
**JESSE STUART: CHRONICLER OF OUR HERITAGE**

BY

**JACK D. ELLIS**

"Lo, Children are ~~an~~ heritage!! (Psalm 127:3)

Jesse Stuart is a legend in eastern Kentucky. <sup>At one time</sup> He was probably the most widely known person from this region and was one of this nation's most prolific writers. During this writer's years in Florida and traveling throughout the United States as an educational consultant during the 1950s - 1960s, I was often introduced as being from Jesse Stuart country. During his lifetime Jesse published 61 books, 460 short stories and more than 2,000 poems. Many of his works have been published in text books, in anthologies, as well as translated into several foreign languages, <sup>and</sup> ~~Also~~ they continue to be reprinted. Yet this charismatic author and educator's contributions are much more than literary. He served as a leader in education and spokesman for eastern Kentucky espousing such values as hard work, belief in education, love of family, devotion to country, and love of the land. He was a man ahead of his time, and is only now becoming recognized for his many contributions. His life and works continue to attract hundreds of tourists to eastern Kentucky each year.

Jesse Stuart was born on August 8, 1906, in Northeastern Kentucky's Greenup County, where his parents, Mitchell and Martha (Hilton) Stuart, were impoverished tenant farmers. From his father, Stuart learned to love and respect the land. He later became a far-sighted conservationist – donating over 700 acres of his land in W-Hollow



to the Kentucky Nature Preserves system in 1980.

Mitchell Stuart could neither read nor write, and Martha had only a second-grade education, but they taught their two sons and three daughters to value education. Jesse graduated from Greenup High School in 1926 and from Lincoln Memorial University in

Harrogate, Tennessee, in 1929. He then returned to Greenup County to teach. *he caused he firmly believed our children were our most important heritage.*

By the end of the 1930s, Stuart had served as a teacher in Greenup County's one-room schools and as high school principal and county school superintendent. These experiences served as the basis for his autobiographical book, *The Thread That Runs So True* (1949), hailed by the president of the National Education Association as the finest book on education in fifty years. The book became a road map for educational reform in Kentucky. By the time it appeared, Stuart had left the classroom to devote his time to lecturing and writing. He returned to public education as a high school principal in 1956-67, a story told in *Mr. Gallion's School* (1967). He later taught at the University of Nevada in Reno in the 1958 summer term and served on the faculty of the American University of Cairo in 1960-61.

Stuart began writing stories and poems about Appalachia in high school and college. During a year of graduate study at Vanderbilt University in 1931-32, Donald Davidson, one of his professors, encouraged him to continue writing. Following the private publication of Stuart's poetry collection *Harvest of Youth* in 1930, *Man With A Bull-Tongue Plow* appeared in 1934 and was widely praised. Mark Van Doren, for



instance, likened Stuart to the eighteen-century <sup>Scottish</sup> poet Robert Burns. <sup>Stuart</sup> began his autobiographical ~~Beyond Dark Hills~~ <sup>while at Vanderbilt.</sup>

Stuart began his autobiographical, *Beyond Dark Hills*, while he was at Vanderbilt. Published in 1938, it inspired readers to follow Stuart's example of overcoming great obstacles to obtain an education. His first novel, *Trees of Heaven*, appeared in 1940, followed by short story collections *Head o' W-Hollow* (1936) and *Men of the Mountains* (1941). More than a dozen other short story collections were published in Stuart's lifetime.

He was also a widely-read novelist, and critics such as J. Donald Adams ranked Stuart as a first-class local colorist. His first novel, *Trees of Heaven* appeared in 1940, followed by *Taps for Private Tussie* (1943), an award-winning satire on New Deal relief and its effect on Appalachian's self-reliance. *Taps* catapulted Stuart to success, but the critical reaction was mixed. Some saw it as nothing more than a comical, almost stereotyped story of poor, lazy mountaineers on relief, while others explained that Stuart wrote for a popular rather than a high brow audience.

Stuart was a successful poet. His ten volumes of verse include *Album of Destiny* (1944) and *Kentucky Is My Land* (1952). He was designated as the Poet Laureate of Kentucky in 1954 and was made a fellow of the Academy of American Poets in 1961. Stuart also wrote a number of books for children that are still highly regarded and much in use today. *The Beatinest Boy* (1953) and *A Penny's Worth of Character* (1954) are two of his eight junior novels for readers in grades 3-7. *Hie to the Hunters*, a novel



published in 1950, is a celebration of rural life that has been especially popular with readers in grades 7-12.

Stuart suffered a major heart attack in 1954. During his convalescence, he wrote daily journals that were the basis for *The Year of My Rebirth* (1956), a book recording his rediscovery of the joy of life. He later became an active spokesman for the American Heart Association.

Throughout his adult life, Stuart received numerous honors as a writer and educator. In 1944, the University of Kentucky awarded him his first of <sup>many</sup> honorary doctorates. October 15, 1955 was proclaimed "Jesse Stuart Day" by the Governor of Kentucky and a bust of Stuart, <sup>which</sup> is still standing, was unveiled on the Greenup County Courthouse lawn. In 1958, he was featured on This Is Your Life, a popular television show. In 1972, the lodge at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park was named the Jesse Stuart Lodge. In 1981, he received Kentucky's Distinguished Service Medallion.

In 1978, Stuart was disabled by a stroke. In May 1982, he suffered another stroke <sup>which</sup> rendered him comatose until he died on February 17, 1984. ~~He is buried in Plum Grove Cemetery in Greenup County, close to W-Hollow, the little Appalachian valley that was the setting for many of his works.~~ But Jesse's death was not the end of his influence upon the literary culture and history of eastern Kentucky and Appalachia.

Incorporated in 1979, the Jesse Stuart Foundation was established for public, charitable, and educational purposes, and is devoted to preserving the legacy of Jesse



Stuart, W-Hollow, and the Appalachian way of life. The Foundation, which controls rights to Stuart's published and unpublished literary works, is currently reprinting many of his best out-of-print books, along with other books which focus on Kentucky and Southern Appalachia.

With control of Jesse Stuart's literary estate – including all papers, manuscripts, and memorabilia – the Foundation promotes a number of cultural and educational programs. It encourages the study of Jesse Stuart's works, and of related material, especially the history, culture, and literature of the Appalachian region.

Their primary purpose is to produce books which supplement the educational system at all levels and have produced more than one hundred editions and printings along with thousands of other regional books in stock. They also promote Stuart's legacy through video tapes, dramas, and presentations for school and civic groups. In keeping with Stuart's devotion to teaching, the Jesse Stuart Foundation is publishing materials that are carefully designed for school use.

Jesse Stuart's books are a guideline to the solid values of America's past. With good humor and brilliant storytelling, Stuart praises the people of eastern Kentucky whose quiet lives were captured forever in his wonderful novels and stories. In Jesse's books, readers will find people who value hard work, who love their families, their land, and their country; who believe in education, honesty, thrift, and compassion – people who play by the rules. *Jesse's books are timeless in that they help prepare school children for responsible citizenship in a soon complex world.*



Today, we are so caught up in teaching children to read that the process has obscured that high purpose. Children require more than literacy. They need to learn, from reading, the unalterable principles of right and wrong.

That is why Stuart's books are so important. They allow educators and parents to "kill two birds with one stone." They make reading fun for children, and they teach solid values, too.

In a world that is rapidly losing perspective, we must truly educate tomorrow's adults. We must prepare school children for responsible citizenship, so we need to provide them with beneficial reading material.

It was this writer's pleasure to serve as the Morehead State University Director of Libraries in 1977 when we built the new library tower. On the fifth floor of that facility we built the "Jesse Stuart Room" which houses, according to author David Dick, "The most complete collection of Jesse Stuart's works and memorabilia that he had found."

Jesse Stuart is closely connected to Morehead State University; he once told me "Sixteen of his relatives including his wife Naomi Dean were Morehead graduates." One of the

famous Poet Laureate of Kentucky's honorary Doctorates is from Morehead State University and he had many close ties to Rowan County. The heritage Jesse wrote about so much in his books is what we remember in Rowan County as we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup>

birthday. We did more to preserve our heritage than perhaps any other person.

Jesse Stuart would have been the ideal speaker for Rowan County's

READ MORE ABOUT ROWAN COUNTY'S HISTORY  
IN JACK ELLIS' MOREHEAD MEMORIES OR  
KENTUCKY MEMORIES PUBLISHED BY THE  
JESSE STUART FOUNDATION



## Authors for July 26

Clyde R. Pack	Muddy Branch
Danny Fulks	Tragedy On Greasy Ridge
Anne Caudill	Night Comes To The Cumberlands, and others
Dotty Holbrook	Somewhere Along The Way
Jack Ellis	Morehead Memories
John Sparks	The Roots Of Appalachian Christianity
Ken Slone	At Home In The Mountains
Edwina Pendarvis	Appalachian Love Stories, and others
Phillip St. Clair	several poetry collections
Christina St. Clair	Appalachian Love Stories
Bill Grier	The Five Lives Of The Kentucky River
Alma Roberts	House Calls

Our July 26<sup>th</sup> booksigning is part of a larger cultural tourism initiative. The Jesse Stuart Foundation is proud to cooperate with Destination Ashland, the Ashland Area Convention And Visitors Bureau, Ashland Main Street, and our neighbors on the Cultural Corridor to attract visitors to our downtown area.

Ashland's Main Street offers a performing arts center, an art gallery, a museum, and a regional bookstore within a four block area. Visitors can also enjoy a number of excellent restaurants and specialty shops and a fine hotel. So come downtown!

If you cannot be present for the booksigning and want to get a book signed, give us a call at (606)326-1667.

Jack,

Can you pass this along to the MOREHEAD NEWS?

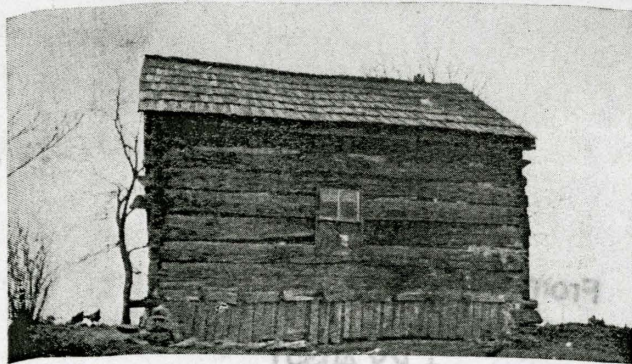
Thanks,  
Jim



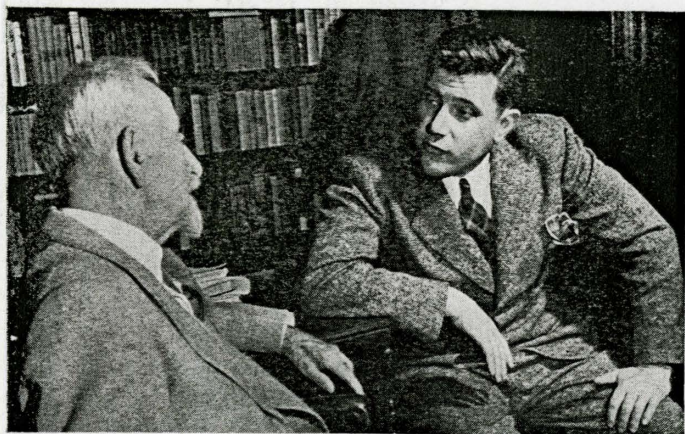


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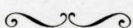
Lt. (j.g.) Jesse Stuart



Jesse's Birthplace in  
Kentucky



In Earnest Conversation with His Publisher  
and Friend, the Late John Macrae



## Jesse Stuart is the Author of

### *Poetry*

ALBUM OF DESTINY  
MAN WITH A BULL-TONGUE PLOW

### *Autobiography*

BEYOND DARK HILLS

### *Fiction*

TAPS FOR PRIVATE TUSSIE  
TREES OF HEAVEN  
MONGREL METTLE: Autobiography of a Dog

*Published by*

E. P. DUTTON & CO., INC.  
300 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

JESSE STUART is well-known as a poet, short story writer and novelist. He has appeared in the country's leading magazines — *Harpers*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Esquire*, *Colliers*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, etc. In 1937 and 1938 he went to Europe on a Guggenheim Fellowship and came back with the manuscript of his novel, *Trees of Heaven*. He has been represented in both the O'Brien and the O'Henry short story anthologies. His novel, *Taps for Private Tussie* was a Book-of-the-Month-Club Selection for December, 1943 and Winner of the 1943 Thomas Jefferson Southern Award. He is married and has a baby daughter, Jessica Jane.

## About himself he says:

I was born in 1907 near Riverton, Ky., and attended the country schools, but never finished more than two-thirds of a school term during any year. I had to help plant and hoe and harvest the crop. And, too, I spent many days in the weed fields and briar thickets hunting rabbits; and nights in the woods hunting coons, foxes and possums.

At nine I began to hire out to well-to-do farmers for twenty-five cents a day. I worked from ten to twelve hours a day. My mother worked for the same money, my sister, twelve years of age, kept house, and my father farmed. At eleven I quit school entirely to help the family. From eleven to fifteen I cut corn in the Ohio River valley during the season and cut timber and made cross-ties during the winter.



# Small Talk

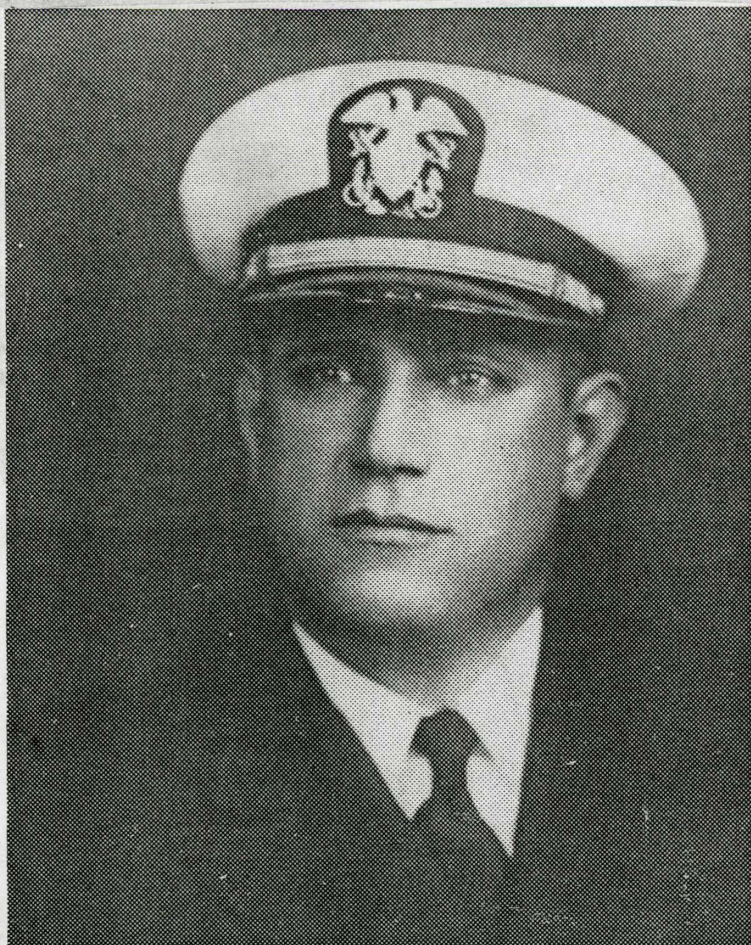
The "Lost and Found" box at Reynolds High School which has played host to a wide variety of lost articles in years past had something new in the way of contents last week when four suitcases turned up there. Having no nursemaid facilities, the "Lost and Found" department turned them over to the biology department, but when they insisted on crying in spite of being well-cared for with a medicine dropper they became homeless again and were finally put to death quietly when it was decided that no suitcases are better than starving suitcases.

Winston-Salem policeman assigned to work traffic at the armory where the war prisoners are stationed is Paul Blackburn who this week returned to his job with the department after more than two years of "outstanding and meritorious service" with the U. S. Marines.

Lieutenant (j.g.) Jesse Stuart, who visited here last week with Commander Robert A. Winston

on behalf of the United War Chest, writes that he had a wonderful time here and wanted to express his appreciation for all the things Winston-Salem did to make his stay pleasant.

Lieutenant (j.g.) Stuart came here and spent nearly 24 hours without bothering to mention that he was the Jesse Stuart who wrote "Taps for Private Tussie," best-seller and Book of the Month Club volume. He also neglected to mention that his first novel "Trees of Heaven" had narrowly missed being chosen as the book of the month and that one of his volumes of poetry, "Man With a Bull Tongue Plow" won a Guggenheim fellowship, and was later selected by Life Magazine as one of the 100 best books published in America between 1934 and 1944. All of which adds up to quite a record for a young man who sees no reason to mention things like that when he comes on a visit.



## JESSE STUART '29 PLANS ANOTHER BOOK

"Foretaste of Glory" To Rival Private Tussie

Not so long ago Jesse Stuart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Stuart, found his way from the mountains of Kentucky to Lincoln Memorial University. He came here, he says because of the opportunities offered to boys of small means to get a college education. While at L. M. U. he was Editor of the Blue and Gray, was a member of the track team, won several prizes in Creative Writing and contributed articles to several papers and magazines.

After receiving the A. B. degree at L. M. U. in '29 he went to Peabody and Vanderbilt and then plunged into the field of fiction. Perhaps his best known book is "Taps for Private Tussie." Other books have rolled from his fertile pen with "Foretaste of Glory" in the offing.

He is now Lt. (J. G.) Stuart of the U. S. Navy. He tried to enlist several times but was rejected on physical examinations. Finally in March 1944, he was accepted as an enlisted man and sent to Great Lakes where he became a Seaman 2/c and later was commissioned Lieutenant (J. G.) He is now on duty in Washington, D. C. Lt. Stuart married Naomi Deane Norris October 14, 1939. They have a daughter, Jessica Jane.

(The Photograph was furnished through courtesy of E. P. Dutton & Co. Publishers).



Jesse Stuart - WAS KENTUCKY'S FORMALIST CHRONICLER OF OUR REGION'S HERITAGE, HISTORICAL CULTURE. HIS MORE THAN 60 BOOKS - 2000 POEMS AND JOURNAL ARTICLES ESPOUSE OUR OWN'S VALUES OF FAITH AND WORK. THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY. HE WAS

**JSF**

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KENTUCKY'S

FROM 1954

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Appalachian Studies  
runner

chief

Rowan County, Kentucky, 1984

## JAMES M. GIFFORD

IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE OUR SPEAKER

Dr. James M. Gifford is the CEO and Senior Editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation, a non-profit organization established in 1979 to manage Stuart's literary estate and to promote educational and cultural programs relevant to the late author's life and works. From his Ashland office, Dr. Gifford directs activities that include republishing and marketing Stuart's out-of-print works, along with other books that focus on Kentucky and Appalachia, developing film and theatre projects that focus on Stuart's works, cultivating new Stuart readers with programs for school and civic groups, and orchestrating the efforts of more than 5,000 devoted Associate Members in 50 states. DR GIFFORD CAME TO MOREHEAD S.T.U. MANY YEARS AGO WHERE HE

Dr. Gifford received the B.A. degree from Maryville College, the M.A. degree from Middle Tennessee State University, and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Georgia. He has also done post doctoral work at the University of South Carolina and the University of Kentucky. He has published extensively in historical, educational, and literary journals, and he has won professional awards as a teacher, author, editor, and publisher.

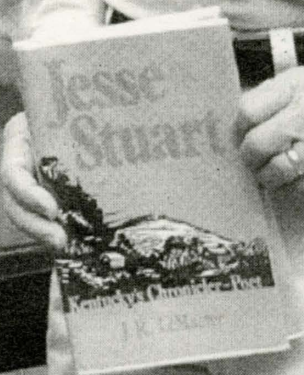
James M. Gifford  
SS# 414-64-6714  
PO Box 669  
Ashland, KY 41105  
(606) 326-1667 Work  
(606) 324-6821 Home  
FAX # (606) 325-2591  
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APPALACHIAN COLLECTION

JESSE STUART WAS A DYNAMIC, ENERGETIC  
AND EMOTIONAL SPEAKER - BUT  
SINCE JESSE WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO  
SPEAK TO US TODAY, WE WROTE AND  
FORGOTTEN TO MENTION DR JIM GIFFORD



jesse stuart  
room





JACK ELLIS INSIDE THE  
JESSE STUART ROOM  
ON THE CAMPUS OF  
MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY  
WHICH HE ESTABLISHED WHEN  
HE WAS DEAN OF LIBRARIES A MSU

From The Collection Of:  
Dr. Jack D. Ellis  
552 W. Sun St.  
Morehead, KY 40351  
606-784-7473





Jesse Stuart traveling in Europe with the support of a Guggenheim Fellowship.

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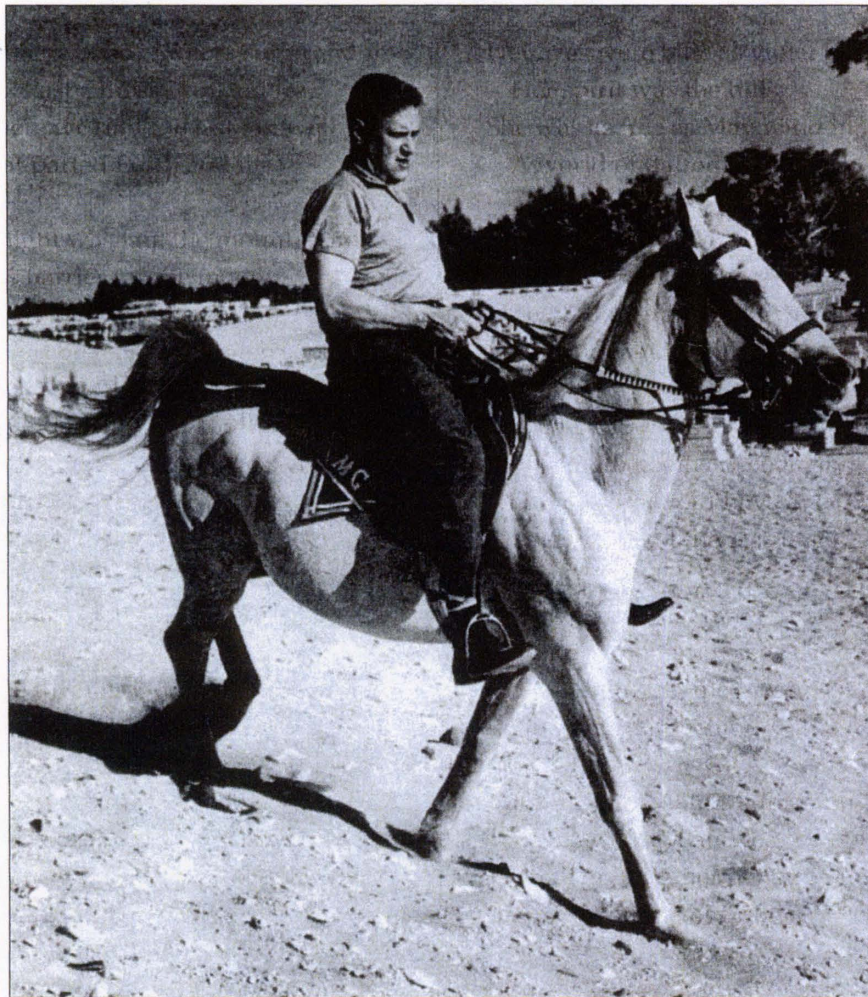
Stuart wrote constantly and compulsively. The wall in this 1955 image shows his handwritten pages for several works in progress. Photograph by Thomas V. Miller, Jr., courtesy of the *Courier-Journal*.

Since his 1954 heart attack, Jesse had been working to promote heart health care at both state and national levels. His book *The Year of My Rebirth*, a powerful account of his recovery, was endorsed by the American Heart Association.

He  
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had missed for almost a year. After much sightseeing in Europe, they arrived in America in July, having visited many celebrated places that most Americans only read about in history books. On one occasion, they had ridden Arabian horses into the desert night to see the pyramids of Giza. Yet nothing was quite as wonderful to the Stuarts as W-Hollow, and they were relieved to be home.



Jesse, near the pyramid of Cheops, spring 1961.