



# the Highlands Voice

Vol. III, No. 1

February 1971

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

As all of you know, I am stepping into an enormous pair of shoes and I have a very difficult path to follow blazed by Tom King. Tom led in getting the Conservancy nurtured into an extremely potent conservation force in West Virginia. I feel like the unobserved end who stepped into the endzone and am about to receive a pass thrown by a superb quarterback who called the right plays, brilliantly side-stepped would be tacklers, and got in the clear. I hope I don't drop the ball.

There are many things and people that have made the Conservancy a respected conservation organization. One of them is its wilderness committee, chaired by George Langford. In the past two years the many people on the committee have worked in a thoroughly professional manner in inventorying the resources of West Virginia's wild lands. Through their study they have drawn up extremely well thought out management plans for Dolly Sods, Otter Creek, and most recently, the Cranberry Back Country. The entire state will one day acknowledge these great contributions, but in the meantime . . .

For those of you who were unable to attend Blackwater '71, let me repeat what I said there. The wilderness committee is so well oiled and in such capable hands, I feel that we can afford to widen our interests somewhat and involve ourselves in other important matters. This is not to say that I do not think wilderness is important, but rather that I can make contributions in addition to these from matters in my own experience. The wilderness work will go on as vigorous as ever, but let's begin to get some of our newer members involved in other projects.

As I look about me (and I am usually in a boat), I find our beautiful rivers are threatened in every direction. Name a river, any river - Shaver's Fork, the Cheat, New, Gauley, Williams, South Branch, Moorefield, Blackwater, or you name it and you will see a threat. Since rivers are what I know best, since they are such an extremely important part of West Virginia, and since there are so many such threats, with your permission I would like to focus increasing attention from unassigned Conservancy members on them. In the months to come, I will be detailing river problems and asking members to help me form action groups to deal with them. Shaver's Fork is first.

Bob Burrell

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MID-WINTER WORKSHOP - 1971

It was a beautiful snowy weekend for the fourth annual Highlands Conservancy Mid-Winter Workshop held at Blackwater Falls Lodge January 30-31. The weather on Friday was very erratic, changing from cold and snow early in the afternoon to warmer and rain in the evening. However, it was snowing like mad when we went through the Canaan Valley around 9:30 Friday night. Saturday was colder with the white fluffy stuff falling all day. It was a clear, cold day Sunday for the drive back home.

Meetings were held Saturday afternoon, Saturday night and Sunday morning to conduct business, discuss problems, elect officers and pass resolutions concerning problems in West Virginia and elsewhere. The Conservancy probably set an all time record in passing approximately 13 resolutions.

-SATURDAY AFTERNOON-

The Saturday afternoon session got under way around 1:00 with President Tom King presiding. First on the program was a slide show entitled "Appalachian Spring", which covered the change from the snow covered landscape in winter to the blossoming and green leaves of spring. The slides showed many places, people and animals in West Virginia. Included were many typical scenes such as the rusting hulk of an abandoned auto.

Charley Carlson, Treasurer, gave a report on the financial status of the Highlands Conservancy. Charley gave a full account of receipts and expenditures, and the H. C. appears to be in fairly good shape. Publication of the Highlands Voice was the largest single expenditure. Charley also announced that Highland Conservancy arm patches are now available at a cost of \$1.00.

Mrs. Carolyn Killoran, Membership Chairman, gave a report on the make-up of the membership:

West Virginia:	Individual Members	235
	Organizations	8
Out of State:	Individual Members	120
	Organizations	10
Total:	Individual Members	355
	Organizations	23

Each member can help Carolyn by recruiting one new member during 1971.

Art Wright from the Wilderness Society gave a report on the supersonic transport aircraft and the trans-Alaska pipeline. Resolutions were passed concerning both issues and here are essential portions from each:

SST----The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy therefore opposes additional public funding for the SST and calls upon the members of the West Virginia Delegation to the U. S. Congress to vote against further expenditure of public funds for the SST.

TAPS----The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy therefore respectfully urges the President of the United States to defer the grant of the pipeline permit until such time as it can be clearly demonstrated that the pipeline can be safely built and operated. Absent such early action by the President, the Conservancy supports the passage of congressional bills which will require congressional approval of any pipeline permit proposed for issuance by the Department of the Interior.

Tom King and Jim Moorman gave a report on the court actions concerning Otter Creek. Judge Maxwell of the Northern Federal Court District of West Virginia was requested by the Forest Service and Island Creek Coal Company to dismiss the suit brought by the Conservancy which resulted in a preliminary injunction against the Forest Service and Island Creek. Judge Maxwell refused the request to dismiss and the preliminary injunction was then appealed to the U. S. Fourth Circuit Court in Richmond. Jim Moorman, Willis Shay, and Fred Anderson are acting as attorneys for the Conservancy, and they filed a 55 page brief with the court on January 5.

After the discussion of the Otter Creek situation a resolution was passed to ask that bills be reintroduced in this session of Congress to establish Wilderness areas in Otter Creek, Dolly Sods and the Cranberry Backcountry.

A bill has been introduced in the West Virginia House of Delegates that would transfer the Division of Parks and Recreation from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Commerce. After a short discussion the following resolution was passed:

----Whereas, the proper emphasis in state park management is toward natural preservation and wise use rather than economic development, and

----Whereas, the Division of Parks and Recreation of the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources has been recently recognized as having one of the five best programs of state park development and management in the nation by the Sports Foundation, Incorporated,

The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy expresses its total opposition to the passage of House Bill Number 653, now before the Legislature of the State of West Virginia, which calls for transfer of the Division of Parks from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Commerce--an industrial and development minded agency.

Be it further resolved, that the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy be on record as favoring a strengthening of the state parks programs within the Department of Natural Resources by the approval of funds necessary to a continued program of park development and for the maintenance and upgrading of existing facilities. ----

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Next was a report on the Blue Ridge Project on New River in Virginia by Bob Dennis. Bob reported that interior witnesses had admitted that they did not have good facts on the amount of pollution entering the Kanawha River when they forced Appalachian to redesign the project to store a tremendous quantity of water to flush out the Kanawha. Bob pointed



out that the Federal Water Quality Administration has been transferred from Interior to the Environmental Protection Agency, headed by William D. Ruckelshaus. Bob was optimistic that the philosophy of "flush it down the river" will disappear from FWQA in its new home.

After a 15 minute break a comprehensive report on the Davis Power Project was presented by Fred Anderson's committee. Helen McGinnis started the program by discussing the geology, flora and fauna of this rather unique area. Bob Broughton discussed the physical aspects of the two reservoirs and the economics of pumped storage. Fred Anderson discussed the recreational and environmental impact of the project. There will be a tremendous loss of wildlife habitat and hunting opportunities. Bruce Godwin discussed possible alternatives to the Davis Power Project. David Elkington discussed the future for the Canaan Valley in terms of problems such as sewage, taxes, secondary development, highways, and new towers. David concluded by showing several slides of the Canaan Valley region.

The Davis Power Project committee will continue to study the problems and will give a report to a future Board of Directors meeting.

**-SATURDAY NIGHT-**

First on the agenda for the evening session was a report from Max Smith of the nominating committee. The recommendations of the nominating committee were accepted and the new officers are:

**PRESIDENT:**  
**SECRETARY:**  
**VICE-PRESIDENTS:**

Bob Burrell  
Eleanor Bush  
Herb Eckert  
Tom King  
Anson Courter  
Carolyn Killoran  
George Ours  
Ron Hardway  
Sayre Rodman  
Charles Conrad  
Marie Wallace  
Fred Anderson  
Howard Barb  
Bruce Sundquist

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:**

All of the member organizations appoint or elect representatives to serve on the Board of Directors.

Immediately after the elections Tom King relenquished the chair to Bob Burrell. There was an expression of appreciation for the fine work that Tom had done while president.

Bob's first announcement concerned the formation of a Shavers Fork task force consisting of:

Bill Bristor - Baltimore  
Keith Cunningham - Charleston  
Mike Frasher - Charleston  
Craig Moore - Green Bank

Other members who have a special interest in the Shavers Fork area should contact Bob Burrell.

Next, George Langford gave a report on the Wilderness Committee work concerning the Cranberry Backcountry. The extensive 50 page report, written by George Langford and Helen McGinnis, had been distributed to the members during the afternoon session for review. Further details are covered in the article by George in this newsletter.

We were then treated to an excellent movie on canoeing that Burrell had borrowed from the Canoe Cruisers Association. Much of the film was shot on the Potomac, Cheat and New Rivers in West Virginia. I especially enjoyed the part of the film that was taken at the Keeney's Creek rapids in the New River Gorge.

The big discussion of the evening concerned strip mining and what to do about the tremendous problems that are created by this practice. Dick Austin, a member of H. C. and coordinator of Citizens to Abolish Strip Mining, gave a short talk on the problems caused by strip mining. Dick lives on the Coal River and he related some of his personal experiences with strip mining in that area which convinced him that abolishing strip mining is the only solution. He then showed the group an excellent set of slides taken in strip mined areas, which included several shots of areas that have been reclaimed with varying degrees of success. After rather lengthy debate, the following resolution was passed:

The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, feeling now that for the first time in our history, the abolition of strip mining is possible, and in accordance with the Conservancy's prior resolution on the subject, hereby endorses the Galprin bill, Senate Bill No. 193.

#### -SUNDAY MORNING-

The 1972 Mid-Winter Workshop was discussed and the date was set for the last weekend in January of 1972. It will be held at Blackwater Falls as usual.

The 1972 Highlands Weekend Review will be held during the third weekend in October and will concentrate on the Canaan Valley region. Linda and David Elkington were appointed to serve as coordinators.

Burrell announced that the Conservancy will start having four Board meetings per year, and that he refuses to get out of his canoe long enough to have a Board meeting at Petersburg. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held Saturday, March 27 at 8:00 p.m. in Webster Springs. A Board meeting will be held in Parsons on June 26.

The Department of Natural Resources proposals to increase fees for hunting, fishing, and combined license from \$3-\$3-\$5 to \$6-\$6-\$10 was discussed and a resolution was

passed to support the increased fees. Another resolution was passed to support the D. N. R. proposal for an antlerless deer permit system.

Anson Courter made a report on the new 184 mile long Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park that made it through the last Congress. This park will stretch along the Potomac River from Washington, D. C. to Cumberland, Maryland.

The general problems of solid waste disposal and sewage treatment were discussed and three resolutions were passed. One resolution was in support of the bill in the Legislature to ban the use of non-returnable containers for soft drinks and beer. Two other resolutions asked that West Virginia start working toward re-cycling trash, establishing public waste disposal areas in all regions of the state, and making use of the Federal matching funds for the construction of sewage treatment facilities.

Coal Mining in the Monongahela National Forest was discussed and the following resolution was passed:

Increased mining activity threatens, acutely and immediately, the multiple use concepts for which our National Forests were established, and for which they must by law be administered.

Belated recognition is coming to the Monongahela National Forest, as an area of outstanding scenic and recreational importance, as well as a source of valuable timber and a major watershed for some of the most populous and industrially important areas of our country. These are values for which the Forest exists officially, and also logically.

But intensive mining activity, particularly in view of the rapacious, plundering destruction so evident across the face of West Virginia, collides head on with all those values. Such activity erases the resources, supposedly owned by the people of the United States, from which these values are derived.

The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy therefore urges that it be recognized policy of federal and state government agencies to control this destruction, preferably by the elimination of coal mining in the Monongahela National Forest, or at least by much stricter control. We offer two suggestions.

First, privately owned coal under public land could be bought by the Federal government as a national coal reserve, for use in the future when it will be needed even more urgently, and when better extraction techniques have been developed.

Second, remaining mining in the National Forest could be made a model for the rest of the state. We believe that techniques for relatively non-destructive extraction by deep mining now exist, that are applicable to many deposits whose genuine high value can easily support the slight increase in cost involved.

We, therefore, urge strict application of regulations to control all mining within the National Forest to acceptable standards.

The following resolution concerning the Highland Scenic Highway was passed:

The Highland Scenic Highway (State Route 150) will penetrate three of the major wild areas remaining in West Virginia, Cranberry-Williams River region, upper Shavers Fork region and the Dolly-Sods - Flat Rock Plains area. Two of these areas, Cranberry and Shavers Fork, are major bear breeding areas and all three are inhabited by bears.

Only 43 miles of the 112 miles of the highway from Cranberry Glades to U. S. 33 will be across land now owned by the U. S. Forest Service. This road will probably lead to extensive development of the private lands adjacent to the scenic corridor, which is supposed to vary in width from 700 feet to 1 mile.

We do not feel that the benefits of the Highland Scenic Highway are sufficient to balance the resulting destruction of our beautiful mountains. We strongly recommend that the Highland Scenic Highway be terminated as new construction when it reaches Route 219. We recommend that connecting segments of 39, 219, 250, 28 and other existing highways be upgraded and officially designated as the Highland Scenic Highway. Campgrounds, picnic areas, scenic overlooks and special botanical areas can be developed along these existing routes, thereby preventing needless destruction of our most valuable wilderness areas.

The meeting wound up with a general discussion concerning the manner in which resolutions are presented. At the Richwood meeting in October a resolution committee was established with Sayre Rodman as chairman. In the December issue of the Voice a request was made that proposed resolutions be sent to Sayre before the workshop to facilitate orderly discussion. Thirteen resolutions were passed - only three or four proposed resolutions had been presented to the resolutions committee. There was general agreement on the need for improvement in this area.

The 1972 workshop will be held the last weekend in January. Why not start making plans to attend?



WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR THE CRANBERRY BACKCOUNTRY

by George Langford

The bills introduced by members of West Virginia's delegation to the past 91st Congress proposed that Dolly Sods, Otter Creek, and the entire Cranberry Backcountry be made national Wilderness Areas. The Wilderness Preservation Committee of the Conservancy feels that not all of the 53,000 acre area is qualified as wilderness and therefore has made a study of the area. Its report was submitted at the Conservancy's recent Annual Meeting and was approved together with the following resolution

The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy believes that part of the Cranberry Backcountry, specifically, the drainage basin of the Middle Fork of the Williams River and adjacent lands to the north and south are qualified as Wilderness under the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Conservancy recommends designation of the area as the Pocahontas Wilderness by Congress. This 26,300 acre area is bounded by State Route 150 (the Highlands Scenic Highway) on the east, Forest Route 86 on the north, Forest Route 76 on the south, and the ridgelines east of the Little Fork and Birchlog Run leading from Three Forks to Forks of Cranberry on the west.

The Conservancy believes that another part of the Cranberry Backcountry, specifically, the area lying between the forks of the Cranberry River, has greater potential for primitive, unconfined recreation than as commercial timberlands and asks that it be administratively protected by the Forest Service as the Cranberry Pioneer Area. This 10,000 acre area is bounded by State Route 150 on the east, Forest Route 102 on the southwest, and Forest Route 76 on the north. This should involve no change in the administration of the Cranberry Glades Botanical Area.

The Conservancy asks the Forest Service to rescind its 1969 Cranberry Face II timber sale and to include all lands north and east of Trail 244 on Kennison Mountain in a Pioneer Area to complement the Cranberry Pioneer Area.

The Conservancy also asks the Forest Service to continue to enforce the closure of all the roads in the area now known as the Cranberry Backcountry to maintain the remote, primitive character of the whole area.

There should be no change in the fish-stocking program of the State of West Virginia along the Cranberry River or in its maintenance of a black bear sanctuary in the Cranberry Backcountry.

The Forest Service has not considered areas containing substantial quantities of economically valuable minerals or timber to be available for wilderness designation in the past; however, the Conservancy believes that there are adequate reserves of coal under neighboring private lands and sufficient timber productivity in the rest of the Monongahela National Forest, so that the area in which the proposed wilderness lies must be considered valuable in view of the need and rarity of wilderness in West Virginia and the eastern



United States. You, the public, must make your wishes known to Congress; support Congressional action to protect de facto wilderness like this one.

Copies of the Conservancy's combined Cranberry Backcountry Wilderness Management Proposal and Trail Guide can be obtained from Mrs. Carolyn Killoran, 1605-D Quarrier Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25311. The price is \$.50.

### ROWLESBURG MEETING SET

by Bob Burrell

Senator Randolph has agreed to meet with concerned citizens in regard to the Rowlesburg Dam controversy. The Cheat Valley Conservancy, Inc. of Saint George-Holly Meadows has waged an intensive campaign for months to be heard without much success until now. They are calling on their conservation friends to be present, stand up and be counted. Any organization or individual having special knowledge and/or experience concerning the Cheat River Valley between Parsons and Rowlesburg is invited to participate in the meeting. Anyone with hydrological, geological, scenic, historical, economic, electrical, or recreational opinion or knowledge about this magnificent river would be most welcome. The outcome of this meeting will determine whether the project gets the much needed re-evaluation that we have been pressing for. The Tucker County Court House in Parsons will be the site of the meeting set for February 27 at 1:30 P.M. Your help is urgently needed.

To further focus attention on this Valley, its beauty and its problems, a canoe float trip has been arranged for the weekend of May 22-23. One may participate in either or both days scheduled for the event. No whitewater experience is necessary to handle the occasional riffles and waves encountered. Beg, borrow, or steal a canoe so that you may take part in a magnificent trip and behold the natural and pastoral beauty of this area slated for inundation. Further details may be obtained from Herb Eckert, Nick Barb, or Bob Burrell.

### TWO SIDES OF AN ISSUE

An article by Mr. H. P. Bennett, Executive Vice President of Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, appeared in the November 28 issue of Hillbilly. Mr. Bennett was very critical of the Sierra Club and others for their views concerning management of our forests. Mr. Bennett's article provokes a response from Mr. Bruce Sundquist, who is a member of the Sierra Club and the Highlands Conservancy. For the benefit of those who do not read Hillbilly, here are excerpts from both articles:

Mr. Bennett - "If professional foresters, who are decent responsible people, are entitled to an opinion these days, and we can get people to listen, the resources of our area can make us to prosper spiritually, physically and materially. If the opinions of organizations such as those expressed by the leadership of the Sierra Club are allowed to prevail, however, our natural resources could be in serious trouble. ---"

Of the vast areas that were set aside we see the incident of decay and death setting in. In Yellowstone Park alone it is reported that there are enough dead trees on the ground to have built 200,000 new homes. This is two billion board feet.

In 1936 the Joyce Kilmer Forest was set aside in North Carolina. This was a tract of 3,800 acres of big timber, and among the trees were hemlock, poplar, oak and basswood - two, three, four and five feet in diameter. The sign dedicating the forest says, "It is a living memorial to a great poet." When one looks over the area today, however, he finds it not a living memorial, but a graveyard. As in so many such areas, many of the large trees are now rotting hulks on the forest floor sent into oblivion by the sincere, but misguided, efforts of those preservationists who think they are really acting in the interests of conservation. In traveling through the Joyce Kilmer Forest we will rarely see even a songbird, let alone anything in the way of wildlife as squirrels, rabbits, deer or others.

---Responsible forest managers recognize the importance of our environment. They also recognize the dangers of over-reaction and the opportunity some people might take in the name of environment to put over some personal schemes that will only be self-serving. The greatest danger we face today in the realm of our environment is over-reaction."

Mr. Sundquist - "---I know of no instance where the Sierra Club has stated that the U.S.F.S. has mismanaged America's forests through lack of professional competence or lack of desire. Invariably it has looked to the political environment in which the U.S.F.S. must operate - the political pressure groups that impose poor timber management practices on the Forest Service in the interest of increased profits at public expense. The Sierra Club only regrets that it is not professional foresters who make the major decisions affecting America's forest so much as it is politicians.

---The National Timber Supply Act is a second prime example of the political meddling in what should be the domain of the professional forester. Timber is being cut in the West faster than it is growing now - yet the Timber Supply Act would have increased timber cutting by up to 50% - denuding America's forests and leaving future generations of Americans starved for wood.

A third example is the fact that the Congressional budget committees that pass on the Forest Service's own requests for funds for reforestation, recreational developments, soil and water management, and wildlife habitat improvements by an average of 50%, while reducing the requests for timber sales management by only 5%, thereby forcing the Forest Service, against its will, to overemphasize lumbering at the expense of other forest uses.

---Mr. Bennett mentions the trees in Yellowstone Park as a prime example of waste because they are not harvested. He thus implies that the people of the U. S. would be better off selling them to a lumber company periodically. If the price that would be paid is anything like that paid in West Virginia, this means that the people of the U. S. could earn about \$3.00 per acre per year by selling its trees in Yellowstone Park. I doubt that anyone could juggle the economic figures concerning Yellowstone Park to show that the trees there are worth anything less than several hundred times that amount as a tourist attraction. Mr. Bennett also claims that trees are detrimental to wildlife when not cut periodically. Yet, Yellowstone Park is famous for its wildlife of all sorts. Other National parks where lumbering is not permitted also have thriving wildlife populations. If Mr. Bennetts reference to Joyce Kilmer Forest as 3,800 acre graveyard, devoid of wildlife is correct, what did the Indians hunt when most of the U. S. was virgin forest? To condemn Joyce Kilmer Forest because of its dead trees laying about among the living trees is to deny millions of easterners an opportunity to see what a virgin forest looks like - to be inspired by it - and to learn from it.

No one says that a large part of America's forests should be left uncut - only a few insignificant shreds - a few percent at the very most. If the lumber industry cannot grant even that, it cannot expect to maintain the respect of the society it serves."

#### COMING EVENTS

- ROWELSBURG DAM - Tucker County Courthouse, Parsons  
February 27 1:30 p. m.
- HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Webster Springs March 27 8:00 p. m.  
Parsons June 26
- CANOE FLOAT TRIP - Cheat River  
May 22-23  
Contact Bob Burrell

#### NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL

The West Virginia Natural Resources Council held a meeting in Charleston on December 10, 1970. New officers elected at this meeting are:

- |                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| President          | - | George Breiding                                  |
| Vice-President     | - | Betty Greenlee                                   |
| Secretary          | - | Carol Wilcox                                     |
| Treasurer          | - | Hal Dillon                                       |
| Directors-at-Large | - | Forrest Davis<br>George Neville<br>Maxwell Smith |

LIKE TO HAVE A PEN PAL?

by Bob Burrell

Some of you have asked for the names and addresses of our legislators. Of course, our senators are Jennings Randolph and Robert Byrd (U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C. 20510). Senator Randolph is also chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Works, an organization having before it many issues of conservation interest.

At present we have five Congressmen who are:

- ROBERT MOLLOHAN - FIRST DISTRICT (Northern W. Va. and Panhandle).
- HARLEY STAGGERS - SECOND DISTRICT (Eastern Panhandle and much of the eastern part of the National Forest).
- JOHN SLACK - THIRD DISTRICT (Central W. Va. and Kanawha Valley).
- KEN HECHLER - FOURTH DISTRICT (Extreme western and north-western W. Va.).
- JAMES KEE - FIFTH DISTRICT (Southern Counties).

All may be reached by writing the U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. 20515. Apparently you have to be a resident of the 5th District to expect a reply from Mr. Kee.

Editor- Here are the addresses of a few other people whom you may wish to write concerning problems in West Virginia:

Governor Arch A. Moore  
State Capitol  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

William S. Ritchie, Commissioner  
W. Va. Department of Highways  
1800 Washington Street, East  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

Ivor Boiarsky, Speaker  
W. Va. House of Delegates  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

Ira Latimer, Director  
Department of Natural Resources  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

Carl Beard, Director  
Air Pollution Control Commission  
4108 MacCorkle Avenue, S.E.  
Charleston, W. Va.

Benjamin C. Greene, Chief  
Division of Reclamation  
Department of Natural Resources  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

Hans McCourt, President  
Senate of West Virginia  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

William D. Ruckelshaus  
Environmental Pro. Agency  
Washington, D. C.

John D. Rockefeller, IV  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

Edgar N. Henry, Chief  
Water Resources Division  
Department of Natural Resources  
Charleston, W. Va. 25305

William O. Comella  
Federal Highway Admin.  
1000 N. Glebe Road  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

F. A. Dorrell, Supervisor  
Monongahela Nat. Forest  
Box 231  
Elkins, W. Va. 26241



## NEW (AND INEXPERIENCED) EDITOR

I am sure that you were able to detect the change in editors by now, and I hope that this first issue of 1971 is not a complete flop. Bob will continue to publish the Voice and contribute articles.

I will appreciate very much your help in writing articles, collecting information, correcting errors and criticizing the Highlands Voice. I hope to be able to provide a critical view of some of the serious problems that confront "Wild, Wonderful, West Virginia."

Please send any correspondence concerning the newsletter to me at the address given below.

Ernie Nester  
Box 298  
Alloy, West Virginia 25002

PHONE: 779-3341

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