



APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY FUND ★ CHANGE, NOT CHARITY

APPALACTIONS

SHALE SHOCKED THE FRACKING OF APPALACHIA

WHAT IS FRACKING?

Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing aka “fracking” is the process used to create greater access to natural gas supplies imbedded in the shale that runs through mountain ranges. The process requires the use of large quantities of water and fracturing fluids, which are injected underground at high volumes and pressure. The average amount of water used is about 5 million gallons per fracture. Gas companies design fracturing fluids to create “fractures” or breaks that release the gas held in shale formations and to transport granular substances to prop open the fractures. The composition of these fluids varies, ranging from a simple mixture of water and sand to more complex mixtures with a multitude of chemical additives. Some of these chemicals can have serious health effects if released into water or air. However, the 2005 Energy Policy Act does not include hydraulic fracturing regulations under the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act.¹

In the never ending search for new sources for fueling US industry and economy, the natural gas drilled through hydraulic fracturing of Marcellus Shale which runs through the Appalachian mountain range has been hailed as the new economically viable “transition fuel”. However, this new method is not without a serious controversy and concern by environmentalists and community members alike. The claims that shale gas can replace the major use of fossil fuels in the US is based on the following assumptions: that new techniques for hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling of shale, in order to supply the needs of our country for the next 100 years; that the price of natural gas, which has historically been

volatile, will remain consistently low for decades to come; and that natural gas is much cleaner and safer than other fossil fuels, from the standpoint of greenhouse gas emissions and public health.

Based on these assumptions, national energy officials at the Energy Information Administration (EIA) foresee a major expansion of natural gas in the coming decades. Natural gas is highlighted as a cornerstone of the Administration’s “Blueprint for a Secure Energy Future” with plans for converting a sizable portion of the vehicle fleet to run on natural gas.

NOT ALL IT'S FRACKED UP TO BE?²

Recent economic reports are exposing the underbelly of the Marcellus Shale “boom” and issuing serious warnings rather than positive economic news for West Virginia. A May 2011 report from the Postcarbon Institute by the respected Canadian geoscientist J. David Hughes cuts right to the heart of the matter. He suggests that the gas industry is putting all its investment into shale gas and wishing for production levels that seem unlikely, based on the history of shale wells in Arkansas and Texas. Without good performance from shale gas wells, gas production is likely to decrease by about 20% in the United States over the next 20 years, despite the Energy Information Administration’s overly optimistic predictions about gas being used as a replacement fuel for coal or oil.

West Virginia is the site of daily citizen activity around issues related to Marcellus Shale gas production — and hydraulic fracturing in particular — even as companies move ahead with drilling at great speed. Local efforts have gained steam after the 2011 Legislature failed to enact any regulations covering the controversial drilling processes and related production issues. The lengthy list of concerns include: water pollution, water usage, air emissions, ecosystem damage, human health, surface-owners’ rights, vehicle damage to roads, decreased property values and potential inability to obtain mortgages — none of which the gas industry appears to take seriously. Several major reports have recently questioned whether the promised and highly touted economic boom will even come to pass.

Three West Virginia communities have banned hydraulic fracturing within their city limits: Wellsburg, Lewisburg and Morgantown. Citizens must take action to ensure that no legislation to regulate the industry includes language allowing the state to supersede these or other community regulations. Communities must retain the right to protect their own health and welfare.

A July 11 rally in Charleston, organized by West Virginians for a Moratorium on Marcellus (WV4MoM), drew over a hundred people to the Capitol. The Department of Environmental Protections (DEP) has far too few inspectors to handle the current need for inspections, much less to continue to issue additional permits. Three additional public hearings were held at the end of July and drew astounding crowds of 1,200 people, with a sizeable majority of the speakers at all hearings calling for stronger regulation, expressing concern about surface-owners' rights, health impacts, environmental damage, air and water pollution and tanking property values.

On July 12, Acting Governor Earl Ray Tomblin instructed DEP Secretary Randy Huffman to promulgate emergency rules to regulate drilling in the Marcellus shale. The rules would require water usage plans, place additional standards on drill casings to protect against leaks and mandate engineering plans for construction and sediment controls for sites disturbing three or more acres, among other provisions. These are positive steps, but air emissions, surface-owners' rights and other concerns are not likely to be addressed until legislators firm up regulations. The emergency rules can remain in effect for only 15 months, so the legislature must continue to move ahead swiftly.

Opponents of fracking also point out that millions of gallons of West Virginia's water are being used and contaminated during every frack. Much of the water (perhaps 40 to 60 percent) is lost underground or re-injected underground for disposal. Those millions of gallons are being permanently removed from the planet's water cycle. The water belongs to the people of West Virginia, and the people should have a strong say with regard to its use.

To get involved with Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition (OHVEC) coalition work on Marcellus Shale issues, contact Carol Warren, staffer at OHVEC, at peacelovemom@gmail.com.

¹Excerpt from the 2011 Postcarbon Institute Report, "Will Natural Gas Fuel America in the 21st Century" by Canadian geoscientist J. David Hughes. Report available at <http://www.postcarbon.org>

²Excerpts from "Shale Shocked: Not All It's Fracked Up to Be" and "Gas Pains" by Carol Warren with OHVEC

³GASLAND will be broadcast on HBO through 2012. To host a public screening in your community go to www.gaslandthemovie.com.

GASLAND

Critics of the fracking process, like filmmaker Josh Fox, question the safety of the fracking process and its impact on the environment, in particular the effects on drinking water. In his HBO documentary GASLAND, the filmmaker embarks on a "cross-country odyssey uncovering a trail of secrets, lies and contamination." In a recently drilled nearby Pennsylvania town he investigates reports that residents are able to light their drinking water on fire.³



THOUGHTS FROM THE ACF CHAIR

In the following conversation between Darryl Cannady ACF Board Chair, and newsletter editor P. Catlin Fullwood, Darryl shares his thoughts and perspectives on the state of ACF and its role in funding social change in Appalachia.

PCF: Darryl, how did you first come to be involved with the Appalachian Community Fund?

DC: I had been doing work in West Virginia and I met up with Franki Patton who was on the Board of ACF. She knew that our work was tough work so she encouraged me to apply for funding and to apply for a seat on the Board of Directors.

The first time we applied for funding we were turned down, but I decided to pursue the board position anyway because I was impressed with a group that said out loud that they were funding social justice efforts. Usually, when we apply to foundations we have to couch our real work in the foundation language that doesn't recognize organizing and striving for social justice as the "real work".

PCF: What drew you to this particular fund?

DC: After finding out what ACF was all about I realized that their mission reflected my principles, "if we're going to have justice, we have to have resources across the board." ACF believes that equity requires that you fight for justice. Coal affects all Appalachian communities and people of color need to stand up for all issues related to the environment, the economy, and the health of the community. ACF makes those connections and builds activism.

PCF: What convinced you to take on the role of board chair?

DC: I've been with ACF for 11 years now, and because I've been around for such a long time and so involved, I carry part of the ACF history and it's important that there be that kind of consistency for the board. We are an activist controlled board and as people cycle off the board, some of the history is lost. It's important that we as a board understand how ACF has changed the region over time. ACF funds the small groups doing hard hitting work in the communities – groups that other funders don't know about, and probably wouldn't fund if they did. We fund them. Parity, inclusion and representation – that's the ACF legacy.

PCF: What do you consider to be the major accomplishments of ACF since you have been chair?

DC: I would say bringing other rural people into ACF and spreading the word about ACF and our social change work in the region. ACF likes the truth, because that's what they fund. And the members and the board believe in telling the truth, even when it's hard or unpopular.

It's wonderful to be coming back during this transition time. There is wonderful energy on the board and Margo is a gift as interim director. Appalachia is shifting and ACF has to stay current and this board and staff are committed to keeping their fingers on the pulse of the region.

PCF: What are the upcoming opportunities and challenges for ACF that most excite you?

DC: What most excites me is the opportunity to look at new issues that are coming up around us. I have been very concerned with the drilling of the Marcellus Shale and the devastation to the environment. Here in Wetzel County there has already been negative impact on the environment. Coal is still a critical issue for the region but the "fracking" going on under the mountains needs to be closely monitored and regulated.

I want to be sure we do good education with the board to identify issues that are under reported so that we can support the community-based groups doing the work. It is the role of ACF to go into the field and listen to the grantees, so that we can know what's really going on in our communities and in the Appalachian region where we provide funding.

PCF: What are your greatest concerns?

DC: I want ACF to become more nationally recognized as a funder in a distressed area where a small grant can make a major difference. It's important to push ACF and the region at the national level, because we are the ones on the ground who are listening to the grantee partners instead of telling them what they should be doing. Most national funders don't understand what it means to organize in rural communities. You have to educate pockets of people, and you have to go to them. You can't just call a meeting; you have to get to where the people are.

ACF is the only funding agency that has, as part of their region, a state that is totally surrounded by the Appalachian mountain range – so that mountain top removal, fracking Marcellus Shale, and gas mining in old mines are all issues of critical importance. In addition to these unique economic and environmental issues we also have to deal with HIV/AIDS, reproductive justice, education justice and all the other issues facing poor and disenfranchised people.

PCF: What would be the three words that you would use to describe ACF?

DC: I can't think of just three, but here are the words I use to describe ACF: community empowerment, regional presence, catalyst for change, non traditional, and sustainability.

PCF: If you were to describe ACF to a potential donor or grantee, what would be the three points you would want to be sure to make?

DC: ACF is there when nobody else is with support for projects as well as general operating. ACF is a driving force for social change in Appalachia – we fund change, access, equality in and for Appalachia and its people.

PCF: What was your most memorable ACF moment?

DC: I know exactly what it was – when I presented Gaye Evans with the Appalachian Angel Award. I am not much of a one for public speaking but I knew I had to overcome my fear and do this well when I truly realized the hard work ACF is doing with and for the region.



A MESSAGE FROM MARGO

The summer has flown by with many exciting activities including a rollicking and tearful farewell to our beloved Gaye, a fundraising benefit in West Virginia, a meeting of regional funding partners, and a March on Blair Mountain. But, first things first.

GAYE'S FAREWELL PARTY

Thanks to everyone who came out in May to celebrate Gaye Evans' 14 years of service here at ACF. We had a blast and a great send off for her that evening. Friends, board members and coworkers gathered at the illustrious Magnolia Café in Knoxville to toast and roast their dear friend. I didn't know that much fun could be had on a dance floor with a bunch of people and a karaoke machine. "Oh, what a night!"

CHARLESTON FOR CHANGE NOT CHARITY

On May 12, ACF and our West Virginia Host Committee held the Second Annual "Charleston for Change" fundraising event. This benefit celebrates and strengthens the work for social justice in West Virginia. A wonderful crowd from Charleston, West Virginia and the surrounding areas attended to support ACF's work in the state. Close to 100 folks attended this year's event, raising over \$5,000.

APPALACHIA FUNDERS NETWORK

In June, I found myself back in Charleston, West Virginia for a gathering of Appalachian funders. It was a group of 50 public and private grant makers representing a wide variety of community foundations, regional funders, and national institutions – all interested in funding in the region. We opened the conference with a discussion on wealth creation in rural communities, followed by an overview of federal opportunities for funding, and a report on the state of the Appalachian economy. That afternoon we attended breakout sessions on "Promising Ideas for Appalachia's Future as it relates to energy, health, and local food" and "entrepreneurship". The last day was focused on strategic thinking about ways we as grant makers can deepen our individual and collective impact across the region. Very exciting!



CHARLESTON FOR CHANGE NOT CHARITY EVENT



GAYE'S FAREWELL CELEBRATION

MARCH ON BLAIR MOUNTAIN

Immediately following the gathering, I drove to Marmet, West Virginia, the headquarters for the "Appalachia Rising: March on Blair Mountain". I was shuttled up the mountain just outside of Blair, where I joined 300 marchers on the last leg of a weeklong march to save historic Blair Mountain, end mountaintop removal, strengthen labor rights, and demand sustainable jobs for all of central Appalachia. I was immediately blown away with the number of people and how organized the event was. Amazing! I marched to our campsite and had dinner with folks from all over the region and the country for that matter. The morning after my arrival, we broke camp to prepare the site to welcome the nearly 1,000 people who participated in the rally on Saturday afternoon. There were activists, folks from the community, union representatives and musicians who spoke and motivated the crowd from the stage before we lined up single file, signs in hands, and voices lifted in song to finish the last of the 50 miles to the top of Blair Mountain. The only way I can describe the experience is surreal. I was proud to be a part of the moment and to witness it first hand. More details on the event and what is next can be found at iLoveMountains.org/Blair-Mountain and MarchOnBlairMountain.org.

Things are changing and there's a lot yet to be done. I'm happy to step up as interim executive director and see us through this transition. Thanks to Gaye's service and the support of our board, allies, and donors there is a firm foundation for anchoring our work. There is still a long road and many challenges ahead, but together...ya'll know we stand strong! Thanks to each of you for your encouragement and support! Now I'm off, got to get back to work.... "It's time to make the doughnuts!"

Peace, love, and light,
Margo Miller



TAKING BACK THE MOUNTAIN - ONE STEP AT A TIME



"THE FIGHT FOR JUSTICE IS AGELESS" KEN HECHLER, LARRY GIBSON AND JIMMIE WEEKLY

- Ken Hechler (seated) is a long time activist as well as a former Democratic Representative and Secretary of State of West Virginia.
- Larry Gibson (sporting a neon green "Keeper of the Mountain" T-shirt) lives on Kayford Mountain in WV. His families' land used to

be the lowest point on the mountain, but now, surrounded by the devastation of mountaintop renewal, it's the highest. Larry is a local legend who has been fighting mountaintop renewal for 25 years. Visit him at mountainkeeper.blogspot.com

- Jimmie Weekly is from Pigeon Roost Hollow and "participated in the original march in '99, got beat up with Ken Hechler, and sued to stop the spruce mine in Pigeon Roost."

"THE POLITICAL IS PERSONAL" ASH-LEE AND JARED HENDERSON STORY

Ash-lee and Jared have been organizing together since meeting on the 2004 Freedom Ride for Justice. The Henderson Story's are committed to cross issue organizing and believe that the fight to save Blair Mountain is an important opportunity to build movement around the intersections of human rights, labor and ecology.



"WOMEN WARRIORS" MARGO, WILMA STEELE AND BEVERLY MAY

- Wilma Steele is an art teacher in Mingo County, WV. She and her husband Terry are strong pro union and anti mountaintop removal activists working to build bridges between unions and environmentalists.



- Beverly May is a nurse practitioner in Floyd County, KY. She has been a member of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) for 28 years. In 2006 the Miller Brothers Coal Company planned to strip mine Wilson Creek starting on the hill above Beverly's garden and orchard. With help from KFTC, she organized the community to stop the strip mining. Their story was featured on PBS in 2010 in a documentary film "Deep Down".

**THOMAS AND JUDY RODD:
DONOR PARTNERS/
GRANTEE PARTNERS**



Judy and I have donated to the Appalachian Community Fund for a number of years. Now that we have been asked to “profile” our motives, I have no doubt that we are certainly going to continue those donations. Which is as it should be!

ACF does two things that we value a lot. First, ACF makes a priority of supporting programs that work on dismantling racism in Appalachia. Almost ten years ago, Judy and I began working in this area, and ACF has been a supporter of those efforts since that time.

The second thing that ACF does, that we value a great deal, is expressed in the phrase: “Change, Not Charity.” Frankly, we are sick and tired of the stereotypical image of the “poor mountain family” in need of a “holiday basket!” We prefer to celebrate the resilience and resourcefulness that real Appalachian history shows us lies in every person. ACF's slogan suggests that real power is the only real cure for poverty – and we agree 100%!

In 2006, ACF's grant support paid for a dozen West Virginia teenagers, black and white, to attend the Centennial of the Niagara Movement Meeting, at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia – the beginning of the modern civil rights movement. These young people connected with their roots in the struggle for justice, and some of them will undoubtedly go on to build a more just future. Those young people would have never had that chance, but for ACF's timely support. Judy and I are proud to have had a small part in that effort.

For us, donating to ACF is a way of saying that working for environmental and community protection goes hand-in-hand with working for human dignity and understanding. ACF's remarkable portfolio of grant recipients reflects this truth: diversity is a measure of excellence in all ecosystems, human and otherwise!

THE J.R. CLIFFORD PROJECT: LIVING HISTORY IN WEST VIRGINIA

This year the J.R. Clifford Project was the recipient of a grant from AT&T for their cultural and historical reclamation work. This project has raised the visibility of the critical role of African Americans and of the state of West Virginia by combining historical educational materials and reenactments of seminal moments and personages that comprise West Virginia's rich history. These reenactments provide opportunities for young and adult community members to be a part of the history that their forefathers and mothers risked their lives to create. This family-friendly and free event will take place on October

18, 2011 in Charleston, WV at the Charleston Civic Center's Little Theatre.

The J.R. Clifford Project was founded in 2003 by the Friends of Blackwater to ensure that the life and accomplishments of this native son would not be lost. They began by telling the story of Carrie Williams, an African American school-teacher from Tucker County, and her attorney J.R. Clifford who, in 1892, won a major civil rights case before the West Virginia Supreme Court



of Appeals, *Williams v. Board of Education*. They boldly and successfully challenged and overturned the decision of the Tucker County School Board to shorten the school year for black school children from nine to five months. This landmark civil rights victory protected the educational rights of African Americans throughout the Mountain State, and sent a clear message that such discrimination would no longer be tolerated. This case fought for the principles and practice of equal educational rights for black students, and was the precursor for the landmark 1954 decision *Brown v. the Board of Education* that ended the legal practice of segregation in education in the U.S.

In 1905, Clifford joined W.E.B. Du Bois, William Monroe Trotter and 27 black men in founding the Niagara Movement, which claimed for all African Americans “every single right that belongs to a freeborn American” and promised that “the voice of protest of ten million Americans” would “never cease to assail the ears of their fellows” until those rights were secured.

This “voice of protest” was still evident in August of 2006 in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia where the J.R. Clifford Project participated in the Centennial Anniversary of the Niagara Movement which laid the foundation for the formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP, a pivotal group in the struggle for Civil Rights.

The J. R. Clifford Project keeps history alive by developing curricular materials on this important aspect of West Virginia history, and creating a network of educators and civic leaders committed to using those materials to shed additional light on the Mountain State's rich and unique history in America's struggles for racial justice.

Since 2004, the Friends of Blackwater has sponsored community “Living History” programs about West Virginia's civil rights heritage, celebrating heroes like Clifford and Williams. These reenactments engage community members as actors in the history of their region and instill pride and a connection to social change for young people and adults alike. They have just premiered a new dramatic program about the creation of West Virginia, called “A New Home For Liberty” that tells how West Virginia's state makers – White and Black, leaders and ordinary citizens – grappled with the difficult issues of slavery and human rights. Check out this work at www.jrclifford.org.

CHANGE IS...

CHANGE IS... saying goodbye to Gaye Evans after 26 years of working in the region, and 14 years as the executive director of the Appalachian Community Fund;

CHANGE IS... celebrating Gaye and her accomplishments at her farewell bash where she declared that she is "NOT RETIRING," but moving on to new adventures and new challenges on her journey;

CHANGE IS... knowing that the commitment to social justice stays at the heart of ACF's mission and vision;

CHANGE IS... knowing that ACF is in the creative and capable hands of Margo Miller, a daughter of Appalachia, who has stepped in as interim executive director;

CHANGE IS... knowing that emerging leaders keep an organization vibrant and on the cutting edge;

CHANGE IS... having a leadership team led by Margo with the board of directors, the donors and the staff that will ensure consistency throughout;

CHANGE IS... realizing that this change is essential to the social justice we all seek.

CHANGE NOT CHARITY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 2011 – 2012 GENERAL GRANTS

The Appalachian Community Fund is a grant making resource for grass-roots organizations working to change systemic economic, racial, environmental and social inequality in Central Appalachia including Eastern Kentucky, Southwest Virginia, East Tennessee and all of West Virginia. ACF has awarded over \$5 million to

more than 300 organizations over the past 24 years.

Grant applications are now available for FY 2011-2012. Applications must be received in the ACF offices (note new address) by 5:00 pm Tuesday, November 8, 2011. Call now for the General Program Guidelines and Application (865) 523-5783 and ask for Kathy Johnson.



COFFEE FOR CHANGE WOULD YOU GIVE FOUR CUPS OF COFFEE A MONTH TO SUPPORT SOCIAL CHANGE IN APPALACHIA?

A gift of \$20 a month equals a cup of gourmet coffee a week. Please consider ways to support social justice with the Appalachian Community Fund:

Write a check today

Participate in or hold a house party for ACF

Make an automatic monthly donation that suits your budget via our secure donation page at APPALACHIANCOMMUNITYFUND.ORG

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

CONTACT
margo@appalachiancommunityfund.org
WITH YOUR IDEAS



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**BLUEGRASS
AND
BARBEQUE**
SAVE THE DATE

Celebrating and strengthening work for social justice
in Central Appalachia at the 7th Annual
Bluegrass and Barbeque New York City House Party
The Sky Lounge, 635 W 42nd Street, NYC
October 18, 2011. 7pm – 9pm.
Featuring the Reel World String Band.

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY AND RSVP ONLINE

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