

**Folk-Ways**  
and  
**Folk-Speech**  
of SOUTHERN APPALACHIA  
with Rogers Whitener

**Ghost Story**

One good story deserves another. Recently Sue Taylor Murry of Valle Crucis told of a spine-tingling experience of her youth when a gruesome monster turned out to be a valley fisherman doing a bit of illegal seining by night. Her story brought a ghostly account by Troy Edwards of Elkin of what he conceived to be a supernatural being in Carroll County, Va. He writes:



"I had walked to church one night up in Lamsburg. I had to pass a graveyard going and coming from church. There used to be a big oak tree on the bank of the road where the graveyard was.

"The saying was that someone hung a man from the limb of that giant oak. But it never bothered me. In fact, I never thought about it. I never was afraid to walk by there until I saw what I saw.

"One night I left church around 11:30 p.m. It was a 30-minute walk to the graveyard, making me time about midnight. I was alone — I lived on the other side of the graveyard only a little ways, about a 15-minute walk from the graveyard on home.

"I was walking along thinking about how happy the people were I left at church. It was a dark night and I never carried a light. I was paying no attention to where I was at. All of a sudden I had a chill to go from my head all the way down my back.

"I stopped and looked and what I saw made me feel like my hair stood straight up on my head. There in front of me was something white. It looked to be around 6-feet tall and shaped like a human being. Where its eyes should have been there was bright red things the size of eyes, but they glowed like fire coals on a dark night. So I thought someone's trying to scare me — I'll fix them.

"So I felt around and found me five good rocks. The ghost was still standing there, red eyes and all. I threw my first rock and saw it go through the white thing. I threw another at the red eyes and saw it go through them. Then I threw two more. The same thing.

"I threw my last rock through it and it still stood there, so I turned around and ran back to a neighbor's house and spent the night — I couldn't pass

that thing and go on home.

"The next morning I went to where I saw it. There was nothing white around there anywhere. I could find no tracks or anything so to my opinion it had to be a ghost.

"I am married now and have a wife and two children. So I talked my wife and family into going with me up there to the graveyard one night around 12. So we drove up there and parked about a three-minute walk from the graveyard.

"I took a powerful light that night for I wanted to make sure we could all see. I got out of the car and started walking toward the graveyard. All of a sudden my wife and I and my boy heard someone walking on gravel.

"I thought, well, we will see who this is. It sounded like a heavy person so I shined my light all around, but there was no one. But the crunching steps kept getting closer coming toward us.

"I got back in the car, turned on the headlights, and still couldn't see anything. The sound of the crunching walking-on-gravel got so close to the car I was afraid it would open the car door any minute. So we cranked up and left without seeing a soul, either with my headlights or flashlight.

"One more thing — the road was a hard surface. There was no gravel to crunch under anyone's feet.

"I only know I will never go up there by myself again because I feel there really is a ghost up there.

"Everything I have written is true. It really happened. There's no other explanation."

**Personal**

Tommy Rector of Marshall has returned home from the hospital in Durham after a series of skin grafts for serious burns. He is feeling well and would be happy to see any visitors who would like to drop by.

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EDWARDS CLEANERS, MARSHALL  
ROBERTS PHARMACY, MARSHALL

**Wildlife Group Offers Seed For Game Cover**

One of the best bargains in the state is again being offered to North Carolina's landowners and sportsmen. In order to improve wildlife populations and hunting, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission annually provides free planting materials on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications for these materials are being accepted now.

The lack of suitable food and cover in many areas is a limiting factor on small game populations. The Commission's planting materials program is designed to try to alleviate this problem.

The materials available include:

(1) — an annual seed mixture consisting of cowpeas, soybeans, millet, Egyptian wheat, and annual lespedeza. It is designed to be used in small food patches near existing cover. These patches must be replanted each year.

(2) — a permanent seed mixture composed primarily of shrub lespedeza, reseeded soybeans, and a few types of annuals. This mixture is designed to provide lasting

wildlife food supplies in odd corners of fields and other places where these plantings will not be plowed, grazed or burned.

Other types of materials are also available at certain times for special situations. Sericea lespedeza is usually available for use in field borders, turn rows, and erodible areas to provide additional cover.

Applications for the various planting materials and more information on this program may be obtained by contacting J. Michael Scruggs, Box 545, Enka, N.C. 28728, Phone: 296-7842.

Materials are bagged and delivered to applicants in time for spring planting. Planting instructions are also supplied.

**NAME CHANGE**

NEW YORK (AP) — The Putnam Publishing Group says its trade paperback division — formerly known as Paragon Books — has changed its name to Perigee Books.

Putnam says "the logo used for the Paragon titles will not change nor will the imprint's editorial program be affected."

**Health Program Is Seeking To Offer A New Service**

Michael Norins, executive director of the Hot Springs Health Program Inc., filed notice Feb. 29 of intent to establish a new institutional health service, physical therapy services, at the Hot Springs Home Health Agency.

The project proposal has been submitted to the Certificate of Need Section, Division of Facility Services, N.C. Department of Human Resources for review by planning agencies under provisions of Chapter 131, Article 18 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

The planning agencies, in examining the proposal, will seek to determine whether the project is needed, if it can be adequately staffed and operated, whether it is economically feasible within prevailing rate structures and if it proposes specific cost-containment features.

A copy of the proposal has been referred to the Western North Carolina Health Systems Agency Inc., Morganton, for review as required by state law.

**Mrs. Slagle Heads Mars Hill Eastern Star**

Mrs. Ruby Edwards Slagle of Mars Hill, was elected worthy matron of Mars Hill Chapter No. 35, Order of the Eastern Star, at a regular meeting of the Chapter held on Monday evening. Her husband, Alvin Slagle, was elected worthy patron.

Other officers elected were: Mrs. Nancy Jo Edwards, associate matron; Ervin Roberts, associate patron; Elizabeth S. Roberts, secretary; Mrs. Florence Ramsey, treasurer; Mrs. Frances Fox, conductress; and Mrs. Mae Edwards, associate conductress.

The 10 appointive officers will be announced later by the worthy matron-elect.

The Chapter new year will begin April 1.

**RELIEF PAINTINGS**

NEW YORK (AP) — "Painting in Relief," an exhibition examining the recent resurgence of relief painting, continues at the Whitney Museum of American Art through March 5.



GLENDORA CUTSHALL, who has taught school, worked in a cafeteria, in a lawyer's office and in the office of the register of deeds, in content nowadays to "mind the store." There she meets every county store selling hunting, shopping

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- GREEN GIANT... 6pk... 69¢
- CORN ON THE COB NIBBLES... 69¢
- LAMBRECHT... 12oz... 79¢
- PIZZA'S BANQUET... 8oz... 4/1.00
- POT PIES BANQUET... 2lb... 4/1.00
- FRIED CHICKEN EDWARDS... 17oz... 1/79
- PIE PIECES... 1/39
- SEALTEST... QUARTS FROZEN YOGURT... 89¢

**WESTERN... ICE BERG HEADS... LETTUCE** 3 for \$1.00 (Also Romaine, Escarole, Endive)

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**PET OWNERS SPECIALS:** 25lb FRISKIES DOG RATION... 4.49, MIGHTY DOG... 4.49, FRISKIES BUFFET... 3.89, FRISKIES DINNERS... 3.89, 4lb 5oz FRISKIES CLEAN... 2.99

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