Association of Western States Folklorists Annual Meeting
Thursday, April 25th through Saturday, April 27th, 2013
Vee Bar Guest Ranch, Laramie, Wyoming
38 Vee Bar Ranch Road | Laramie, WY 82070
Phone: 307.745.7036 or 1.800.483.3227

Thursday, April 25th

Meeting Location: Vee Bar Lodge

2:30 p.m. Welcome

2:45–5:45 p.m. "Crowdfunding Success: Old-School Storytelling Meets New-School Technology"

Kiley Kraskouskas, President and Executive Producer, Thinking Forward Media

This three-hour seminar provides an overview of crowdfunding trends, popular platforms, and strategies for building a comprehensive funding campaign for your project or organization. The workshop will focus on strategies for identifying your fundraising goal and timeline, suggestions for creative rewards, tools for backer engagement, and survival tips for the intensity of the campaign. Through case studies of successful (and failed) campaigns, the seminar will provide a clear sense of how to succeed in this new fundraising realm.

Kiley Kraskouskas is an award-winning producer and co-founder and president of Thinking Forward Media. Before launching Thinking Forward Media, she worked as a producer and business developer for two top Virginia film companies: Rock Creek Productions of Reston and Cortina Productions of McLean. She then served as producer and the principal fundraiser for the independent feature documentary, Essakane Film*. Kiley is a sought-after instructor, speaker, and consultant whose expertise includes crowdfunding, video production, and project management. Recent films for which she has consulted include: Teach me How to Sea, Coded Stories, and The Last Battlefront. Additional production and consulting clients include: The George Washington University, Daring or Nothing Productions, and the University of Maryland Small Business Development Center. Kiley serves on the board of Docs in Progress and is a longtime member of Women in Film and Video (WIFV). WIFV recently honored her with their Randy Goldman Scholarship, which provided tuition to the Maine Media Institute for the course "Writing and Developing the Documentary." She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and political science*

from the University of Denver and a master's degree in sociology from New York University.

6:00 p.m. Dinner sponsored by WESTAF
Welcome and Introductions: WESTAF

8:00 p.m. An Evening of Entertainment at Vee Bar Guest Ranch
Kari and Brent Kilmer

The Vee Bar Guest Ranch, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was formerly a stage coach stop, the Filmore Post Office, and the hub of Centennial Valley. In more recent years, the Vee Bar has operated as a guest ranch, a government training school for boys from low-income families, and a buffalo ranch. Today it is owned by Lefty and Kelly Cole. Recently Brent and Kari Kilmer (Kelly's daughter) have become part owners and full-time managers of the ranch. The Kilmers have managed the Vee Bar for the last seven years. Brent grew up on a cattle and sheep ranch near Lusk, WY, and Kari grew up on a cattle ranch in the Centennial, WY, area. Both attended the University of Wyoming in Laramie, where they met. They have a two-year-old daughter, Bailey.

Friday, April 26th

Meeting Location: Vee Bar Lodge

8:30 a.m. Housekeeping

9:00 a.m.–12 Noon "Moving Toward a Sustainable Future"

Facilitators from JVA Consulting, Angie White and Julia Alvarez, will present a workshop on "Moving Toward a Sustainable Future." Objectives of this workshop include building community and laying the foundation for organizational sustainability; learning practical strategies for developing a philosophy of change, facilitating successful succession planning, and ensuring organizational sustainability; creating an organizational vision that inspires a shared understanding of the future of AWSF in all members; identifying the "big questions" facing AWSF and the field of public folklore in the next five years; and engaging in action planning to define the next steps to move post-conference planning work forward.

Angie White, Ph.D., Research and Communication Associate, JVA Consulting, LLC

Angie White is a consultant and communication expert with a passion for organizational development, community building and social change. In her role at JVA, Angie draws upon her background as an award-winning teacher and researcher to work directly with group leaders to build organizational and individual capacity, foster community within diverse groups, and develop innovative solutions to communication problems. Before joining JVA, Angie trained teachers in best practices in adult learning, worked as a speech consultant, and taught over 1,000 undergraduate students in subjects such as public speaking, interpersonal communication, group development and cross-class community building, receiving seven distinct honors for her teaching. Angie holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in applied communication from the University of Colorado Boulder and a B.A. in rhetoric and communication from the University of Richmond. She is a longtime volunteer and advocate for a number of local and international nonprofits, including the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless, the Circles Campaign to End Poverty, WorkLife Partnership, and two international NGOs that design empowering educational programs to foster gender equity in rural Laos and Thailand. Outside of work, Angie loves getting into the mountains to hike, camp and ski whenever possible.

Julia Alvarez, M.A., National Training Director, JVA Consulting, LLC

Julia is a training and organizational capacity building expert with nearly 10 years of experience in curriculum design, facilitation and multi-modal education to help individuals and organizations become sustainable and achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness. In addition to facilitating trainings, Julia is responsible for the strategic growth, strengthening and expansion of JVA's training program, including public workshops, webinars, intensive training programs and workshops. Julia has a B.A. in international studies from Kenyon College and an M.A. in international peace studies from the United Nations-mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica. Before joining the team at JVA, Julia worked as a facilitator with an AmeriCorps program, designing and facilitating conflict resolution and leadership training, and as a leadership development trainer for a national training company working with high-performing youth throughout the United States. Julia also has experience with qualitative data collection, analysis and reporting; and grant writing, raising over $1 million for her clients in 2012. In addition to her social change work at JVA, Julia is a tutor through the Bridge Project at the Quigg-Newton affordable housing project in Northwest Denver and is on the board of directors of Edge of Seven, a Denver-based international community development organization working to advance girls' education globally.

12 Noon–2:00 p.m. Lunch at Vee Bar ($12.50 cost, may be added to lodging bill)

2:00–4:00 p.m. Media Presentations

Each year, AWSFers are invited to share their newest media projects and ideas. If you would like to participate, please bring audio, video, web or other media to share with the group. A laptop, speakers, a projector, and screen will be provided. Please note that Vee Bar Guest Ranch does not have strong internet access or reliable cell phone service, so you will need to download all web-based files to a drive prior to your arrival. Snacks will be provided.

4:00–4:15 p.m. Break

4:15–5:30 p.m. Discussion about Our Standard Models: Apprenticeships
Facilitator: Maria Carmen Gambliel, Director, Folk and Traditional Arts, Idaho Commission on the Arts

For almost 30 years, state arts councils have offered Folk Art Apprenticeship grants. With changing demographics, inconsistent interest, and fluctuating funding, is this flagship grant program still relevant to the constituents we serve? Are there other ways to fund/support/strengthen the passing along of traditional skills? How can non-granting agencies be involved?

5:30–7:30 p.m. Dinner on your own

Location: The John Wayne Saloon, next to the Lodge.

7:30 p.m. Looking West, a Conversation with John Dorst.
We will be reading (ahead of time) and discussing chapter 6 from John's book *Looking West*. Below is a link to a PDF of both the introduction and chapter 6, "Over Prison Walls," which is about the Wyoming Territorial Prison State Historic Site in Laramie.
https://www.dropbox.com/s/axhyfo6wmlk2i7u/Dorst.Looking%20West.pdf

John Dorst, folklorist, is an American Studies Professor at the University of Wyoming. His research and teaching specialties are American folklore, material and visual culture studies, and ethnographic approaches to the study of American life. His newest teaching area is food studies. Major publications include two books: The Written Suburb: An American Site, An Ethnographic Dilemma *(1989) and* Looking West *(1999), both published by University of Pennsylvania Press. The latter is an examination of visual experience in the modern American West, combining literary and ethnographic approaches to understand a distinct "way of seeing" in the literary and literal landscape of the West. Dorst is currently working on an essay*

about the "cybernetic imaginary" of folklore studies and on a long-term project that explores the craft of taxidermy as a unique form of artisanship and materiality. In 2002/03 he curated an exhibit, Framing the Wild*, for the UW Art Museum and the Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson, WY. He has been a member of the Wyoming Humanities Council, a long-time advisor to the Folk and Traditional Arts Division at the Wyoming Arts Council, and has served on the Executive Board of the American Folklore Society.*

Saturday, April 27th

Meeting Location: Vee Bar Lodge

8:30–10:00 a.m. A Regional Collaboration: River Project
Facilitator: Elaine Thatcher, Independent Folklorist, Logan, UT

At the 2012 AWSF meeting, attendees identified Rivers and Water as a potential theme for a region-wide project. A volunteer committee (Elaine Thatcher, Chris Simon, Jens Lund and Nicholas Vrooman) began to work on a proposal and potential outcomes.

10:00–10:30 a.m. WESTAF Update: Anthony Radich

10:30–10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m.–12 Noon Next Gen PechaKucha

As the economic and cultural environment for practicing public folklore has changed in recent decades, so have the work opportunities and challenges. We have asked several early- and mid-career public folklorists to speak about the variety of roles where they've found their niche, what challenges they are facing, and what they envision as the future of doing meaningful folklore-infused work. Presenters include: Emily West, Michael Christensen, Nelda Ault, Sally Haueter Rampe, Steven Hatcher, and Tiffany Purn. Presentations will be between 7-10 minutes, with time for discussion at the end of the session.

12 Noon Lunch at Vee Bar ($12.50 cost, may be added to lodging bill)

1:30–2.30 p.m. Concluding Conversation, Plans for Next Year
Facilitator: Emily West, Program Manager, Oregon Folklife Network

2:30-7:00 p.m. Excursion to Centennial, Laramie, or the Snowy Range
Dinner on your own

7:00-10:00 p.m. Dutch Hop Dance, John Wayne Saloon

7:00 p.m. Introduction to Dutch Hop music and dance instruction by Stan Shilling and Marol Goodwin, Ft. Collins

Stan Shilling and Marol Goodwin are lifelong Dutch Hop dancers, enthusiasts and patrons from Ft. Collins, Colorado. They have demonstrated and performed Dutch Hop for the Library of Congress' Home Grown Concert Series and as part of the Celebrate Dutch Hop: Regional Folk Music and Dance programs in 2010 in 2011. This is sponsored in part through the TourWest grant, which is made possible by the National Endowment of the Arts, WESTAF, and the Wyoming Arts Council.

7:30-10:00 p.m. Performance by the River Boys

The River Boys are well known and beloved throughout the region. The older members played with the late Albert Fahlbusch, National Heritage Fellow for his dulcimer playing and making. The River Boys were invited to perform for the Library of Congress' Home Grown Concert Series representing Nebraska and the high plains region in Washington, DC. The four-member band (accordion, trombone, bass keyboard and hammered dulcimer) travel throughout the region to play for public dances and private receptions. This performance is sponsored in part through the TourWest grant, which is made possible by the National Endowment of the Arts, WESTAF, and the Wyoming Arts Council.

8:30 p.m. Q&A with the musicians and dancers hosted by Georgia Wier

Georgia Wier worked as the northeast regional folklorist for the Colorado Council on the Arts for 10 years ending in 2007. She began her documentation and support of Dutch Hop during that period. Georgia served as the primary fieldworker for "Dutch Hop Polka: a Tri-State Project Documenting and Presenting a Regional Tradition," a 2010-2011 project produced by the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia with NEA funding. Georgia received an MA in folklore from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a BA in Fine Arts from the University of Oregon.

Sunday, April 28th

Departure