

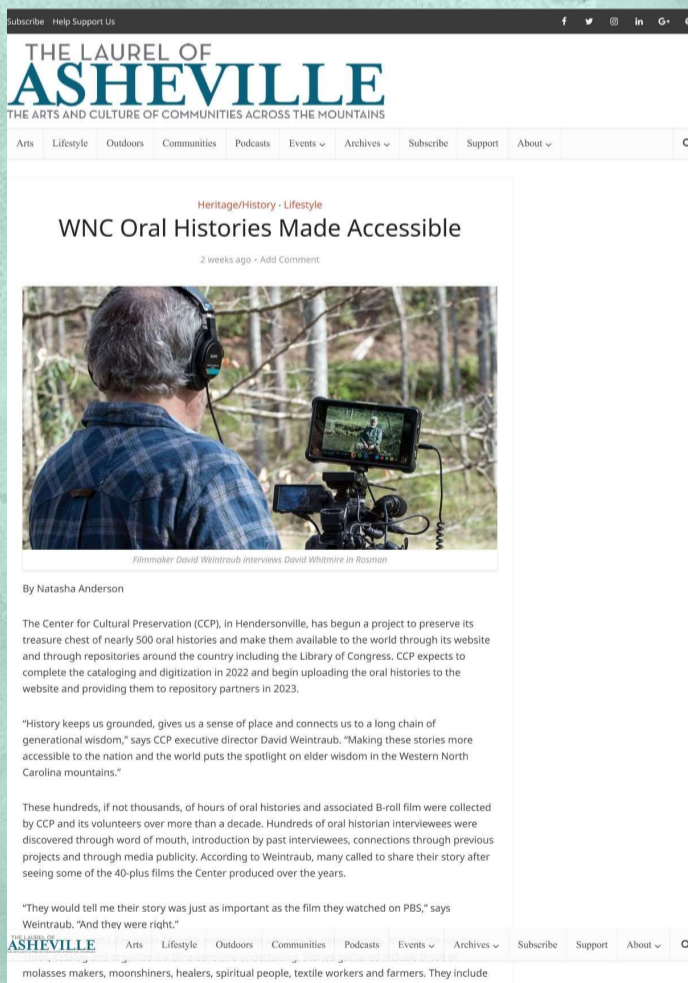


Dear Friends,

Many things are about to move forward that I wanted to let you know about.

Firstly, the Center has launched a very dear project to my heart, an **Oral History Preservation Project** that will be responsible for cataloging the hundreds of oral histories we have conducted over the years, making digital copies to hold in an outside location to insure they are protected in case of fire, etc and to create digital archives for outside repositories who have asked to help make this valuable oral history treasure chest accessible to the nation and the world. Those repositories include the **Library of Congress, UNC Chapel Hill, Florida International University, the NC State Archives, as well as several others.**

Here's a nice recent article about this effort:



Next up, we are about to starting shooting our new film about **The First Storytellers** and their stories that help us reconnect to the cultural history of this region as well as its vibrant but fragile natural heritage.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP!!

Have you ever dreamed of being involved in the production of a film? Well, now's your chance. We need production assistants, gaffers,

crews, to transcribe interviews and more. No experience is necessary for many of these positions. Please let me know how you'd like to help by contacting me [HERE](#) or by replying to this email.

COVID WISDOM

This was the title of this newsletter because despite the hardship and suffering that many of us faced including nonprofits like ours, I have also learned a lot from having to shut down public programs for over two years. It was painful, it cut our finances to our knees, but it was also freeing.

When I founded the Center a number of years back, it was based on the notion that our focus would be oral histories, filmmaking and public programs. Public programs were important because that's how so many of you learned about our work, learned to cherish Appalachian history and culture and were enthused by what the Center had to offer.

The problem was that we have one staff member, ME, who makes all of the films, does most or all of the editing, does most or all of the publicity and marketing, fundraising and administration, communications and more. I was hopeful that the Center would reach a point over time that we could afford to hire additional staff members who could run the programs, while I focused on the films.

Don't get me wrong, we have amazing volunteers who staff our events, transcribe our interviews, do camera work, help with graphic arts and more. But none of that involves the heavy lifting of organizing programs, publicizing them, lining up great performers, dealing with venues and media and communication and ticket sales and more.

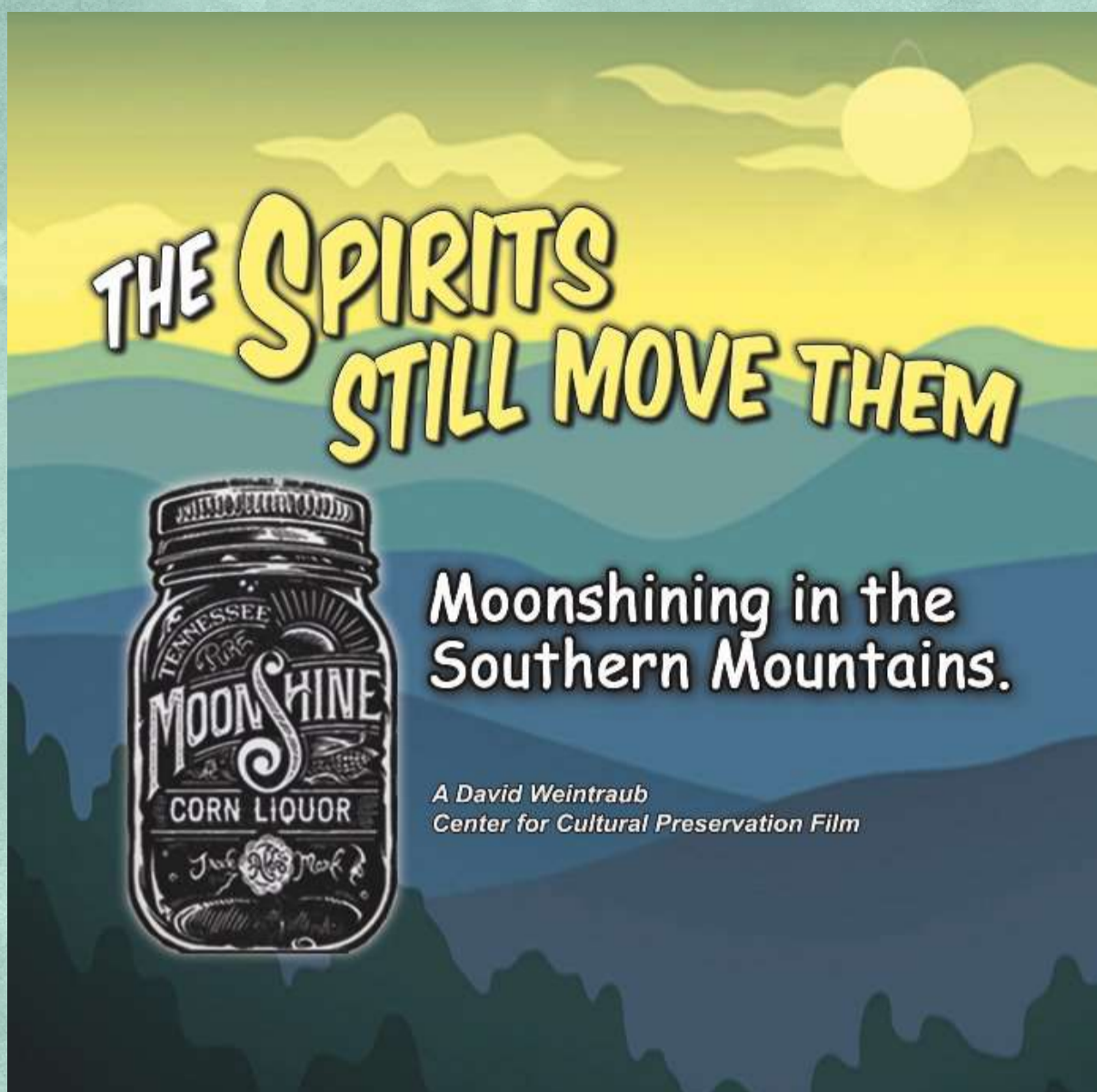
During the height of Covid when all of our programs were cancelled, I had the freedom of focusing just on the moonshine film and it made my life so much easier, the film was less expensive to create, it was less time consuming to make and I was less stressed at the end of it.

I am starting to feel my age and with that I need to be mindful of how much "I" can do. What makes the Center different than almost any other cultural organization in the country is that we are creating history by preserving history. So many myths have been uncovered, histories re-told, stories never explored before now accessible and community people's lives preserved for generations to come.

That's the heart of what we do that makes the Center special. I don't want to lose supporters who have stuck with us because of the great programs we've run and entertainment we've provided, but if it's a choice of cutting back, unfortunately it's the programs that will lose out. Even while I say this, I shall be announcing soon a concert by one of the leading traditional music performers in the country this fall. Below we've also set a date for a virtual presentation of our new film, **The Spirits Still Move Them**, on moonshine history.

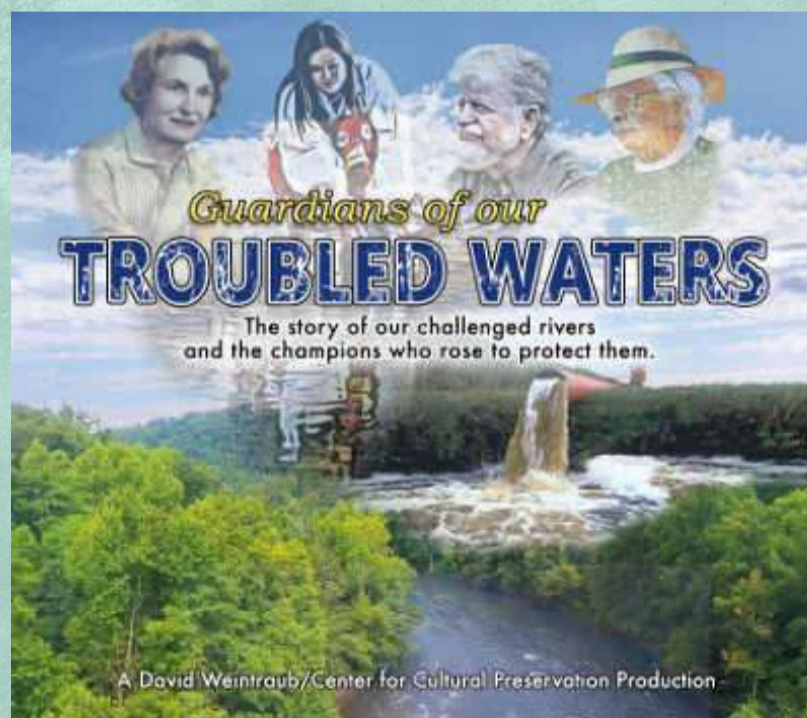
Even with the scaling back of concerts and lectures and storytelling, we still do a dozen or more film screenings and discussions with libraries, schools, private groups and cultural centers anyway.

If some qualified volunteers who are willing to take the reins of program running step forward, I will certainly consider how we can continue to run our cultural series on some level. But I wanted to be open and honest about what my thinking is right now. I would love to hear from you about this.



NEW SCREENING OF THE SPIRITS STILL MOVE THEM

The Center will be holding a virtual presentation of its new moonshine history film, **The Spirits Still Move Them** on Thursday, April 28th at 7:30 PM which will feature a screening of the film, followed by a discussion with the film director (me) and a special guest moonshiner. Tickets are now on sale [HERE](#) at \$15 a person or \$25 a household. Enjoy this screening whether you have watched this film already or not. In addition, a special DVD offer for ticket holders of this event provides you with \$5 off the DVD purchase price. If you would prefer to just buy the DVD, you can do that [HERE](#).

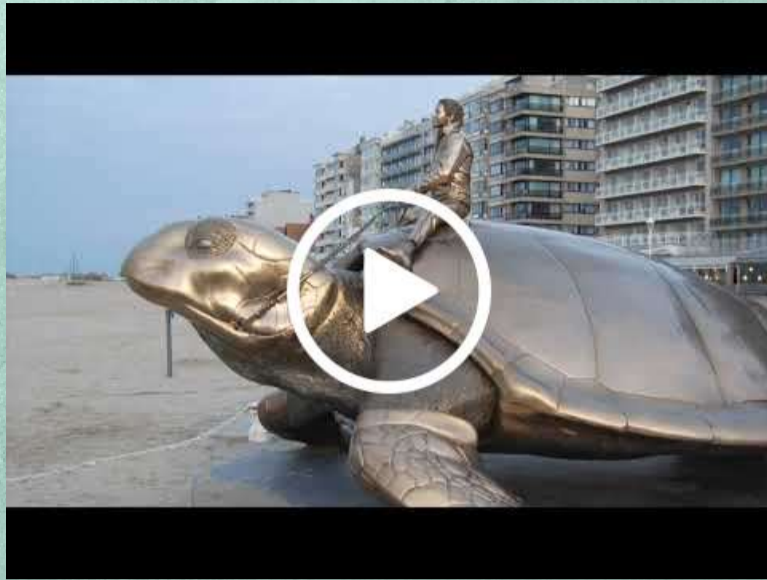


PBS stations around the country are beginning to schedule broadcasts of Guardians of Our Troubled Waters, our river heroes of the South film. PBS NC (formerly UNC-TV) currently has the following broadcast dates, with more sure to follow. You can watch the PBS version of the film on the following local NC PBS Channels:

- [Tuesday, April 12, 09:00 am on Explorer Channel](#)
- [Wednesday, April 13, 04:00 pm on Explorer Channel](#)
- [Thursday, April 14, 02:00 am on Explorer Channel](#)
- [Wednesday, April 20, 10:00 pm on North Carolina Channel](#)
- [Thursday, April 21, 03:00 am on North Carolina Channel](#)

expect dates on their PBS stations soon!

Finally, given that *Call of the Ancient Mariner*, our film on sea turtles on native culture is beginning its national PBS run, I've created some new content which you can watch here:



The Spiritual Connection Between Man and Sea Turtle



Ghana's Connection to Sea Turtles



How Sea Turtles Help Us Reconnect with Nature with J. Nichols



She Walks In Magic - The Sea Turtle Anthem

who are on this list actually are stalwart contributors to our work. If even 20% of those who appreciate our work donated, think of how much more could we do! Please become one of our supporters today by donating [HERE](#) or sending your tax deductible contribution to us at:

Center for Cultural Preservation

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Flat Rock, NC 28731-1066

Thank you sincerely and have a wonderful day.

Sincerely,

David Weintraub



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