

Editor's Introduction to Volume 4, Issue 1 International Journal of Rural Criminology

It is a struggle to single-handedly (almost) publish IJRC. The qualifier in the previous sentence is to recognize the time volunteered by those who reviewed drafts of manuscripts published in this issue, and to recognize the quality work of authors who have and will continue to submit manuscripts.

The reason for my introductory sentence, however, is not to make an excuse, but to suggest those single-handed days might be coming to an end. In early May, I received notice that the American Society of Criminology approved a Division of Rural Criminology. This means that within ASC, and hopefully beyond, there will be a more cohesive network of rural scholars, and that some of them will be interested in helping with a much more regular publication of IJRC than heretofore I have been able to achieve.

Nonetheless, my personal goal is to have both issues of volume 4 released by the time of the ASC meetings in Atlanta, plus Volume 5, Issue 1. That issue, the 9th of IJRC, will also be the journal's second special issue. The first was Volume 3, Issue 2 and its focus was agricultural crime. Volume 5, Issue 1 recognizes the volume of books of a rural criminological nature through a review of about a dozen or so recently published tomes. In other words, it is a special issue of book reviews.

In the meantime, readers will notice that references are now formatted in APA style. *Also, contributors should be aware to submit their manuscripts in APA style.* There is an excellent web source, with straightforward instructions for APA by the Purdue University Online Writing Lab. The address is:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

Volume 4, Issue 1 includes six articles on a variety of crime topics: a legal perspective on managing misconduct in hunting; a rural-urban comparison of girls' commission of violence; a test of social disorganization theory and differences in rural-urban crime rates; a historical perspective on rural crime in England; a consideration of the financial impact of registered sex offenders on home sales transactions in a mixed rural-urban county in the U.S. state of Illinois, an analysis of rural officer based on Bourdieu's concept of "habitus".

Collectively, these six articles demonstrate the diversity of possible researchable issues in rural criminology, and of the fact that a great deal of rural crime research does have, and ought always to have, a comparative framework, such as across rural and urban places, or across different kinds of rural places.

