
THE CRUMB

YOUR DAILY DOSE
from THE BREAD LOAF
WRITERS' CONFERENCE

VOL. 82

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2007

NO. 2

“Covering the sestina, since 1920.”

TODAY'S EVENTS

7:30 A.M.

Breakfast, Bread Loaf Inn

9 - 10 A.M.

Lecture: “Honoring the Ordinary,” with
Scott Russell Sanders, Little Theatre

10 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Reading period

10:30 A.M.

Computer Lab Orientation,
Apple Cellar in Library

11 A.M.

Tuition Scholar meeting, Blue Parlor

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn

1:30 - 4 P.M.

All workshops meet (see workshop
packet or inset for locations)

4:30 P.M.

Reading: Annick Smith

5:30 P.M.

Cocktail reception, Treman Lawn

6:30 P.M.

Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn

7:30 P.M.

Blue Parlor Reading organization
meeting, Blue Parlor

8:15 P.M.

Reading: James Longenbach &
David Shields

9:30 P.M.

History of Bread Loaf with David
Haward Bain, Little Theatre

10:15 P.M.

Scholar Reading, Little Theatre

WELCOME!

We hope that your journeys went smoothly and that you're settling in on the mountain. The Crumb will be available outside the dining hall every morning by breakfast time. It will keep you apprised of daily events, schedule changes, and conference news. If you'd like to submit an item, place your copy in the “Crumb” box outside the Back Office by dinnertime on the day before you'd like it to run. Please indicate what day you'd like your announcement printed. Meanwhile enjoy the first day of the conference, and we look forward to seeing you around campus!

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

Please note that these locations are for today, Thursday, August 16, only. Vans will leave from the front of the Inn at 1:15 p.m., taking participants to workshops at Earthworm and Dragon's Den.

Eavan Boland, Library Main Room

Lan Samantha Chang, Dragon's Den Living Room

Robert Cohen, Blue Parlor

Michael Collier, Frothingham

Stacey D'Erasmus, Barn Classroom 5

Percival Everett, Treman Living Room

Brigit Pegeen Kelly, Barn Classroom 4

William Kittredge, Barn Classroom 2

James Longenbach, Barn Classroom 6

Kevin McIlvoy, Barn Classroom 1

Sigrid Nunez, Upstairs in the Library (front end)

Steve Orlen, Barn Classroom A

C.E. Poverman, Upstairs in the Libaray (back end)

Scott Russell Sanders, Barn Classroom 3

Helen Schulman, Earthworm Living Room

Joanna Scott, Tamarack Living Room

Danzy Senna, Fritz Living Room

David Shields, Barn Main Room

Arthur Sze, Barn East

Natasha Trethewey, Inn West Seminar

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Go to town

Most weekdays (with the exception of today, 8/16), van trips to Middlebury leave from the Inn at 1:45 p.m. and return to Bread Loaf at 4 p.m. (Please don't be late—the driver will not wait for stragglers.) Because Monday (8/20) is a conference-wide break/Frost Farm picnic day, there will be no trip into town that day. Trips will resume on Tuesday (8/21), and continue on a daily basis through Friday (8/24). Please sign up at the front desk if you'd like to ride into town—if no one signs up, the van doesn't go.

Go wireless!

The Bread Loaf campus offers wireless Internet access in the Inn, the Library, and the Barn, and inconsistently at other locations and outdoor areas. See the front desk for tips on how to connect.

Go jump in a lake

Feeling the heat? Inquire at the front desk about local swimming holes.

Cell phone reception

FYI—Cellular phone reception is generally unavailable on the Bread Loaf campus.

Mailboxes

Please check your mailboxes at the Inn often, as it's one of the main ways for us to communicate with you.

Individual conferences

Faculty will be scheduling 30–45 minute conferences with each Bread Loaf. Since schedules are crowded, you might want to think in advance about when you are available.

Blue Parlor Organizational Meeting Tonight!

Done with the writing and ready to read? Then step into the Blue Parlor! The Blue Parlor Reading series starts tomorrow and we'll meet tonight to plan this year's readings. The Blue Parlor is Bread Loaf's very own literary salon and a terrific place to share your work outside of workshop – fiction, poetry, and nonfiction are all welcome.

We'll meet tonight in the Blue Parlor at 7:30 pm. We'll brainstorm ideas and go over reading logistics. There will be a sign-up sheet for the first reading, which is Friday at 5:30 pm. The readings are always different—from open mikes to readings themed on everything under the sun. The series is organized around our own interests, so please come tonight with plenty of ideas of possible themes for readings. There will be snacks, conversation, and a room full of exceptional writers. Hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Blue Parlor Superintendent Nina McConigley.

Chefs Jim and Hank Dazzle Judges, Win Culinary Competition

Bread Loaf's own Chef Jim Logan and Hank Stowe won gold medals at the annual Tastes of the World Chef Culinary Conference in June. The 5-day conference at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst culminates in a culinary competition with 14 teams competing for the honor. Jim and Hank, along with two other Middlebury chefs, dazzled the judges, many of them certified executive chefs, walking away with the gold.

A Note About Susan Orlean

Due to a death in the family, Susan Orlean is unable to give her reading with Annick Smith on Thursday, August 16 at 4:30, as previously announced.

Scholar Reading Tonight

Come check out the first of two scholar readings tonight at 10:15 in the Little Theatre. Readers to be announced at dinner.

Announcements, cont'd from p. 2

Workshop photos

Photographer Edward Brown will be dropping by workshops today to take group photos.

Sign up for craft classes, starting today

Sign-up sheets will be posted by 8 a.m., two days in advance of classes. Look for sheets on the bulletin board near the Blue Parlor.

Cocktail Reception

Meet your fellow Bread Loafers at a cocktail reception on the Treman Lawn at 5:30 p.m. Make sure to bring your ID if you're on the young side.

From the Front Desk

Please keep these guidelines in mind for convenience and safety:

- There is no smoking allowed inside any building on campus or anywhere near the porch of the inn.
 - We suggest you start a room list by each hall phone so buildingmates can find you if you get a call.
- Please park all cars in the Barn parking lot. The exception to this rule covers those staying at Tamarack, Gilmore, Fritz, Frothingham, Earthworm, Brandy Brook and Myrhe's Cabin, and also cars parked for less than 10 minutes for the purposes of loading and unloading.
- The nurse will be available for medical emergencies from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays.
- We sell sundry items, such as postcards, stamps, sodas and water, and small portions of undiluted laundry detergent.
 - * If you have a medical emergency between 2 and 10 p.m., call extension 2700. After 10 p.m. call extension 2713 or 2710.

Welcome, Bread Loafers, from Your Social Staff

When you're not reading, writing, or hiking, you may want to gather with newfound friends for conversation and refreshments. That's where we, your local Social Staff, come in. Throughout the conference, we are helping to organize a number of events for you—including the cocktail reception this evening, Barn Pubs, two dances, and the gala finale.

Beginning today we and our Administrative Staff colleagues will also host a series of socials in the Barn on several evenings before dinner, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (last call at 6:15!). We will serve beer and wine for two dollars per drink, as well as free soda and snacks, in a very casual setting. It's a good time to meet up with fellow writers to talk, or take a break for yourself to wind down. Keep an eye on *The Crumb* for more Barn social dates.

We hope to make the conference a fun, as well as a productive, experience, and we look forward to meeting each of you very soon.

—Scott Challener, Liz Countryman, Eugene Cross, Ru Freeman, Laura McCullough, Charles Rice-Gonzalez, Sasha West, Brandy Wilson, and Paul Yoon.

Staggered Lunch Schedule

Lunch will be served buffet style, and to avoid long lines, we urge you to follow the schedule noted here, based on your workshop schedule:

- * On days when your workshop does not meet, please go to the dining hall starting at noon.
- * On days when your workshop does meet, please go to the dining hall between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m.

Lunch service continues until 1:45 p.m. Should a line form at the dining hall door, please note that you can scoot in through the dining hall door to start at the salad bar, if you like. Today, when all workshops meet at 1:30 p.m., we ask the poets to show up at 11:30 a.m., nonfiction writers to follow on their heels (okay, come at 11:30 a.m.), and fiction writers, please hold back until noon. On this day, service will continue until 1:00 p.m.

Computer Tech's Hours at the Apple Cellar

Evan Dumouchel will be available:

Every day 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Sun, Wed, Friday 2 – 5:30 p.m.

Mon, Tues, Thurs 7 – 9 p.m.

During off hours, you can contact him via email at: edumouch@middlebury.edu

Requests from the Little Theatre Staff

1. Bells will be rung at 10 and 5 minutes prior to each lecture and reading. Please arrive on time.

2. Trash cans are located near the exits of the theater. We love it when people use them.

Thank you.

Morning Yoga

The first yoga class will take place on Friday, August 17, at 7 a.m., upstairs in the library. Classes will be offered a few times during the conference, for a \$12 fee payable to the visiting instructor.

Visitors

Join us in welcoming the following visitors to the mountain:

Carol Houck Smith

Ellen Bryant Voigt

President Emeritus of Middlebury College,

James Armstrong

Carol Armstrong

Barbara Earle

Julie Barer

Denise Roy

Martha Rhodes

Merrill Feitell

Jeffrey Shotts

Sebastian Matthews

Christopher Castellani

What I Remember the Writers Telling Me When I Was Young

Look hard at the world, they said—
generously, if you can
manage that, but hard. To see
the extraordinary data, you
have to distance yourself a
little, utterly. Learn the
right words for the umpteen kinds
of trouble that you'll see,
avoiding elevated
generics like misery,
wretchedness. And find yourself
a like spectrum of exact
terms for joy, some of them
archaic, but all useful.

Sometimes when they spoke to me I
could feel their own purposes
gathering. Language, the dark-
haired woman said once, is like
watercolor, it blots easily,
you've got to know what you're
after, and get it on quickly.
Everything gets watered
sooner or later with tears,
she said, your own or other
people's. The contrasts want to
run together and must not be
allowed to. They're what you
see with. Keep your word-board dry.

—William Meredith

Get to Know the Faculty, a Quiz

Which faculty member wrote greeting cards for Hallmark?

(The answer will be published in tomorrow's Crumb)