**Frost Farm Picnic**

The mid-conference picnic is the centerpiece of the day off. Located at Frost Farm, about 1.5 miles from the Bread Loaf Inn, the event will be followed by a talk on Robert Frost by John Elder, co-editor of the *Norton Anthology of Nature Writing*. Afterward, participants can tour Frost's summer cabin.

The picnic begins today at 12:30 p.m. While many participants take a leisurely walk down to Frost Farm, those (such as members of the Writer's Crutch team) who need a ride in a Bread Loaf van may meet in front of the Inn at 12:15 p.m. For those unable to hike the hill from the picnic area to the Frost cabin, a car will be available for a ride to the top. The picnic area includes a tent, so participants can enjoy their picnic lunches even if there's a little drizzle.

Please note: If the weather prevents us from holding this event, we’ll post new information on the front door of the dining hall today by 11:00 a.m.

To reach the Frost Farm, turn right from the Inn porch and walk .7 miles down Route 125. Turn right at the sign for Frost Road; the farm is roughly .8 miles up the road.

**Staff Readings**

Because they look like born bartenders and office divas, you might not immediately guess that our administrative staff members are talented writers as well. While normally *The Crumb* keeps the highest standard of journalistic objectivity in the nation, we abandon that today to tell you: staff readings will be astonishing.

Tonight at 9:30 p.m., the Little Theatre will be electrified by the poetry and prose of Xhenet Aliu, Kellam Ayres, Hugh Coyle, Jenny George, Jamaal May, Alicia Jo Rabins, Joshua Rivkin, and Ross White.

**Faculty, Fellows Needed**

Faculty and fellows are encouraged to sign up to serve lunch on Wednesday, August 17. Few conference traditions elicit the enthusiasm and dread of the special day when the wait staff takes a breather.

A sign-up sheet is located in the Back Office. Please sign up by 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Server training will begin at 12:30 p.m. on August 17. You’ll need to wear shoes that cover your toes.
## The Blue Parlor is Your Parlor

*A message from Harriet Clark, Blue Parlor Coordinator:*

...So come on over. Today at 5:30 p.m., the theme is Danger, but do not be afraid. The only scary thing here is the talent of our readers: Grant Bergland, Claudia Zuluaga, Dan Newman, Louise Fabiani, Robert Kaplan, Tara Betts, Deborah Golub, Christina Olivares, Rolf Yngve, and Annie Baxter. Come root them on, comfort the frightened, enjoy a cookie.

Tomorrow there is—sigh—no Blue Parlor reading but our next round of sign-up sheets will be posted at 8:00 a.m. Readings you should sign up for include Wednesday’s afternoon reading on Place, Wednesday’s late-night One Minute in Heaven reading, Thursday’s reading on Formerly Yours, and Friday’s double-header—*From the Dark Tower* in the morning and our final open reading in the afternoon. Slots become available for all of these readings tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. so tuck yourself in early tonight and wake up raring to go tomorrow. I will see you there.

## Writer’s Cramp Race

By the time many of you recover from last night’s dance, the Writer’s Cramp will be decided. The annual race, which commences at 8:00 a.m. next to the Annex, pits Bread Loafers against each other, themselves, and an inviting 2.7 mile course. Runners of all skill levels should meet by the front porch of the Annex by 7:45 a.m. Writer’s Crutch team captain Patty Anker leads a crew of hobbled Bread Loafers on a much less demanding 2.7 meter course from the Inn Lobby to the Dining Hall at 6:30 p.m.

## Community Items

### Suggestions

Bread Loafers should drink more water and *definitely take naps.* They are good for the writer’s soul.

—Jimmie Smith, Jr.

### Seen on Twitter

“‘The exclamation mark isn’t sufficient to convey my feelings about this place. I need to invent the exaltation mark.’—new friend”

—@Meagho

### From Tim Manley

I’d like to invite Bread Loafers to participate in an art installation of mine in the library right now. It’s called the Card Catalog of Reasons to be Happy. People can draw or write reasons they’re happy and file them away in the catalog, and at some point I’ll post them on the project’s website at www.100reasonstobehappy.com. It’s a painted card catalog right in that first room of the library, if you’re looking for it you can’t miss it. Spread the love, make a card.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Yo-Yo-Yo-Yo-Yoga

Sarah Rose Nordgren, tuition scholar and registered yoga teacher, will offer free, hour-long yoga classes on the top floor of the Library (back end of the building). All levels are welcome! Mats can be borrowed from the back office during business hours. Classes will be held at the following times:
- Monday, August 15, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, August 17, 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

### Revolution in Egypt

This winter the Arab world exploded in a massive show of people power and protest. Sarah Gauch, a longtime resident of Egypt, author, journalist, and Bread Loaf attendee, will share her eyewitness account of Egypt’s January 25 Revolution with a PowerPoint presentation and question-and-answer period. Please join her at 5:30 p.m. today in Barn Classroom 1.

### What Will the Neighbors Think?

Please remember that the cottages often contain sleeping people, especially at night. On nights when there’s general revelry, it’s tempting to take the conversation home with you, but please be respectful of those who need some beauty sleep.

### Make Some News

If you have news to share, drop a line in the orange box marked “Crumb” located by the back office. Please include your name so our editors can contact you with clarifying questions, if needed. Alternately, e-mail blcrumb@gmail.com.
Panel on Film Today

Faculty members Peter Ho Davies and A. Van Jordan, with guest Ted Perry, will delve into films *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* and *Nothing But a Man* in today’s panel, “A Film Scene I Wish I Had Written.”

Davies and Jordan routinely go to movies together in Ann Arbor, MI. “This is an opportunity for Bread Loafers to be privy to some of our private conversations about film,” Jordan said. “*Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* is a film most people think they know, but Peter will provide some new insights. *Nothing But a Man* is a film few people know, but it’s one of my favorite films.”

While the discussion could go in any number of directions, Jordan noted that conflict would provide a jumping-off point. “The scene I’m showing is pretty charged,” he said. The discussion, which features clips from the films, will take place at 9:15 a.m. in Barn Classroom 1.

Barn Social & Pub, Daily

Conference participants are invited to congregate in the Barn each day at 5:30 p.m. for Barn Social. In a similar vein, bartender Randy Stockwell encourages you to join him (and *The Crumb* encourages you to tip him) at Barn Pub each evening beginning at 9:30 p.m. Beer and wine are available for purchase, and complimentary soft drinks are provided.

**FOOSBALL STANDINGS:**

(Season Two)

- There are two kinds of people in this world: people who win at foosball and people who lose at foosball.
- People Who Win at Foosball 18-0, People Who Lose at Foosball 0-18.

Dance Recap

Bread Loafers congregated in the Barn until the wee hours, reveling in the sounds of the first dance of the 2011 conference. DJ Christopher Ross kept incredible tunes coming, and Bread Loafers displayed moves that could be described as both “classic rump-shaking” and “bizarrely funky.”

At the conclusion of the dance, several impromptu after-parties sprung up in unexpected locations. *Staff of The Crumb* covered as many as they could, but could not find sources willing to go on the record offering details of these after-parties.

“I live for the dance,” said fellow Ru Freeman. “The wine tasted better and better as the night went on.” Other participants expressed how happy they were that there will be another dance Friday, August 19, since they waited too long at last night’s dance to get on the dance floor.
A History of Bread Loaf’s
*From the Dark Tower Reading*

The title of this reading comes from the poem by Countée Cullen, in which he addresses the way discussions of ethnicity are often kept in the dark. He rallies for elevating such communication to a tower, whereby all can hear and benefit. In this spirit, ten years ago, writers of color at Bread Loaf began to hold readings in their rooms and over the last many years the reading has grown, with the Blue Parlor acting as host. The sign-up sheet will be posted Tuesday morning at 8:00 a.m. and all writers of color here at Bread Loaf are invited to sign up. This reading has been among the most popular at the conference and we invite everyone on the mountain to attend the reading Friday, August 19 at 10:10 a.m. in the Blue Parlor, carrying on this longstanding Bread Loaf tradition.

*From the Dark Tower*

We shall not always plant while others reap
The golden increment of bursting fruit,
Not always countenance, abject and mute,
That lesser men should hold their brothers cheap;
Not everlastingly while others sleep
Shall we beguile their limbs with mellow flute,
Not always bend to some more subtle brute;
We were not made to eternally weep.
The night whose sable breast relieves the stark,
White stars is no less lovely being dark,
And there are buds that cannot bloom at all
In light, but crumple, piteous, and fall;
So in the dark we hide the heart that bleeds,
And wait, and tend our agonizing seeds.

—Countée Cullen

**TODAY’S TRIVIA QUESTION**
Which member of the faculty is a “water witch” who is able to divine water using a branch or twig as a dowsing rod?

*(The answer will be published in tomorrow’s edition)*

**YESTERDAY’S TRIVIA ANSWER**
Fellow Robin Ekiss was a finalist in the National Cattlemens’ Beef Association “Build a Better Burger” contest. Her Thanksgiving Turkey Burger lost to a 1,200 calorie shrimp burger.