

“If we don’t give you all the news you need, you’re not paying attention.”

TODAY’S EVENTS

7:30 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.

Breakfast, Bread Loaf Inn

9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Lecture: “Sacred Flute Or a Toilet Paper Blowgun: Alternatives to Akhmatova in Mahmoud Darwish, Jean Genet, and Tomas Tranströmer,” by Tom Sleigh, Little Theatre

10:10 A.M. - 12:10 P.M.

Fiction Workshops

11:00 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.

Trail Walk: “Renga Outing,” with John Elder (*see page 2*)

12:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn

1:30 P.M.

Special Talk: “How to be a Good Public Reader of Your Own Writing,” by Patrick Donnelly, Little Theatre

2:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Craft Classes

4:15 P.M.

Reading: Arda Collins, Danielle Evans, & Jerry Gabriel, Little Theatre

5:30 P.M.

Book Signing and Reception, Treman Lawn (rain location: Barn)

6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn

8:15 P.M.

Reading: Robin Ekiss, Ted Conover, & Randall Kenan, Little Theatre

9:30 P.M.

Waiter Reading, Little Theatre

The Return of Craft Classes

Craft classes resume today after a leisurely Monday afternoon. Some classes may still have spaces available; check the sign-up sheets by the back office. Sign-up sheets for additional classes will be available at 8:00 a.m.

Failing the Art of Exposition with Richard Bausch – Barn Classroom 1

Let’s Not Mention the Bomb in the Room with Ru Freeman – Barn Classroom 5

If These Walls Could Talk ... Oh Wait, They Do with Alexi Zentner – Barn Classroom 3

The Art of Place: A Craft Workshop for Creative Nonfiction Writers with Jasmin Darznik – Barn Classroom 4

Structure: Discovering the Shape of Your Nonfiction with Cornelia Maude Spelman – Barn Classroom 6

Tadeusz Różewicz: Poetry and Antipoetry with Jennifer Grotz – Barn Classroom A

Book Signing and Reception Today

The book signing and reception will take place today on the Treman lawn at 5:30 p.m. Faculty and fellows will be available to sign copies of their books while all participants enjoy refreshments. The bookstore will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday to ensure that last-minute shoppers can get books just before the signing.

In the event of rain, the book signing and reception will be held the Barn.

Waiters Serve Up More Great Work

The second round of waiter readings takes place this evening at 9:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre. Saturday night’s reading was among the most raucous of the conference thus far, with loud whooping and vociferous applause following many of the individual readers. Tonight’s readers are Mike Scalise, Jeremy Bass, Nicholas Boggs, Nate Brown, Chip Cheek, Kendra DeColo, Emma Duffy-Comparone, Sara Elizabeth Johnson, Chaz Reetz-Laiolo, Tyler Mills, Meaghan Mulholland, Diana Nguyen, Shuchi Saraswat, Matt Socia, and Shenandoah Sowash.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RENGA OUTING WITH JOHN ELDER

If the weather is nice, the Renga Outing with John Elder will meet on the front porch of the Bread Loaf Inn. The rain location will be the Blue Parlor.

LECTURES & READINGS ON ITUNES U

The conference is posting lectures and readings to iTunes U. These audio files are available free of charge. You can also access lectures and readings from previous years. Check the conference web site for a link.

GENERAL CONTRIBUTOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Contributors having a great time on the mountain should consider applying for one of the three scholarships available for returning contributors. The Carol Houck Smith Contributor Scholarship and Donald Everett Axinn Contributor Scholarships are awarded to contributors currently attending without financial aid who wish to return to Bread Loaf in a consecutive year and who found the Conference particularly helpful in the revision and inspiration of their work. Applicants are asked to submit the work from their workshop packet, and a revision that demonstrates significant attention to what was learned at Bread Loaf. Applications are due March 1 each year.

WAITING GAME

The conference invites faculty and fellows to wait tables at lunch on Wednesday, August 17. Sign up in the Back Office by 12:00 p.m. today. Training for faculty and fellows will begin at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Headlines from the Outside World

The staff at *The Crumb* knows that Bread Loafers enjoy a certain feeling of disconnectedness while on the mountain, but we feel it's our civic responsibility to make sure you're an informed citizen when you get home. Therefore, we present the following headlines, which should catch you up on what you've missed while you've been gone.

Pawlenty Drops Out of Race (to Work on His Memoir)

Bachmann Wins Iowa Straw Poll; Straw Banned from Voting Next Year

Baseball Player Successfully Does His Job for 33rd Straight Day

Warren Buffet Says, "Tax the Rich," Purchases *Crumb*

Romney Defends "Corporations Are People," Stance on Poets Unclear

Postal Service Says Internet Killed Its Business Model; Book Publishers Say, "We Hear Ya"

Third Bridget Jones Movie Greenlighted to Further Demean Writers

Obama Administration Studies Bread Loaf Craft Classes as Model Jobs Program

Press Remains Very Interested in Will.i.am

Anthony King contributed additional reporting to this article.

Community Items

YOGA

About eight devoted yoga lovers met Sunday morning on the second floor of the Library. They wish to thank their generous instructor, Sarah Rose Nordgren, for sharing her gifts and time. Pick up a mat from the Back Office and join us for our final formal practice session, Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. If you can't make it, you can borrow a CD from the Back Office and practice on your own.

LOST SWEATER

Did you go home with a black cardigan after the Barn dance? It was chilling by itself between the ice machine and the back steps. Please bring it to the Lost & Found at the Front Desk if you have it. One of your waiters will be very, very thankful.

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Twitter user @meagho would like to clarify that Julianna Xuan Wang invented the exaltation mark.

FOOSBALL STANDINGS: All foosball games Monday were postponed due to rain (SEASON TWO) (and hangover).

VISITORS

Join us in welcoming the following visitors to the mountain:

Stephen Burt

Ted Genoways

Joseph Mazur

Matthew Power

Janet Silver

The following visitor leaves the mountain today:

Suzanne Marrs

Public Offering from Donnelly

Patrick Donnelly, director of the Advanced Seminar at The Frost Place, will offer a special talk this afternoon entitled "How to Be a Good Public Reader of Your Own Writing." Donnelly will cover the elements and skills that contribute to good poetry and prose readings. Participants will go home with strategies for dealing with nerves and tips for pleasing reading organizers and audiences. Bread Loafers should come prepared to read a short poem or passage of prose; two participants will be chosen to receive coaching, master-class style, while the audience learns from watching. The presentation will occur at 1:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre.

Essinger, Absolon Win Race

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

This U.S. Postal Service motto (often attributed to the Pony Express) best represents the spirit of the runners at the 2011 Bread Loaf Writer's Cramp Race this Monday. Heavy rain, wet roads, and sleep deprivation from the late conclusion of the previous night's Barn dance kept many Bread Loafers indoors and under blankets. But a few, a brave few, a band of ten, ran the 2.7 miles of cold and wet through the rolling embrace of Vermont countryside.

The event began on the covered porch of the Annex dorm building. At the race's start, Bread Loafers Jeff Stauch of Middlebury, Vermont (who finished second in the men's category with a final time of 19:53:72), surprised and thrilled participants by shedding his clothes to run the race in a slim Speedo-brand bathing suit. Stauch explained that since he knew he was going to get wet anyway, a swimsuit was the most logical choice (paraphrase).

After crossing the Bread Loaf campus in the first leg of the race, runners cut to the dirt and gravel of Route 59 before joining Route 125 on the way to the Frost Farmhouse. The green fields, rain-dappled trees, and a diamond yellow moose crossing sign set the stage for a fast narrative told to participants a mile at a time. A slap of the farmhouse sign marked the turning point before runners doubled back up Route 125 to the Bread Loaf Inn. First place winners Molly Absolon of Victor, Idaho (21:14:10) and Dave Essinger, of Bluffton, Ohio (18:59:37), were awarded bookstore gift certificates.

All runners were rewarded with the greatest accomplishment of a morning run: a day filled with the quiet memory of exertion echoing through their limbs. In the end, nothing stayed these racers from the completion of their appointed rounds.

submitted by Grant Bergland

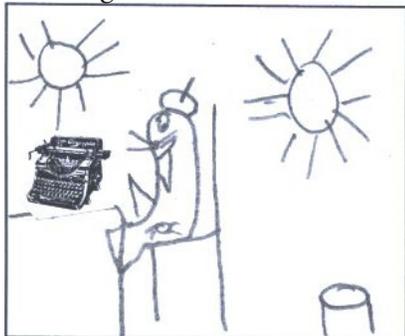
Weather Walrus



Tue: high 72°, low 52°



Wed: high 77°, low 56°



Thu: high 77°, low 59°

Sze's Workshop

Arthur Sze will be leaving the conference early due to an emergency. His workshop will meet this morning from 10:10 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. and this afternoon from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Frothingham Living Room. Frothingham is the house located next to Treman Cottage.

Advice: First Impressions

Ten things that would impress a literary agent, but one might avoid talking about on a first date:

1. I've got a blog that gets thousands of hits a day. I write about and post pictures of the haircuts of everyone I've ever dated.
2. I've lived in a tree fort for the last sixteen months.
3. Even though I am between jobs and have a stifling amount of debt, I have three completed, novel-length manuscripts.
4. I feel that I have witnessed the pit of mankind's despair.
5. The unique harmony of my medications and psychological past give me a singular view of reality.
6. I grew up in an apple cellar and did not see sunlight until my eleventh birthday.
7. The few friends I have left describe my life as a "buffet of loneliness."
8. My parents were so religious they made me build a boat on their roof because they thought a second flood was coming.
9. You say, "homeless;" I say, "camping."
10. I'm comfortable working alone for weeks at a time when I'm focused on a project.

submitted by Grant Bergland

Blue Parlor Plays Games with Your Heart

A message from Blue Parlor Coordinator Harriet Clark, who wears an awful lot of blue, in case you hadn't noticed:

Because absence makes the heart grow fonder, the Blue Parlor will host no reading this afternoon. But tomorrow we return to you with arms wide open and a double-header line-up. First, at 5:30 p.m. in the Blue Parlor, there will be a reading on the theme of Place. Then, at 10:00 p.m. in the Little Theatre, there will be a literary cyclone we call One Minute in Heaven. In a reading that lasts no longer than an hour, how do fifty Bread Loafers manage to each get their time in the spotlight? You'll have to be there to see how it's done.

If you'd like to read this Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, sign-up sheets are already posted on the Blue Parlor bulletin board and will be available until 4:00 p.m. today. Slots fill quickly so try to sign up as early in the day as you can. Wednesday's afternoon reading is on Place, Thursday's theme is Formerly Yours, and Friday offers another double-header with *From the Dark Tower* at 10:10 a.m. and our final open reading at 5:30 p.m. So sign up, come on out, see what all the buzz is about. With only a few days left of the conference, there's no reason to play hard to get.

TODAY'S TRIVIA QUESTION

The owner of this minivan, which currently occupies the most choice spot in the entire parking lot, has offered us several textual clues to her identity. Which fellow is this?

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



YESTERDAY'S TRIVIA ANSWER

Ellen Bryant Voigt is a "water witch," able to use a Y-shaped twig to find water below ground.