“We report the news the way faculty and fellows serve lunch.”

**TODAY’S EVENTS**

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.</td>
<td>Breakfast, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Lecture: “Telling Time,” by Linda Gregerson, Little Theatre</td>
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<td>10:10 A.M. - 12:10 P.M.</td>
<td>Fiction Workshops</td>
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<td>12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<td>1:30 P.M.</td>
<td>• Blue Parlor Reading Series, Blue Parlor</td>
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<td>• Talk Featuring Editors of Poetry and Poetry Daily, Barn Classroom 1</td>
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<td>2:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Craft Classes</td>
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<td>4:15 P.M.</td>
<td>Reading: Troy Jollimore, Claire Vaye Watkins, &amp; Jay Parini, Little Theatre</td>
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<td>5:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Gala Reception, Treman Lawn (rain location: Barn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<td>8:15 P.M.</td>
<td>Reading: Lynn Freed &amp; Patricia Hampl, Little Theatre</td>
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<td>9:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Staff Reading, Little Theatre</td>
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**Gala Event at Treman Today**

Each year, the conference celebrates the hard work and dedication to craft of its attendees with a gala reception at 5:30 p.m. on the Treman lawn. This gala reception is one of the best-attended events of the conference, with many participants dressing up to enjoy complimentary drinks and hors d’oeuvres. The event will feature a hay ride around the field behind Treman.

Assistant Director Jennifer Grotz was effusive in her praise of the hay ride. “It just isn’t Bread Loaf without the hay ride,” she said. “You thought it just wasn’t Bread Loaf without the dance, and then you thought it just wasn’t Bread Loaf without the pig roast, but seriously, it’s just not Bread Loaf without the hay ride. That’s right, it just isn’t Bread Loaf until you sit on a bale of hay with your favorite writer. Bread loaves are just too mushy.”

Matthew Olzmann and Sonya Larson, heads of social staff, promised to reveal a new bloody mary recipe that has been in beta testing for several days. Conference-goers are reminded that they should bring ID if they appear to be under thirty and wish to be served an alcoholic beverage. If you’re over thirty and are asked for identification, that’s nice, isn’t it? So be prepared.

Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m., following the event, in the Dining Hall.

**Craft Classes: The Final Chapter**

Thursday is the final day of craft classes, with many Bread Loafers bemoaning that they have to end so soon. Handouts for some classes are available on the table outside the Back Office. Visit the sign-up sheets to secure yourself a space in one of these fine classes:

- *The Art of Fiction for Nonfiction, with Deni Béchard – Barn Classroom 3*
- *Objective Correlative, with Christopher Castellani – Barn Classroom 1*
- *Poetic Movement: Navigating Associative Leaps and Turns, with Gary Jackson – Barn Classroom A*
- *First Lines, with Melinda Moustakis – Barn Classroom 2*
- *Poems in Conversation with Each Other, with Jo Sarzotti – Barn Classroom 4*
- *The Point of Departure, with Danzy Senna – Barn Classroom 5*
- *Poetics by Letter, with Orlando White – Barn Classroom 6*
ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU CAN GO HOME AGAIN... REALLY, YOU HAVE TO
Saturday departure schedule will be posted by the front desk after dinner on Thursday. If you have not yet made your reservation with Middlebury Transit, be sure to call them by noon today at 1-800-388-1002.

PICK UP BOOKS ON CONSIGNMENT
The bookstore is not open Saturday. If you have books on consignment, please pick them up by Friday at 5:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE FEEDBACK FORMS
Please check your mailbox for a conference feedback form. Take a few minutes before you leave the mountain to let us know about your experience at the conference. We go over feedback forms carefully to see how things went and consider changes for the future. An envelope is posted outside the Back Office for completed forms.

BOOKSTORE CLOSING EARLY TODAY
The bookstore will close at 4:30 p.m. this afternoon. Make sure that you get your book fix before the 4:15 p.m. reading.

SHARE A RIDE
Bread Loafers willing to share a ride—to the airport or to a far-flung destination—should leave their names on the carpooling sheet posted outside the Dining Hall. Those looking for a ride will contact you.

The Blue Parlor: The Perfect Place to Take Your Post-Lunch To-Go Coffee
by Harriet Clark

Today the Parlor aims to satisfy once again with our post-lunch reading on Place at 1:30 p.m. Come on out to hear Mary Moloney, Gail Kenna, Lisa Fay Coutley, Ellen Devlin, Cynthia Hughes, Nancy Hawkins, Brian Beard, Kristin Sherman, Eliza Gilmore, and Emily Weinstein. Because everyone knows it’s more fun to digest with friends and readings and cookies.

And be sure to check out our grand finale double-header tomorrow, beginning with From the Dark Tower at 10:10 a.m. in the Blue Parlor and then, at 5:30 p.m. in the Little Theater, the literary free-for-all known as One Minute in Heaven. For those of you participating in this event, please try to arrive at the Little Theater no later than 5:15 p.m. so that we can organize ourselves before the cheering masses arrive.

Only three Parlors left; don’t stop now!

Second Staff Reading Tonight, Possibly Too Hot to Handle

Bread Loaf, the Little Theatre got so hot during Tuesday night’s staff reading that some observers thought it could catch fire. Will the Little Theatre be able to survive a second round of that kind of heat? We hope so, but tonight at 9:30 p.m. you’ll have to be on site to see if readers Kellam Ayres, Nate Brown, Brittany Cavallaro, Chip Cheek, Harriet Clark, Kaitlyn Greenidge, Sonya Larson, Joshua Rivkin, and Ross White burn the place down.

Community Items

FLASH MOB READING FRIDAY IN LAUNDROMAT; OR, IN BETWEEN LOADS: 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.
Didn’t get a chance to read in the Blue Parlor? Come to the Laundromat and get your five minutes on! No sign-up, just show up at 8:00 a.m. Friday. Readers will be first-come, first-served.

—Gerard Cabrera

TWITTER DIRECTORY
Saturday’s issue of The Crumb will include a Twitter directory. If you would like to have your Twitter username included so people can follow you, please drop a note in our orange box outside the Back Office with your real name and username.
News and Notes (as Noticed by the Waiters)

Editor’s note: Participants throughout the conference often wonder what life is like for the waiters. This list, which was submitted by the waiters this morning, gives us a first-hand look at what they consider noteworthy.

In addition to dignitaries leaving the mountain, Tom Earles has finished his laundry.

Solmaz Sharif has left the Apple Cellar, where she was working on a draft.

Zac Gall has cleaned his glasses; results unclear.

Mike Copperman has taken off his blazer. He is now leaning on the stove.

Cara Blue Adams thought she had overslept, but she hadn’t.

Cara Blue Adams thought she was wearing mismatched socks, but she wasn’t.

Someone puked in the toilet, shower, and sink. Bread Loaf staff has no leads.

Someone turned the lights on at the afterparty, but it was too bright so they turned them off.

During dinner, Steven Kleinman said that bussing tables is like a sunflower. Also, other things are like sunflowers.

Pounds Listening to Bread Loaf from Afghanistan

by Katherine Branch

Ian Pounds, long-time Bread Loaf staffer, who has been working in an orphanage in Afghanistan for close to four years, emailed to say that he has been able to keep up with this year’s Bread Loaf readings on the mountain by listening to iTunes. “One thing about Bread Loaf that is integral is a mythology springs from the alchemy of this fabricated gathering of strangers from all corners of the world. We make our stories, and this lends meaning,” says Pounds. “That is the gift of imagination Mr. Sanders lectured about... I will listen to your mythology as it unfolds, here in the heart of Asia.”

Ian works at The Afghan Child Education and Care Organization (www.afceco.org), an Afghan non-profit organization based in Kabul. Recognized internationally, AFCECO has been featured on NBC’s Nightly News as well as the Today Show. This past winter, Ian, along with an Afghan chaperone, brought six Afghan children to the United States, rented a camper bus, and drove the children from New Hampshire to Florida to California and back, telling Americans about their lives in Afghanistan and raising funds for the orphanage. Their adventures and encounters with America are movingly chronicled on Ian’s blog: http://www.afceco.org/index.php/blog

Ian recently received a $25,000 grant from Google to take three Afghan children to France, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and the U.K. in January and February 2013.
Waiting tables at Bread Loaf isn’t as easy you might think. Waiter Steven Kleinman created comment cards for Wednesday’s lunch, and collects some of your reviews below.

Percival Everett:
Waiter insisted on speaking in a French accent. He sneered at our order. He was haughty, sarcastic, took his time. He at one point asked us to remove our children—”your little hellions”—outside.

Jennifer Grotz:
Grotz first questioned my order, then accused me of not needing the calories as she ripped away my plate. Very rude. I’d go so far as to say she’s an impudent waitron.

Ann Hood:
I was a little disconcerted when Ann Hood started pointing to the front and rear exits of the cafeteria and started to tell us how to use the air masks.

Deni Béchard:
There was a hair on my quiche but it was Deni’s, so I didn’t mind. Also, he asked our table to choose “between the man quiche and the lady quiche.”

Michael Collier:
Michael Collier was doing a lot of work out there. We were saying it was a Matt Hartian effort.

Helena María Viramontes:
I wish she had given our table more food that she hadn’t yet touched. Also she refused to make eye contact with me.

Lan Samantha Chang:
If Lan Samantha Chang was supposed to be my waiter it’s news to me.

Note: this comment was written by her daughter.

David Baker:
While he was happy enough to serve us, I found his constant harping on the usual wait staff a bit much.

Justin Torres:
Justin Torres’s service was amazing except that he wouldn’t stop talking in first person plural.

Natasha Trethewey:
Good thing she’s such a good Librarian.

Katherine Branch:
Killing it all lunch long.

From the 2012 waiters:
Do you think Carl Phillips would publish me?
Collier, Other Faculty Implicated in Olympic Scandal; Phillips Assumes BLOC Duties

The 2012 Bread Loaf Olympic games suffered a massive setback Thursday when Michael Collier was revealed to be the ringleader of a group of faculty supplying PEDs, or Prose-Enhancing Devices. Collier, who vehemently denounced the use of such devices in Olympic competition after substance scandals in 2000 and 2008, was photographed by reporters from The Crumb distributing these devices to a group of faculty, including Peter Ho Davies, Ann Hood, and Brad Watson. When confronted, all involved faculty admitted to distributing the PEDs in clandestine individual conferences and even in workshop. “I have been encouraging my students to experiment with metaphor for years,” said Davies. “So when Michael gave me the opportunity to enhance these writers’ prose with substance, of course I took it.”

Collier was immediately relieved of his duties as Bread Loaf Olympic Committee chairman by the International Olympic Committee, which governs the BLOC. A few hours later, Carl Phillips was promoted from his head waiter position to chairman, the swiftest rise to power in BLOC history. “A terse but thorough investigation by the IOC indicates that the distribution of prose-enhancing devices was almost ubiquitous among the faculty and even the fellows of Bread Loaf,” said spokesman Nate Brown. “Phillips was the only faculty member whose reputation was unquestioned. We are thrilled that in addition to his many other duties at Bread Loaf, he was willing to accept this position.”

Collier vowed immediate retribution, said those close to him. “He blames The Crumb for his dismissal,” said one source, who did not wish to be named. “He had a vendetta against the editor already, and this has just made it worse. He’s looking to get even.”

Several Olympic events were canceled Thursday, including Fastest Awkward Moment in Workshop and Free Indirect Discourse (Mixed).