TODAY’S EVENTS

7:30 A.M.- 8:30 A.M.
Breakfast, Bread Loaf Inn

9:00 - 10:00 A.M.
Lecture: “The Medium of the English Language,” by James Longenbach, Little Theatre

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

10:10 A.M.
Special Talk: Patrick Donnelly, “How to be a Good Public Reader of Your Own Writing,” Little Theatre

12:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.
Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn

2:30 P.M.
Craft Classes

4:15 P.M.
Reading: Carlene Bauer, Elyssa East, Brian Russell & Ben Stroud, Little Theatre

5:30 P.M.
• Blue Parlor Reading Series, Open Reading, Blue Parlor
• Special Talk: H. Emerson Blake on Orion magazine, Barn A

6:30 P.M.
Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn

8:15 P.M.
Reading: Stacey D’Erasmo & Alan Shapiro, Little Theatre

9:30 P.M.
• Waiter Reading, Little Theatre

A Whole New Class of Craft Classes

After two days of sign-up sheets and intense anticipation, Bread Loafers can breathe a sigh of relief, as craft classes begin today. These hour-long sessions provide faculty, fellows, and guests the opportunity to explore a topic of interest in an intimate setting. To ensure that intimacy, classes are limited to 25 participants.

Writing What You Know: Which is Literature, with Antonya Nelson
– Barn Classroom 1

Nothing Can Happen Nowhere, with Will Boast – Barn Classroom 3

The First Page, with Anthony Marra – Barn Classroom 5

Too True, with Ted Conover – Barn Classroom 2

How to Avoid Perpetrating Low-Stakes Musings in Poetry, or, Why Did You Ask for My Attention in The First Place? with Patrick Donnelly – Barn Classroom 6

From Conception to Reception: The Biography of Three Poetry Collections, with Gabriel Fried – Barn classroom A

Archaeology of the Poem, with Emilia Phillips – Barn Classroom 4

Sign-up sheets for craft classes are posted by 8:00 a.m. two days in advance of the class. Spaces have been filling quickly, so if there’s a craft class you want to take, be make sure you sign up in advance.

Fiction Workshop Locations

Charles Baxter- Barn Classroom 1
Robert Boswell- Upstairs in Library (back end of building)
Michael Byers- Upstairs in Library (front end of building)
Christopher Castellani- Barn Classroom 6
Vikram Chandra- Barn Classroom A
Stacey D’Erasmo- Barn Classroom 4
Randall Kenan- Barn Classroom 5
Antonya Nelson- Barn Classroom 2
Joanna Scott- Barn Classroom 3
Helena Maria Viramontes- Inn West Seminar
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLUE PARLOR SIGN UP
Blue Parlor Reading sign-up sheets open tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. sharp for the Travel and Place Reading on Monday at 5:30 p.m. and the Poetry Parlor Reading on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.

PLANNING AHEAD
Carpooling
A carpool list will be posted near the dining hall door on Sunday, August 18. If you are willing to take passengers along when you leave the mountain next week, please note your information on the list (name, e-mail, destination, number of spots available in your car). If you are looking for a ride, please get in touch with the driver directly by leaving a note for the person at the front desk or by sending an e-mail.

Middlebury Transit
A schedule of Middlebury Transit departure taxis will be posted near the Front Desk of the Bread Loaf Inn toward the end of the conference. If you have any questions in the meantime or still need to make your departure taxi arrangements, please contact Middlebury Transit directly (1-800-388-1002).

Please keep in mind that the large number of people who need to leave will make departure times early and somewhat inflexible. Due to the number of travelers, we cannot post individual travel requests in the “Community Items” in The Crumb.

WANTED: NONFICTION CHRONICLER
The Crumb is looking for nonfiction writers.

Donnelly Survives Fiction Writers, Turns to Poets and Nonfiction Writers

Just one day after turning Bread Loaf fiction writers into stronger public readers of their own work, Patrick Donnelly, author of The Charge and Nocturnes of the Brothel of Ruin, aims to do the same for poets and nonfiction writers. Donnelly will offer a special talk entitled “How to Be a Good Public Reader of Your Own Writing” at 10:10 a.m. in the Little Theatre. The talk, which is aimed at poets and nonfiction writers, will provide strategies for dealing with nerves and tips for pleasing reading organizers and audiences.

Donnelly noted that participants should come prepared to read a short poem or passage. If time allows, two participants will be chosen to receive coaching, master-class style, while the audience learns from watching.

Waiter Reading Tonight

Tonight at 9:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre, the first of two waiter readings will give Conference participants a chance to hear fiction, poetry, and nonfiction by this year’s waiters. These special readings are often the most raucous of the Conference. “The quality of these waiters’ work is rivaled only by the speed with which they can pour you coffee,” said head waiter Nicholas Boggs. Celia Bell, Bryan Castille, Jessamine Chan, Lydia Conklin, Jaquira Díaz, Alexander Lumans, Casey Quinn, Julia Yost, Jesse Donaldson, Nina Emery, Lauren Johnson, Mario Ariza, Conor Burke, Kai Carlson-Wee, Jonterri Gadson, Keith Leonard, Elizabeth Lyons, Sally Wen Mao, Nathan, McClain, Michelle Penaloza, Margaret Ross, Brian Simoneau and Keith Wilson will read their work.

VISITORS

Join us in welcoming the following visitors to the mountain:
Sven Birkerts,
Amy Holman
Adeena Reitberger

The following visitors have left the mountain:
Ross White
Diane Boller
Frank Bidart
Liz Van Hoose
Blue Parlor Reading Series is Up and Running!

by Mario Zambrano

Hooray for all the readers who read yesterday in the Blue Parlor! It was a great line-up, and the turnout was incredible. Let’s keep it up for the rest of the Conference and continue to show our support to our fellow poets and writers.

Yesterday by 8:12 a.m. all of the sign-up sheets for readings that go until Sunday were filled—amazing! But if you didn’t get a chance to sign-up, don’t worry. There’s no need to get blue (though you can wear something blue when it’s your turn to read). You have a second chance tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. sharp and a third chance on Monday morning at 8:00 a.m. to sign-up for readings. Tomorrow there will be sign-up sheets for the 5:30 p.m. reading on Monday, which will be a Travel and Place Reading, and the 11:00 a.m. Poetry Parlor Reading on Tuesday. So, poets and travelers, sharpen your pencils and get ready to rise and shine—the early bird gets the mic.

I’m happy to announce that the other themed reading, ¡Abuelas! and Other Relatives, will be on Wednesday afternoon. The sign-up sheet for that reading will go up Monday morning.

This afternoon at 5:30 p.m. in the BP we’ll be hearing from Greg Bayer, Ophelia Celine, Laurie Uttich, Reine Melvin, Sharen Saikumar, Tiffany Briere, Blake Reemtsma, Erica Charis, Brigit Carlson, and Sarah Bates. Let’s give them a warm welcome and show them what Bread Loaf is all about—community and crammed seating.

Questions, concerns, high fives, bones to pick? Contact Blue Parlor Coordinator Mario Zambrano

Learn About Warren Wilson’s Low-Residency MFA Program

by Ross White

Faculty and graduates of the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College will gather in Barn Classroom 1 at 1:30 p.m. Prospective students are encouraged to attend to learn more about the program, which was the nation’s first low-residency program. Topics will include the format of the residency, exchanges with faculty during the semester, admissions information, and pedagogical approach. Following a short overview of the program, faculty and graduates will answer questions from Bread Loafers considering pursuing their MFA degree.
Ask Phillip

Some things, friends, are beyond words. Which is why the Crumb is happy to present the visual advice column, ASK PHILLIP. He’s a man of many expressions and one of them represents the answers you are looking for. Feel free to ask Phillip. He’s got a face that will tell you everything you need to know. Email us at askphillip@gmail.com and we’ll get you an answer straightaway.

LIKE FREE BLOODY BIRDS

By Amy Groshek

The sow disturbed his garbage cans, repeatedly, and he (already, according to Barbara, “not doing well”) went down the long slide in a manner for which “bloody” is neither expletive nor figure.

He buried the massive carcass. He bragged for a week at the bar.

Then our man went the way of his bear, by the same hand, and likely the very same rifle. This is how, in the country, we conserve, we make short work concerning ourselves and one another. To happiness, endlessly.

The violence these pronouns: the bear his, he ours, and the two starving cubs at the edge of Barbara’s yard hers. Her husband goes out with leftover chicken and dog food and the story starts again: two habituated bears. But who would do other than nurse these orphans through the season, than make them, these mouths, yours, though they will look for it again next summer, hungrier and larger?