



ASLE News

A Biannual Publication of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment

Spring 2001

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Randall Roorda, *University of Kentucky*

In this business of letters, the computer can seem the most familiar terrain. As I face mine to compose this statement, though, a glance to the side reveals an expanse I've grown as familiar with recently as with the icons of Word or the monitor's taupe rectangle. Four poster-board placards, fluorescent pink (the sale shade at Office Depot), hang taped together on my office wall. Ruled in a grid, this wall of pink is plastered with white patches: hundreds of detachable labels, each bearing a number, a name, and a title. It's imposing to consider that this platted woodpulp, this assemblage of office supplies, will exfoliate into the program for our conference in Flagstaff this summer. The term "program" is inadequate, for each label is an icon not for an operation or product, but for a creation, a realm of energy, erudition, and imagination scarcely fathomable in title-colon-subtitle descriptors. Tip of an iceberg won't suffice as a figure: more a single escarpment of a continental plate. The most assiduous conference-goer will be tantalized and challenged to strike a course through this expanse. It's been my highest honor in this business to be placed in a position to apprehend this range and make shapes of these creations.

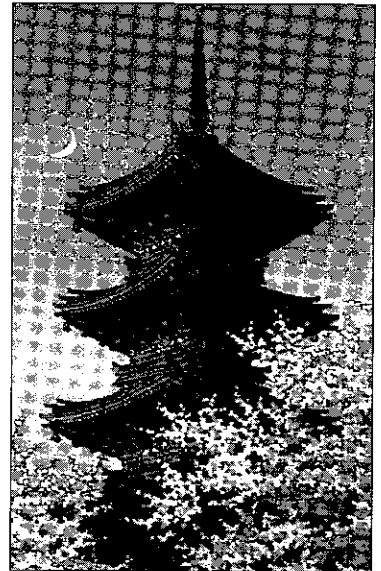
Green may be our accustomed shade, but pink is appropriate for this backdrop—pink the pacific, recommended for centers of detention. Certainly I've been cooped up with this program for a while. I haven't been alone: executive council member Kathleen Wallace read the sheaf of proposals too, then we met halfway between our homes in a conference room at Cincinnati's Union Institute provided by John Tallmadge, who organized our '97 conference in Missoula and taught me the poster-and-sticker method. Kathy and I whiled away a sunny weekend, spreading papers across thirty feet of tabletop, brainstorming ideas, resisting the urge to lump hard-to-match abstracts into omnibus sessions entitled Leftovers I and II. By the time the last labels were affixed to Big Pink, we'd succeeded in finding defensible if not always predictable places for most of what got proposed. We hope the results are sufficiently coherent to discourage rampant session-jumping.

Certainly attendees who wish to focus on particular areas will find the way smoothed. Folks enamored of the 19th century can attend sessions numbered "2" and never stray past the fin de siècle. Pedagogy sessions run across "3," post-colonial and environmental justice cluster in "4," ecocriticism and theory burrow through "8," poetry and nonfiction readings alternate at "11," and so on. Roundtables occupy the "1" spot, and we've got some fine ones: for example, the roundtable past president SueEllen Campbell is arranging with international members. I calculate that some 10% of our presenters are traveling from outside our national borders, and I

commend SueEllen for initiating this conversation on international relations within our field. Participants from the United Kingdom will hold a roundtable comparing British with North American ecocriticism as well, and Adam Sweeting is convening a session on regionalism that will pose similar questions of geographical identity for the U.S. proper. Roundtables like these will compete with myriad other offerings—at least a dozen or more in each set of concurrent sessions. Conflicts of interest are inevitable, but we've tried to avoid egregious overlaps while remaining as inclusive as possible.

The conference program reflects both shifts and continuities in our interests. There will be more said about Linda Hogan than John Muir this year, nearly as much on urban nature as on wilderness per se. Increasing numbers of us, it appears, are opting to present creative or general nonfiction, profiles of specific places and sites, research inflected by an "I"-voice. Ecocritical theory continues to advance with rigor and sophistication. Yet our touchstones in scholarship on nature writing and Romantic literatures remain: plenty on Thoreau and Wordsworth, plenty on the Fenimore Coopers, though more on the daughter. And more than ever on teaching practices and ecological literacy, as befits an organization so frankly committed to social, rhetorical ends. We are preparing our most diverse, inclusive gathering, yet without incurring anything like a rupture in our identity and concerns. There is a great range of things we are working on, but it appears we're all on the same page.

Or if not page, the same broad wall. With the program settled, I'll take down the pink placards, exposing orchids and salamanders underneath, and turn to other concerns before us. I invite you to contact me if there are questions or proposals you'd like to broach with our executive council or with the membership at large at our meeting this June. In the meantime, I invite you to look over the conference web site, linked to ASLE's web site, for particulars on our Flagstaff gathering as it now stands and continues to develop. I look forward to meeting a great number of you this summer.



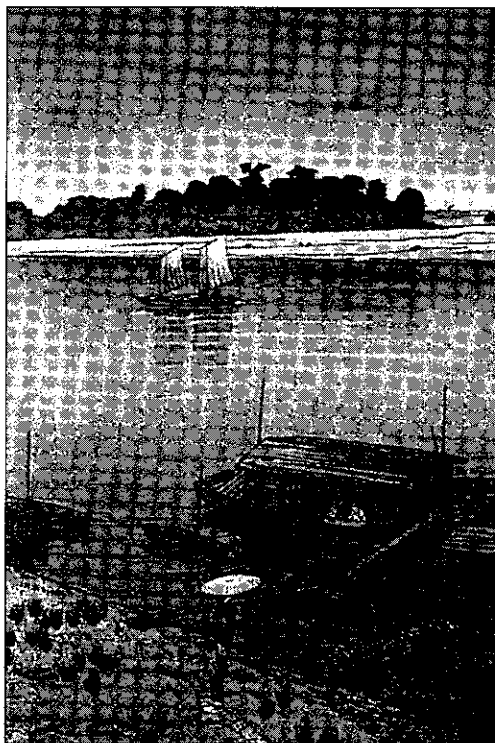


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ASLE News

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ASLE News is the biannual newsletter of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, reporting ASLE's business to and publishing letters from its membership. Items of interest, including news about conferences, forthcoming publications, and work in progress, should be sent to Ann Fisher-Wirth, English Department, The University of Mississippi, P.O. Box 1848, University, MS 38677-1848. E-mail: afwirth@olemiss.edu.

ASLE Symposium "Desert Crossings" a Great Success

"Desert Crossings," the third small symposium sponsored by ASLE, was held January 4-6, 2001, at Big Bend National Park. The meetings were held at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Barton Warnock Environmental Education Center, which is located in Lajitas, a village on the Rio Grande River, on the west edge of the park. Food and lodging for participants were available at Lajitas on the Rio Grande Resort, although a number of us at the meeting were able to "dine" across the river at Paso Lajitas, a sister village, by using the local border crossing, a rowboat, roundtrip one dollar per person. A wide variety of venues and topics made up our three days, with the literature and culture of the desert and border the focus. Although the symposium was four hours or more from the nearest airport, 45-50 ASLE members made the trek. The weather was perfect, sunny and in the 70's, a far cry from the extreme summer heat there.

The Warnock Center was also perfect, a small museum with displays, an enclosed courtyard with local flora, and two meeting rooms that met all our needs. A lot could be learned about the Chihuahuan Desert just by wandering around the Center between sessions. Some of us also made arrangements to visit the Big Bend Ranch State Park, a more primitive desert park just west of the National Park, to which access is limited. A full day, Friday, was set apart for desert activities: a birding trip guided by Big Bend expert Roland Wauer; a desert survival workshop led by David Alloway, a Parks and Wildlife naturalist and author of *Desert Survival Skills*; a tour of the National Park with local writer Sam Richardson; and rafting trips on the Rio Grande. We were outside for the full day, as we should be in the center of our meetings, without feeling guilty about skipping an academic session.

Barney Nelson had also recruited a number of other local authorities to speak about aspects of the desert and the border. We had a session on mountain lions in the Big Bend, led by Billy Pat McKinney, with Texas Parks and Wildlife, and Raymond Skiles, wildlife biologist in the National Park, as well as a panel on "The Desert as Material, Resource, and Home," including Tom Beard, a local rancher and chair of the Far West Texas Water Planning Group, Frank Deckert, Superintendent of the

National Park, John Klingeman, curator of the Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University (our host institution), and some of the people mentioned above. The panel also included Sharman Apt Russell and Susan Tweit, who had read from their books about the desert on Thursday night, and Barney Nelson, ASLE's own ranching authority and author of the recent *The Wild and the Domestic*.

In addition to the readings by Sharman and Susan Thursday evening, Roland Wauer and Ann Ronald read from their work Friday evening. Ann nobly volunteered to read when the scheduled reader, Alanna Martin, could not attend. And Ann's stepping in was even more gracious because this was probably the first official ASLE reading in a saloon, the Starlight Theater, a room you'll have to go to Big Bend to see because I cannot begin to describe it.

The more formal sessions on Thursday and Saturday covered a wide range of literary and environmental topics, focusing on the desert and the border as a special place in our literature: from Ed Abbey, Cormac McCarthy, Leslie Silko, and Cherrie Moraga to wilderness narrative, goat-walking, desert topography, and the music of the desert. Scott Slovic spoke, introducing his new anthology of southwestern environmental literature, *Getting Over the Color Green*. The exchanges were lively and informative; a good sense of community developed, including those from the area, from all over the United States, and from as far away as Norway. Several presenters were from Sul Ross, our host, and several Sul Ross graduate students acted as guides, interpreters, and hosts. As Barney Nelson said, "It's vitally important that local people are involved. An outsider's perspective is often quite different from those who live in the place being discussed." Full credit goes to her for making sure the local perspective was represented. Her hope that we would take away a more realistic understanding of the Big Bend and the Chihuahuan Desert was fully realized.

The symposium was an unqualified success. The size was perfect, the setting spectacular, and the program varied and full. After our big meeting in Flagstaff this summer, we can look forward to the next small get-togethers like this, scheduled for Oxford, Mississippi and Houston, Texas.

—Walter Isle, *Rice University*



Congratulations

Congratulations to Steven J. Holmes, winner of the seventeenth annual MLA Prize for Independent Scholars for *The Young John Muir: An Environmental Biography*.

New ASLE Vice President, Executive Council members elected

Terrell Dixon has been elected as ASLE Vice-President, and Arlene Plevin and Gioia Woods as new Executive Council members of ASLE. Thanks to everyone who ran for office, all of whom received a good number of votes.

"Coming Nearer the Ground': An ASLE Symposium on the South"



The University of Mississippi will host an ASLE Symposium on October 24-27, 2001, in Oxford, Mississippi. Oxford is located in the beautiful hill country of North Mississippi, about eighty miles south of Memphis, Tennessee (the nearest airport). It has been home to writers such as William Faulkner, Barry Hannah, Larry Brown, and John Grisham. The smallest town in America with a Division I college, Oxford maintains its historic Courthouse Square, now home to galleries and restaurants; several antebellum homes; and richly diverse residential districts surrounding the Square. A mixture of Mississippi's past and an eclectic, progressive culture, Oxford embodies many of the conflicts and issues facing the small-town South, and is presently attempting to find a balance between preservation and development. Oxford is the site of Square Books, one of the best local bookstores in the United States, and is also a music town. It has recently been compared to Athens, Georgia, for its burgeoning music scene, which includes gospel, jazz, blues, and Southern rock; Rolling Stone called Oxford the "home of the last authentic blues."

A wonderful symposium is in the planning stages. Participants will stay at the Downtown Inn one block from the Oxford Square, or, if they prefer, at the Alumni Hotel on campus. (The Square is about a mile from campus.) Evening events will include a banquet at Southside Gallery, a first-rate gallery of international, national, and Southern art

on the Square; a concert given by the University's Grammy-nominated Gospel Choir; and a poetry reading by Rodney Jones, author of several volumes of poetry, most recently the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *Elegy for the Southern Drawl*. A fiction reading is also in the works, and a walk through Bailey's Woods to Rowan Oak, William Faulkner's home. As well, Nan Johnson and Dorothy Grady, organic farmers and co-founders of the Delta Community Nutrition Consortium, will speak about their projects (inspired in Nan's case by Wendell Berry and Wes Jackson, and in Dorothy's case by growing up in the Delta) to reclaim Delta farming consciousness and farmland. And in the good old ASLE tradition, field trips will take us out on Saturday afternoon; they too are in the planning stages but will likely include exploring the Holly Springs area (both Holly Springs National Forest and the town itself with Graceland II—you gotta see it to believe it—and numerous antebellum homes) and canoeing on the Wolf River. Saturday night, anyone who wants to can make a run to the Yocona River Inn or Taylor Grocery, the latter commemorated on the back of your last ASLE Newsletter; later, the local bars will likely be showcasing some pretty fine music. Like Joe Gargery of *Great Expectations* I can only cheer, "What larks, Pip! What larks!"

We invite proposals for panels and papers on various aspects of Southern literature, culture, and environment, including but not limited to: environmental history and literature; canonical and non-canonical Southern writers; touristic and other writings about the South; nature and culture in the Old and New South; Southern poetry, fiction, and nonfiction; environmental justice; environmental racism; farming, community, domesticity; urbanization; land use; Southern wilderness; and literature and other art forms such as folk art, photography, and music. We also invite creative submissions. Papers should take no more than 15 minutes. As our symposium size and accommodations are limited, competition may be keen. Please note, too, that you must be a member of ASLE to participate in the symposium.

Please submit panel proposals (a Chair and four papers) and 250 to 300-word abstracts, or complete papers, by JUNE 15, 2001, to:

Ann Fisher-Wirth
English Department
The University of Mississippi
Post Office Box 1848
University, MS 38677-1848

(I am sorry the deadline is early but I will be out of the country for much of July and August.) For information about the symposium contact either of the co-organizers, Dixon Bynum and Ann Fisher-Wirth. A bit closer to the date we will also post information on the ASLE web site.

Dixon Bynum: e-mail hdbynum@olemiss.edu
phone: (662) 236-4677
Ann Fisher-Wirth: e-mail afwirth@olemiss.edu
phone: (662) 234-4089

We hope to see you in Oxford in October!

—Ann Fisher-Wirth, *The University of Mississippi*

Calls for Papers, Calls for Manuscripts, and Conferences and Meetings of Interest

Visit the ASLE web site at <http://asle.umn.edu> for an up-to-the-minute listing of conferences of interest and calls for papers. If you would like to announce a call for papers or a conference of interest in an upcoming issue of *ASLE News*, please contact Rochelle Johnson, Project and Professional Liaison Coordinator, at: rjohnson@albertson.edu or (208) 459-5894.

Calls for Papers

May 1, 2001. "Globalization and Nationalisms," the 2nd International Conference on Postcolonial Studies at the Universidade de Vigo, Galicia, Spain, seeks to create a space for discussion and exchange of perspectives about the diverse theoretical and critical approaches to the phenomena of globalization and nationalisms in contemporary societies. The aim is to go deep into the analysis of the manifestations and effects of these two currents with an interdisciplinary approach that encompasses the fields of culture, economy, politics, history, and the arts. The conference topic refers to the tensions existing between the contemporary system of global economy with its subsequent political and cultural neoimperialism, and the resistance put up by the identities that define themselves from local and community positions. Possible topics include but are not limited to: relationships between nationalism, multiculturalism, and globalization; revisions of the concept of the nation-state; new notions of citizenship; the new economic and cultural imperialism; feminisms and globalization/nationalisms; race, ethnicity, and global/local culture; the role of languages in the new identities; the tensions between the local and the global in literature and the arts. We invite proposals for 20-minute papers analyzing these and other related questions in any field of knowledge. Send abstracts (250-300 words, in English, Spanish, or Galician) by May 1, 2001, to: Ana Bringas and Belen Martin, II Congreso de Estudios Poscoloniais, Facultade de Filoloxia, Universidade de Vigo, E-36200 Vigo, Galicia, Spain. Telephone: +34 +(9) 86 81 23 73. Fax: +34 +(9) 86 81 23 80. E-mail: abringas@uvigo.es.

May 1, 2001. "In Transit: The Third Biennial North American Conference on Travel Writers and Travel Writing" will be held October 5-7, 2001 at Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio. The organizers of this conference welcome proposals for topics on all aspects of travel writers and travel writing. We have expanded our interests to include writers who write in languages other than English; however, all papers must be presented in English. In addition to papers on the accounts of individual travelers, we are interested in proposals that address the following themes: the future of travel writing; the position of the author in historical or contemporary travel writing; travel writing as an expression of political or religious ideology; travel writing as rediscovery of one's real or imagined homeland; pictorial and photographic representations of tourist sites; the twentieth-century documentary travelogue as a narrative genre; connections to colonialism and post-colonialism; modernism and post-modernism and travel writing;

romanticism and realism and travel writing; travel writing as autobiography; the world wide web and travel writing; travel writers and the pursuit of the picturesque/beautiful; and readings of your published or unpublished pieces of travel writing. Please send an abstract of no more than 400 words outlining a 20-minute talk. The abstract should include a title and, as appropriate, the name(s) of the writer(s) you will discuss, an outline of your approach to the topic, and something about your conclusions. For scholarly papers, list two or three important "secondary" sources that inform your talk. Include your name, affiliation, addresses (including e-mail if possible), and a phone number. Abstracts will be published at the conference web site and so should give readers a clear sense of the presentation's content. We reserve the privilege of editing your abstract. Indicate audiovisual needs. Send abstracts or panel proposals to: Donald Ross, Chair of the Program Committee, English Department, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN 55455. Email: rossj001@tc.umn.edu. E-mail submissions are encouraged.

May 10, 2001. (deadline for registration discount) "Shaping a Sustainable Future: Best Practices in Higher Education," the 2nd Nature Midwest Regional Workshop, will be held June 7-10, 2001, at the Waycross Conference Center in Morgantown, Indiana. The workshop will highlight exciting sustainability activities occurring at colleges and universities. Interdisciplinary teams will have an opportunity to share and acquire effective strategies for increasing the impact of their activities. A special focus of this workshop will be institutional transformation through sustainable design. Scheduled presenters include leaders in sustainability: William McDonough, Diane Dillon-Ridgley, and Hillary Brown. There will be opportunities to participate in roundtables, poster sessions, and networking. For information contact <http://www.secondnature.org/workshops> or e-mail workshops@secondnature.org.

May 15, 2001. "The History of the Great Lakes Region." The 26th annual Great Lakes History Conference, sponsored by Grand Valley State University, will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on November 9-10, 2001. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Robert P. Swierenga of the A.C. Van Raalte Institute, Hope College, will be our keynote speaker. We invite papers and arranged sessions in all areas of historical study; preference will be given to those that relate to the theme. If you are interested in presenting a paper, please send an abstract of approximately 200 words and a short c.v. Those interested in chairing and commenting on a session should send a c.v. and indicate areas of expertise. Please address all queries and abstracts to: Dr. Carolyn Shapiro-Shapin, Department of History, 1121 AuSable Hall, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI 49401. Email: ShapiroC@gvsu.edu. Fax: 616-895-3285. Phone: (616) 895-3445.

June 1, 2001. "Producing and Consuming Natures," a meeting of the American Society for Environmental History

will be held in Denver, Colorado from March 20-23, 2002. The conference seeks to explore the various ways humans have historically drawn nature into their lives—through working and imagining, devouring and debating, transforming and transporting it. We encourage papers on the human history of nature as symbol as well as substance, in popular culture and consumption as well as production and extraction. By framing nature as plural, we also invite topics that engage a diversity of views about what nature is or should be, within or across cultures. The program committee strongly encourages proposals for complete panels with two to three individual papers, a chair, and a commentator. Although we also welcome individual paper proposals, such proposals are more difficult to accommodate than full panels. The committee is seeking proposals from scholars across a broad range of disciplines. Interdisciplinary panels are particularly encouraged. Proposals must include five copies of the following: For panel proposals, provide a cover sheet with the title of the panel; a 250-word abstract for the panel; the title of each paper and the full name, title if applicable (e.g. professor), and affiliation (e.g. university) of each presenter; the name, title, and affiliation of the chair and commentator (it is preferable to have different individuals for chair and commentator); and the name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the contact person for the panel. For each paper proposal (including those on an organized panel), submit a 250-word abstract of the paper, and a short (two-page maximum) c.v. for each participant. Please send all five copies to: Christopher Sellers, Department of History, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794, (631) 632-7514. For more information, please contact Christopher Sellers at: csellers@notes.cc.sunysb.edu.

June 8, 2001. "Good Country/People: Steinbeck and the Environment as Frontier." Soliciting abstracts and full-length presentation papers that address the issue of John Steinbeck's use of the environment as sociocultural frontier to be presented at the Central New York Conference on Language and Literature, October 28-30, 2001. Queries welcome. Please submit 250-word abstracts or completed papers to: Donald P. Gagnon, English Department, University of South Florida, 4202 E. Fowler Ave, CPR 358, Tampa, FL 33620-5550.

June 15, 2001. "Inner and Outer Landscapes," 2nd Baltic Region Symposium on Culture and Nature, invites proposals for papers and presentations. The primary goal of the symposium is to bring together researchers from a variety of subject areas in a roundtable format for presentations on and discussion of a range of issues including, but not limited to: ecocriticism, literature, language, writing and rhetoric, ecophilosophy, ecofeminism, deep ecology, holism, environmental planning, bioregionalism, environmental politics, religion, visual arts, environmental history, tourism and travel. We particularly welcome proposals for papers and presentations of an interdisciplinary nature. Support for travel, lodging, and meals is available for post-graduate student participants from institutions within the Baltic region. One page proposals by post to: Bruce Carlson, Language Centre, P.O. Box 607, University of Tampere, FIN-33101 Tampere, Finland. Or submit your proposal by cutting and pasting it into an e-mail message (no attachments!)

with "Culture and Nature" as the subject line, to: bruce.carlson@uta.fi.

June 15, 2001. "Headwaters and Watersheds: Literary Tributaries of the West." 36th Annual Western Literature Association meeting to be held in Omaha, Nebraska from October 17-20, 2001. Rivers and the myths they inspire remain a pronounced feature in the literature of the American and Canadian West. Since pre-Columbian days, western rivers have figured in the stories that are the lifeblood of cultures. Their names alone color our collective imaginations: Rio Bravo, the Mississippi, the Mighty Mo, the Platte River Road, the Colorado, the Snake, the Columbia. Running to Hudson Bay, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Pacific, western rivers define the landscape, carving signature landmarks and marking the routes of migration, the boundaries of territories. Their waters extend life, enrich the imagination, and inflame contest. Wild or dammed, they are memorable forces in the literary tradition of the West. WLA-Omaha—meeting on the banks of the great Missouri—welcomes papers, readings, and panel proposals on all aspects of western writing, society, and culture. We particularly invite papers that relate to this year's theme. Direct inquiries and 1-2-page proposals and/or abstracts to: Susan Naramore Maher, Dept. of English, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182-0175 or email susan_maher@unomaha.edu.

August 31, 2001. "Food Representation in Literature, Film, and the Other Arts." The Second Interdisciplinary and Multicultural Conference on Food Representation in Literature, Film, and the Other Arts will be held at the University of Texas at San Antonio, from February 14-16, 2002. Two hundred-word abstracts on any aspect of the general theme and written in any of the languages taught at UTSA (English, Spanish, French, German, Russian, Italian, and Japanese) will be considered. Proposals for special panels will also be accepted. Send proposals to: Santiago Daydi-Tolson, Conference Chair, Division of Foreign Languages, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 6900 North Loop 1604 West, San Antonio, TX 78249-0644, or send email to: convivium@utsa.edu. Phone: (210) 458-4377. Fax: 210-458-5672.

Calls for Manuscripts

April 31, 2001. "Animals in Literature." *Papers on Language and Literature (PLL)* is now accepting submissions for a special issue to be published in late 2002. We are seeking essays on literature of any genre that depicts the interaction of human characters with pets, domestic animals, or wild animals. Specifically, we are looking for articles that analyze human encounters with the non-human. Human-animal interactions need not be the central issue in the texts considered. In fact, sometimes the interesting question may be why animals are brought into texts peripherally. The editors of PLL will not consider pieces that treat purely human issues through animal imagery. In other words, work on beast fables, allegories using animals, fantastic works involving talking animals, or other texts in which anthropomorphized animals are the focus will not be considered for this issue. Send submissions to: PLL Special Issue, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1434.



This grave marker at St. Peter's Cemetery in Oxford, Mississippi, is near the grave of author William Faulkner. Oxford is the site of the upcoming ASLE Symposium on the South. See page 4 for details.

June 17, 2001. Essays for "Green Tales: Reflections on Place and Self," a nonprofit book of environmental narratives inspired by the work of Mitchell Thomashow in his study "Ecological Identity." Submissions ideally will range within one of these three categories: epiphany tales of awakening to environmental identities or crises; conflict tales of struggles, challenges, crusades lost, wild spots gone; victory tales of places protected, campaigns won, nature restored. Essay submissions should be 1000-1800 words. Interested primarily in essays from western North America depicting the need for greater protection of remaining wild lands and open spaces. Submit a single tale to Derrick Knowles, EWU MS-25, Cheney, WA 99004-2430. Or send it by e-mail as an attachment, in rich text format if possible, to greentalesreflections@hotmail.com. Advances or royalties will benefit groups that protect and restore the northern Rockies.

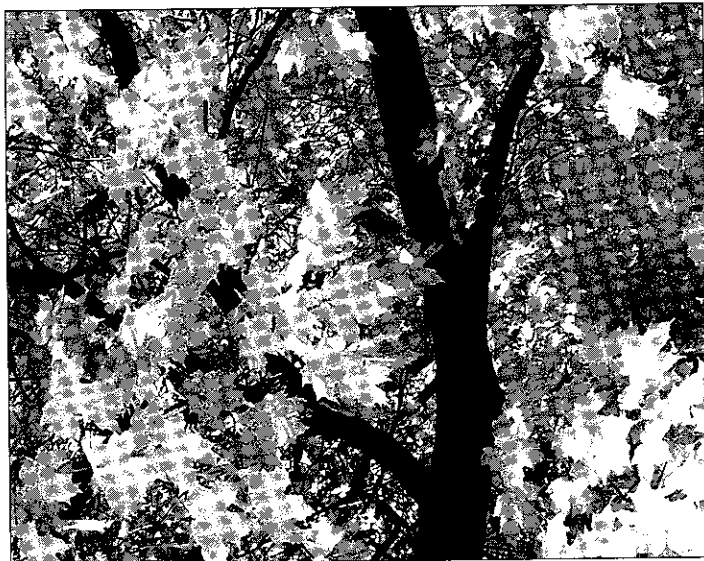
June 30, 2001. For *Climatology: Essays on Weather, Culture, and the Meteorological Imagination*, a volume of critical essays addressing those cultural spaces bordering on the meteorological, we seek proposals that explore the role of weather in culture, literature, and the arts. Weather, we assume, underpins the basic material and emotional forces that form the basis of how we live. Every region has its own weather as well as ways to represent it. Our daily conver-

sations are so often about the weather, yet discussions of the meteorological influences have received surprisingly little attention from scholars interested in the overlap of nature, culture, and environments. This volume aims to broaden conventional considerations of the weather by drawing on the insights of writers in such diverse fields as literature, geography, meteorology, history, environmental studies, and the fine arts. We particularly encourage interdisciplinary approaches, especially those that challenge the boundaries between modes of inquiry. Topics might include (but need not be limited to) weather in literature; art and meteorology; gendered weather; seasons and seasonal change; climatological history; weather myths and lore; weather reporting; technology and weather science; history of meteorological science. Please send proposals or completed papers (20-25 pages) to: Adam Sweeting, Boston University, College of General Studies, 871 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. Direct e-mail inquiries to: Todd Robert Peterson, peters_osu@osu.net or Adam Sweeting, sweeting@bu.edu.

August 15, 2001. *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* solicits manuscripts for a special issue on ecofeminist approaches to eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature and history. The recent wave of ecocriticism in the study of Romanticism has focused almost exclusively on texts by male writers. This special issue is intended to initiate a discussion of women's views of nature and the environment both during the Romantic era and in the larger context of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. An interdisciplinary journal, *Women's Studies* welcomes not only literary analysis, but perspectives from the fields of history, art history, sociology, law, political science, economics, and anthropology. The editors welcome articles grounded in both theory and practice. From a theoretical perspective, to what extent did the role of 18th- and 19th-century women as mothers, as caretakers, as domestic workers, or as an oppressed group determine their relationship to nature? Is a woman=nature, man=culture dichotomy present in 18th- and 19th-century texts or practices, and is such a dichotomy useful or detrimental to feminist approaches to literature and history? From a practical standpoint, were there any proto-green movements initiated by women in the 18th and 19th centuries? How did women respond to science, technology, industrialization, and urbanization? Are there connections between environmental issues and social issues, including colonialism, slavery, or labor issues? Examinations of the intersections between post-colonial critiques and ecofeminism are particularly welcome. All literary traditions are of interest. Book reviews will also be considered. Send three copies of manuscripts (approximately 25 pages long and in MLA format) to: Donna Coffey (Guest Editor), Dept. of English, Reinhardt College, 7300 Reinhardt College Circle, Waleska, GA 30183. The special issue will be published in June 2002.

Conferences and Meetings of Interest

April 22-24, 2001. "The Silicon Coyote: Where Past Meets Future in the Southwest," the 12th Annual Southwest Symposium, will be hosted by the graduate students in English at the University of New Mexico. The focus will primarily be on the literature of the West but participation



from any discipline is welcome. Western and Southwestern topics, including Chicano literature, Native American studies, and "New West" studies will be emphasized. Creative works will also be presented.

June 1-3, 2001. "Rewriting Landscapes: Imagination and Urban Environments." The M.A. in Writing Program of Chatham College, in association with the English Department, the Rachel Carson Institute, and the M.A. in Landscape Studies, invites you to take part in a discussion of language and the environment. This conference hopes to blend the creative with the critical and to examine the ways we have made and continue to remake the natural world around us. Featured speakers are Christopher Merrill, Janisse Ray, and John Elder. For information, contact: Conference Coordinator, Chatham College, Woodland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15232; ewriter@chatham.edu; (412) 365-1190.

June 7-9, 2001. "Finding Sustenance in a Challenging Environment: Food, Drink, Family, Community, and Spirituality," the 9th Annual Conference on Northern New England in the Nineteenth Century, will be hosted by the Washburn Humanities Center in association with the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Farmington. For information contact: Washburn Humanities Conference, c/o Billie Gammon, 42 Hathaway Hill Road, Livermore, ME 04253. Phone: (207) 897-2236, fax: 207-897-7064. Or e-mail Jerome Nadelhaft at nadelhft@maine.edu.

June 12-15, 2001. The Annual Writers' Conference and Workshop Honoring Rachel Carson conducted by NEW-CUE (Nature and Environmental Writers—College and University Educators) will be held in Boothbay Harbor, ME. The program will include presentations by notable authors such as Linda Lear, Tom Horton, Gioia Timpanelli, Barbara Ras, Bruce Hiscock, and Will Richard, and Steven Holmes will offer a special workshop in environmental autobiography. For further information please visit the NEW-CUE web site at www.new-cue.org or contact the Registration Coordinator by telephone: (910) 630-7047.

September 20-22, 2001. "Re-figuring the Ecological Indian," the 10th Annual Symposium of the American Heritage at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyoming, will address the re-figuring of the Ecological Indian as drawn from the title of Shepard Krech III's *The Ecological Indian: Myth and History*. For information contact Sally Sutherland, American Heritage Center, P.O. Box 3924, Laramie, WY 82071. Phone (307) 766-4295; fax 307-766-5511. Email: sallys@uwyo.edu.

September 27-29, 2001. The fourth Waterson-Glacier International Writers Workshop offers a diversity of experiences for nature, travel, environment, and outdoor writers and editors. You can enjoy Waterton's autumn splendor while learning about the art and craft of non-fiction writing about the natural world. The workshop is a non-profit event sponsored by Waterton Lakes National Park in Alberta and Glacier National Park in Montana to improve their communications with media people and the quality of writing about parks and other conservation issues. Join panel discussions with internationally known editors, publishers, and writers. Share in sessions on why we write, how we write, and what we write about. The workshop's intimate size promises a great opportunity to get to know the guest speakers and other participants. You'll gain new contacts, motivation, ideas, and skills. We've also organized more than a dozen story opportunities, with expert resource people, background materials, and interesting itineraries. On these field trips and indoor discussion sessions, you'll talk to park staff scientists, local residents, environmental activists, business people, and other stakeholders about the challenges facing the Peace Park region and other conservation efforts at the start of the 21st century. You'll also enjoy a gala banquet, camp kitchen breakfast, and other social events—included in your fee. To register or for more information, contact: Barbara Grinder at (403) 626-3658 or bgrinder@telusplanet.net; see the web site: <http://www.telusplanet.net/public/bgrinder/about.html>.

October 4-6, 2001. The Society for Ecological Restoration will hold their 13th annual international conference, "Restoration Across Borders," at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Conference Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. For information e-mail: SER2001@niagarac.on.ca or go to <http://www/SER.org>.

October 11-13, 2001. The Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention in Vancouver, BC will host a Special Topics Session: Ecocriticism: Literature and the Environment. For information contact Rob Stacy, Albertson College of Idaho, 2112 Cleveland Blvd., Box 66, Caldwell, ID 83605. E-mail: rstacy@albertson.edu. (208) 459-5895.

October 18-20, 2001. "Globalcities: A Conference on Issues Related to Globalization," sponsored by the Program in Comparative Literature, will be held at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. A number of recent important works make clear that the present moment's metaphor for the economic, political, social, and culture interrelationships between nations is "globalization," a concept that has come to replace earlier

formulas of "modernization" and "civilization." The conference will focus on the limitations and implications of theoretically determining these relations. Topics will include theories of narrative and the global; rethinking travel, exile, migration, diaspora; mestizo logics (or, hybrid theory "all the way down"); "development," "modernization," and "civilization" and the fate of dependency theory; race and gender in globalization theory; post-structuralism and the critique of late capitalism; markets, profits, and violent conflicts; state violence, armed resistance, and the limits of international law; the return of the state in global theory; rhetorics of geography, space, and place theory; questioning post-Marxism's turn to "culture"; subalternities and solidarities; markets, products, and the construction of taste; queering the sphere; genetics, biotechnology, and the globe. Confirmed keynote speakers are Gayatri Spivak, Avalon Foundation Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University; Michael Hardt, Associate Professor of Literature and Romance Studies, Duke University; Mahmood Mamdani, Herbert Lehman Professor of Government and Director, Institute of African Studies, Columbia University; Saskia Sassen, Professor of Sociology, The University of Chicago. For information please contact Professor Kenneth Harrow, Director, Program in Comparative Literature, Morrill Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. E-mail: harrow@msu.edu. Fax: 517-353 3755.

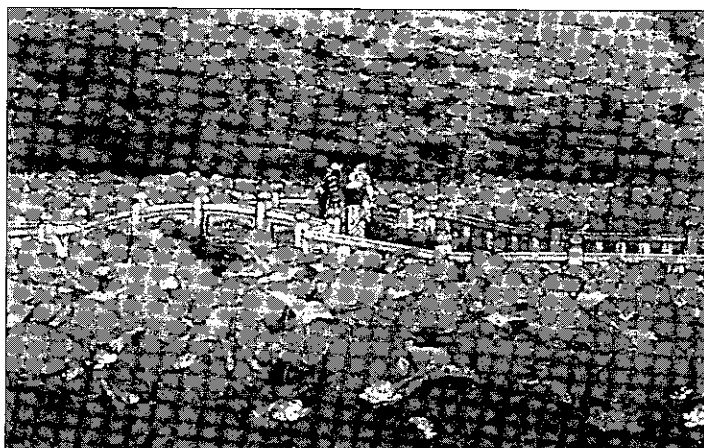
November 1-3, 2001. "Translating American Nature," the ASLE-sponsored panel at the Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA) Annual Convention, Sheraton Cleveland City Centre, Cleveland. The topic is narrative or verse "translations" of the natural world, particularly those involving translating American nature for non-anglophone readerships. For information regarding the panel contact Joe Lockard, English Department, Voorhies Hall, 1 Shields Ave., University of California, Davis, CA 95616-8581. E-mail: lockard@socrates.berkeley.edu.

November 8-10, 2001. "Smoke Screens/Smoke Signals: Looking Through Two Worlds." The Fourth Native American Symposium invites proposals for a meeting at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Distinguished presenters include Joy Harjo, Adrian Louis, Cochise Anderson, and Amanda Cobb. Papers will be presented on various topics, including oral history, autobiography, myths, identity, contemporary affairs, education, psychology, sociology, anthropology, and the fine arts. For information contact Mary P. Carden or Corie Delashaw, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Native American Symposium Committee, Box 2738, Durant, OK 74701-0609 or mpcarden@sosu.edu or cdelashaw@sosu.edu.

November 9-11, 2001. At the next SAMLA Conference, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, the two American Literature sessions will focus on Environmental Literature. American Literature I: Session Topic: Foundations. What are the key issues or concerns of Environmental Literature in the United States before 1945: What are some of its contexts during that time? How do we define it? American Literature II: Session Topic: Contemporary Voices. What are the key issues or concerns of contemporary Environmental Literature? What are the contexts or aims

of such literature? How do we define it? This session hopes to include a variety of voices in the realm of contemporary Environmental Literature. For information on SAMLA see the web site: <http://www.samla.org>. For information on these panels contact Professor Jim Wohlpart, Chair, Division of Humanities and Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University, 10501 FGCU Blvd. South, Fort Myers, FL 33965-6565. E-mail: wohlpart@fgcu.edu. Phone: (941) 590-7181.

March 2002. "From Bacon to Bartram: Early American Inquiries into the Natural World." The Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture will hold a topical conference in New York City at the American Museum of Natural History, examining the impact that early America had on conceptions of nature. If natural science was becoming, over this period of time, the medium through which earthly life and divine order were comprehended, what did American experiences contribute to scientific cognition? In what ways did the circumstances and diverse peoples in early America affect ways of knowing the natural world? Emerging scholarship by early Americanists now opens new avenues of inquiry into natural science's significance in the Old World and the New. The conference will be multidisciplinary. For information contact: Natural Science Conference, OIEAHC, P.O. Box 8781, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781.



ASLE Biennial Conference in Flagstaff

ASLE's fourth biennial conference at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff will continue the ASLE tradition of rigorous scholarship and high-energy camaraderie. For detailed information, please check out asle.umn.edu for a link to the ASLE Conference Page—there you will find updates on lodging, travel, conference events, field sessions, field trips, and easy on-line registration.

Looking forward to seeing you in June!

Gioia Woods, *University of Northern Arizona*

ASLE Bibliography

The ASLE Bibliography is back on-line, figuratively and literally, and all ASLE members are invited to contribute. What distinguishes our bibliography from other on-line and printed resources are the ways in which the selection of materials, the assignment of key words, and the composition of abstracts reflect the various interests, commitments, and critical perspectives of ASLE members.

We have developed an on-line submission site and adopted a new search engine on the World Wide Web that should make it possible for the ASLE Bibliography to be updated frequently (weekly or monthly), making it a valuable source for keeping up with work in the field. Anyone with access to the Web at any locale will be able to contribute entries via the Web and search the bibliography. (Of course, we will still be able to accept submissions via other means, but we won't be able to get them on-line as quickly. We will also still produce a printed bibliography at longer intervals).

You can contribute to the bibliography either on an ad hoc basis, submitting entries on whatever you happen to be reading that isn't already covered by the bibliography, or as a contributing editor responsible, for instance, for following work on a particular topic or author--or for work published by a particular journal or press.

To learn more about contributing to the bibliography,

point your Web browser to the new ASLE Bibliography Web site at <http://www.english.ohio-state.edu/organizations/asle> and read the link entitled "How you can contribute to the Bibliography" (you will find the link under the heading "The ASLE Bibliography in Depth"). After you have read that material, please contact ASLE bibliographer Lewis Ulman at ulman.1@osu.edu to let him know of your interest. (Or: Lewis Ulman, Department of English, The Ohio State University, 164 West 17th Ave, Columbus, OH 43210-1370; phone (614) 292-2275). If you don't have access to the Web, contact Lewis and he'll send you detailed information about the new bibliography.

The previous ASLE bibliographies cover work published through 1997. (One thing you will

find at the new bibliography Web site is an extensive list--compiled by the staff of ISLE--of books in our field(s) published since 1998). By the time of the ASLE conference at Flagstaff, we want to bring the bibliography up to date and keep it up to date on a monthly or quarterly basis thereafter.

The value of the bibliography increases along with the number of entries it contains and the number of people whose reading in the field it reflects. Please consider contributing to the ASLE Bibliography on a regular basis. Thanks!

—Lewis Ulman, Ohio State University

Contact Information

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Assignments: <http://www.english.ohio-state.edu/organizations/asle/Editors.htm>

Bookshelf

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Cooperman, Matthew. *A Sacrificial Zinc* (winner of the Lena Miles Wever Todd Prize for poetry). Warrensburg, MO: Pleiades Press, 2001.

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Solano Dr., Las Cruces, NM 88001. All proceeds benefit the Southwest Environmental Center.

McAdams, Janet. *The Island of Lost Luggage* (winner of the Native Authors' First Book Award for Poetry from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas). Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2000.

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Sax, Boria. *Animals in the Third Reich: Pets, Scapegoats and the Holocaust*. Continuum International, 2000.

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Walker, Charlotte Zoe. *Sharp Eyes: John Burroughs and American Nature Writing*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2000.

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*Note to Bookshelf contributors: Please remember to include city of publication.



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Photos in this issue by Ann Fisher-Wirth. Pages 3 and 4, houses near Putney, Vermont; p. 7, memorial at St. Peter's Cemetery in Oxford, Mississippi; p. 8, fall foliage Oxford, Mississippi; back cover, Rowan Oak, Oxford, Mississippi.



Rowan Oak, the home of William Faulkner, is located in Oxford, Mississippi.



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