



ASLE News

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

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

ASLE Looks Forward to Three Regional Gatherings in 2004 and Biennial Conference in 2005

As I sit down in mid-February to write this column, Vermont is still gripped by one of our coldest winters in recent years. Snow banks rise so high along some of our country roads that backhoes and trucks have to scoop and cart them away, while the ice in many of our lakes is several feet thick. The afternoon light has a new golden quality, though, the chickadees and jays are singing their spring songs, and the days are already getting noticeably longer. Sugarmakers like our family are getting excited to think that within a few weeks we'll begin tapping the maples and boiling down their sap for syrup.

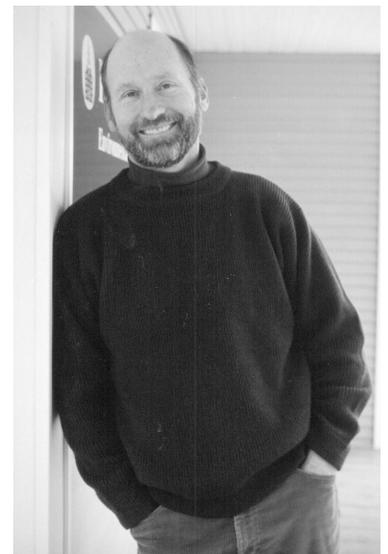
Such a spirit of anticipation also pervades ASLE these days. Thoreau writes, "We should be blessed if we lived in the present always . . ." But memory and anticipation can also enliven our experience when they kindle conversation and fire the imagination. This is one message offered by the beauty of a late-winter day in New England.

When I reflect upon this present moment in our community of teachers, scholars, writers, and activists, I'm struck by the high level of excitement about upcoming events. The energy flowing into the planning of future ASLE get-togethers derives, at least in part, from our memorable conference in Boston last summer. I won't even try enumerating the readings, lectures, round-tables, and working groups that made those days such a feast. Suffice it to say that Adam Sweeting, Ian Marshall, and all the other organizers came up with a program that addressed an extraordinary range of ideas, values, and landscapes. Even as we held our first big ASLE gathering in a major Eastern city, we also sustained the emphasis on fellowship and adventure that separate this

conference from many others. Outings to such destinations as Walden Pond, the Dudley Street initiative, and Mount Monadnock reminded us that all our reading, writing, and professing happens on "The solid earth!" While not intending to suggest that we were like so many Shriners on a spree, I do want to report that, in and out of our formal sessions, fun was had by all.

So it may be no coincidence that in the summer of 2004 there will be for the first time three ambitious "off-year conferences." While ASLE is providing both financial support and enthusiastic encouragement to each of these events, they mainly express the interests, initiative, and organizational skill of particular members. They also reflect the increasing breadth of our conversation.

In early June there will be a conference in Crawford Notch, New Hampshire, co-sponsored by ASLE and the Appalachian Mountain Club (see page 11). Pavel Cenkl is spearheading this gathering that will focus on the ecological and cultural richness of the Northern Forest. From my perspective, this event will turn one of our beloved ASLE tradi-



John Elder of Middlebury College is ASLE's president for 2004.

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Rocky Mountain MLA (RRMLA)
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*Society for the Study of American
Women Writers*
Rochelle Johnson



Buttonbush Swamp, Lawrence Woods State Nature Preserve, Ohio. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

PRESIDENT continued from page 1

tions inside-out: rather than scheduling field trips within the context of a diverse academic program, we will in effect have talks and seminars enfolded into one glorious field trip in the White Mountains. The collaboration with a major regional conservation organization also feels highly promising.

Joni Adamson at the University of Arizona, south, along with others in the Tucson area, is planning a remarkable conference on environmental justice for a little later in that same summer (see page 7 and page 12). Their approach will be to combine presentations and panels with a variety of visits to local communities. The area around Tucson is particularly diverse, both socially and ecologically, combining great beauty with evidence of harshly destructive and discriminatory practices. The 2003 conference in Boston made it plain that environmental justice is a central concern for our membership now. It is a prominent feature of the ecotone joining our teaching and research to our civic values. I feel personally grateful for the way in which this discourse has helped me begin to relate both my own interest in nature writing and my family's rural New England situation to a broader cultural, political, and ecological discourse.

Hugh Dunkerley and his colleagues in the growing ASLE cohort in the United Kingdom are also planning a meeting for England during the summer of 2004 (see page 13). This conference promises to accomplish several important goals: exploration of a much wider range of British literature from an ecocritical angle; engagement with contemporary developments in education and conservation in that bioregional setting; and celebration of landscapes hallowed by their association with an extraordinarily rich artistic tradition. ASLE chapters now flourish in quite a number of countries, including Japan, Australia, Taiwan, and the UK. These groups complement our original strength in the US and Canada, reinforcing the fact that in our day it makes most sense to conceive of both literature and the natural environment as an internally diverse but inter-dependent system.

Even as these ambitious initiatives are being planned for the summer of 2004, the organizers of our 2005 biennial conference in Eugene are hard at work. Allison Wallace, who will be our President during that event, and Molly Westling, who is our ASLE point-person at the University of Oregon, have already begun approaching potential speakers. While

they will be in a position to report on the program much more specifically in future months, I can report that their overall goal will be to combine an emphasis on the cultural and natural richness of the Northwest with speakers who also bring a global experience and perspective. Similarly, they will celebrate literature, social diversity, and natural beauty while also focusing on concrete questions of environmental justice. The list of potential presenters and topics they're already discussing is breath-taking. Just wait!

Although I wanted to devote this column to the energy and ambition of current ASLE undertakings, I'd like to close on a personal note. One of the many challenges facing academia today is to foster friendly relationship between different generations of scholars and teachers. It's all too easy to fall into polemic stances that exaggerate our differences, especially under the pressure of budgetary restrictions. Because ASLE goes to such lengths to honor a diversity of interests, and because we make time for outings that place our intellectual pursuits in a larger, exhilarating context, we have managed to foster a sense of mutual supportiveness rather than competitiveness. As our organization becomes an even more prominent one within the professional landscape in literature and environmental studies, I hope that we will always continue to cherish and protect the familial feeling within our enterprise. 🌲

—John Elder, President

New MLA Liaison Chosen

Barbara J. Cook, formerly one of ASLE's graduate student liaisons, is our new MLA Liaison.

Barbara can be reached at Barbara.Cook@EKU.EDU or at Department of English and Theatre, Eastern Kentucky University, 467 Case Annex, Richmond, KY 40475.

2003 Election Results in Tie for VP Position

When all the votes were counted (and re-counted) in December, we had a tie between Allison Wallace and Ann Fisher-Wirth for the vice-president position. The two candidates for Executive Council who received the most votes were Wes Berry and Ellen Goldey.

We consulted the ASLE bylaws and found that we did not have a provision for an election tie. Over the Christmas break, the Executive Council considered several options, seeking a solution that seemed to best reflect the wishes of those members who cast ballots and one that was in ASLE's best interest.

After consulting with both candidates, the Executive Council arrived at the following solution. Allison Wallace will take office as vice president this year, ASLE will forego an election for a vice president in Fall 2004, and Ann Fisher-Wirth will take office as vice president next year, in January 2005. This structure means that Allison will become president in 2005, and Ann

will become president in 2006. The next election for a vice-president position will be held in Fall 2005.

The Executive Council will amend the bylaws this year so ASLE will have a process for dealing with tied elections. If you have suggestions for how ASLE should handle election ties in the future, feel free to post them on the ASLE listserv or send a note to me (wallace.150@osu.edu), and I will pass your ideas along to the Executive Council.

Congratulations to Allison, Ann, Wes, and Ellen, and a heartfelt thank you to Veronja Alston, Kevin Hutchings, John Knott, and Bonney MacDonald for running for Executive Council. ASLE is fortunate to have so many energetic and committed members interested in serving as elected officers!

—Kathleen R. Wallace
Executive Secretary



Allison Wallace is ASLE's new vice president for 2004.



Ann Fisher-Wirth will become ASLE's vice president in 2005.

ASLE Honorary Memberships Established

At a meeting during the 2003 conference in Boston, the ASLE officers discussed establishing honorary lifetime memberships, to be awarded to prominent figures in the field whom we would like always to be aware of ASLE and our activities and to receive our newsletter and journal.

Our selection guidelines are fluid at this point, but we anticipate adding just one or two a year. In the fall the Executive Council approved the following initial list of honorary lifetime members: Homero and Betty Aridjis, Annette Kolodny, Simon Ortiz, Gary Snyder, David Suzuki, E. O. Wilson and Ann Zwinger. 🌳

— Ian Marshall, Immediate Past President

ASLE Online Bibliography Grows

The ASLE Online Bibliography now contains 620 entries, including 107 titles added since my last update in the autumn newsletter.

The bibliography is especially strong in recent work, containing 249 references for 2003 and 2004.

Thanks to recent contributors Roberto Azzarello, Pamela Banting, Diane H. Campbell, Bonnie Foote, Jeri Pollock, and Barbara Spring for the last 100 entries!

The bibliography is available as a searchable online database (see the “Search” URL to the right) and as a downloadable, printable document in Word and Adobe Acrobat Reader formats (follow the links on the “Information” site listed to the right). It prints out at about 97 pages, depending on your font and margins.

Read any interesting books or magazine, newspaper, or journal articles lately? Seen any good films of interest to ASLE folks? Found a useful Web site? Consider contributing an entry to the ASLE Online Bibliography (follow the “Contribute” link below)! It’s easy!

Information

<http://english.ohio-state.edu/organizations/asle/>

Contribute

<http://moo.cohums.ohio-state.edu/~asle/>

Search

<http://webposter.cohums.ohio-state.edu/ris/>

—*Lewis Ulman, ASLE Bibliographer*

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

ASLE Treasury is the Healthiest It Has Ever Been

Happy Spring to everyone! I’m in a cheerful mood as I make this latest report. The ASLE treasury is the healthiest it has ever been – we now have a balance of around \$70,000. To make sure that we keep the ASLE accounts as robust as possible, we plan to invest most of the money in low-risk venues with varying maturity dates.

This fortunate financial position means that we will be able to hire an executive director for the organization in the not too distant future. For more details about ASLE’s financial situation, go to the “About ASLE” section of the website (www.asle.umn.edu) and check out the semi-annual financial statements.

Our membership numbers have been fairly constant over the past few years; as of this writing, we have 932 domestic members (from every state except North Dakota, plus from Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico) and 116 international members from 20 countries.

By the time you get this newsletter, you should have received your 2004 Membership Directory. If you didn’t get a directory, please let me know and I’ll send one right away. If any of your information in the Directory is incorrect, let me know that, too, and we’ll correct the database immediately.

On pages 17 and 18 in this newsletter you will find a list of updated addresses that we received after the 2004 Directory was printed; we’ll publish subsequent updates in future issues of the newsletter. We update the database almost daily, so if you need more recent information about an ASLE member, just contact me at aningram@davidson.edu, or my assistant, Cheryl Branz at chbranz@davidson.edu.

As always, if there’s anything I can do, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Cheryl and I really appreciate your promptness with renewals and address changes, and we want to make sure that you get all your ASLE goodies on time, every time.

— *Annie Ingram, Secretary-Treasurer*

Affiliate Created in Australia and New Zealand

At about nine o'clock on Friday evening, 10 October 2003, in the upstairs room of a Thai restaurant in Laurieton, an Australian and New Zealand branch of ASLE was born.

In 2002, the University of Queensland's Ruth Blair hosted Ecology, Community, Culture (ECC), a pioneering conference of scholars and writers from many fields. Among that eclectic group at ECC, all of us feeling out the terrain of where art, politics and theory engage with the land, the idea of a local ASLE was raised. Kate Rigby of Monash University and I agreed to carry it forward, but a year passed without much happening. We were waiting for something—for the right season, I suppose. We were looking for a watershed—the high ground between catchments from which the rivers are made to flow in a new direction.

Just over a year after ECC, another pioneering gathering took place on the New South Wales north coast: not Watershed, but close enough—Watermark, an international nature writers' muster. Watermark mustered to an old pilot station at the mouth of the Camden Haven River and to the small timber town of Kendall (named for an early nature poet) a mob of poets, storytellers, straight talkers, stirrers, readers, lyric essayists and novelists—witnesses in words of the places of which the world is made. The event was the idea of Elaine van Kempen, historian and writer, wife of Eric Rolls, veteran Australian nature writer, farmer, poet, foodie and saint. And its purpose was to celebrate and raise awareness about the literature of place and nature, which, in English anyway, is raw and new in Australia and New Zealand. Out of it also came ASLE-ANZ.

We—thirty-four of us—came to the restaurant from the launching by Scott Slovic of a new anthology (mine, as it happens) of Australian and North American essays of place (*A Place on Earth: An Anthology of Nature Writing from Australia and North America* from UNSW Press and U Nebraska Press); we came tired, but stirred by the quality and passion of the conversations we had been sharing since Tuesday's beginning in the boathouse.

Amid the cacophonous ordering and delivery of entrees,

Scott Slovic (a guest of Watermark) stood and explained how ASLE had come about, what purposes it was set up to serve, how it had grown and what it had managed since 1992. Ken Noda, founder of ASLE-Japan, stood and told us how things had happened there. We had some dedicated writers and ecocritics from New Zealand among us too, who made it clear they wanted in on an antipodean ASLE. After a good deal of discussion and a fair bit of chomping on spring rolls, Elaine moved that we found an Australian and New Zealand branch of ASLE, someone seconded her and thirty-four hands went up in support. Before mains were eaten, John Cameron had proposed that Kate Rigby, Charles Dawson from New Zealand and I should work as an organising committee. The nature writer Nick Drayson found a pink tray in the kitchen, passed it round and gathered us two hundred and twenty dollars with which to begin. And so we find ourselves launched, floated—at Watermark under a moon nearly full, on a rising tide, in a freshening wind.

I am grateful to Scott Slovic, whose presence and quiet enthusiasm for ASLE and for environmental literature down under made certain that no one left the room that night before the deed was done. With my colleagues Kate Rigby and Charles Dawson, I am working with great excitement, and a certain seriousness and diligence, to have ASLE-ANZ incorporated and operating by May 2004. By then, we hope to have some officers elected, a website running, a directory of members and a newsletter published.

We hope, in these and other ways, to establish in Australia and New Zealand a community of writers, teachers, scholars and readers dedicated to deepening and strengthening the relationship between words and country; we hope to nurture a distinctly antipodean literature of place, a lyric and narrative engagement with our geographies, and a distinctly—if I may use a strictly Australian term—sclerophyll (that is, lean, slender, elegant and hardy) ecocritical scholarship. We look forward to working with the other ASLE branches and with ASLE herself, the tree from which all of us grow. And we hope that you will send us guidance and support as we get this thing started here. 🌳

—Mark Tredinnick (marktredinnick@bigpond.com)

Symposium on Globalization and Environmental Justice

September 23-25, 2004

Tucson, Arizona

While ASLE has made important progress in recent years toward true cross-pollination among a variety of disciplines, for many of us, figuring out just how to achieve interdisciplinarity in our classrooms and our scholarship—when we may be trained only in literary studies—has long been a vexing problem.

This is why Professor Joni Adamson's idea for a conference devoted to environmental justice issues using the U.S.-Mexico border here in Arizona as a regional case study so excited me. The meeting would by nature be multi-disciplinary (not to mention multi-national, multi-lingual, and multi-ethnic), bringing together not only teachers of literature, creative writers, and literary activists, but also grassroots environmental activists, anthropologists, scientists, historians, sustainable developers, and even local politicians, among many others.

That initial proposal, created by Joni Adamson and Margo Tamez-Hrabovsky, and supported by ASLE's Diversity Caucus, has now become the fully-fledged Symposium on Globalization and the Environmental Justice Movement, co-sponsored by ASLE and the University of Arizona, South, to be held in Tucson on September 23-25, 2004. (See CFP on p. 12.)

The centerpiece of this Symposium will be an optional tour of squatter villages near Nogales, Mexico, that have been particularly hard hit by the adverse effects of globalization and industry toxicity. This "colonia tour" will be led by grassroots activist Teresa Leal, founder of Comadres and Codirector of the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice (SNEEJ). Also joining the tour will be representatives from BARA, Arizona's Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology. Meanwhile, the Symposium itself will feature plenary speakers from a variety of backgrounds, including literary critic and former university administrator Annette Kolodny; activist and writer Demetria Martinez, and environmental historian Angus Wright. The planning committee is also working to bring an Arizona State Representative to join in the conversations. One of



Members of Gila River Alliance for Clean Environment, Gila River Indian Community, Arizona: Lori Thomas-Luna, G.R.A.C.E. founder, second from the right, and Margo Tamez, poet, third from the right along with members impacted by the toxaphene contamination. Photo by Bradley Angel, Green Action.

our primary goal is to demonstrate how people from disparate backgrounds can work within their communities to create positive dialogues about real solutions to social and environmental problems.

Taken together, these events promise to tackle a number of those thorny questions that lie at the heart of ASLE's mission: In what ways can/ought we combine activism and academia? How best to get policy makers, artists, activists, and academics together? How can we integrate issues of globalization and environmental justice in our classrooms and research? What is the relationship between globalization and local or regional identities? And finally, what pedagogical tools are available for those of us interested in these issues? In short, with this upcoming Symposium ASLE seeks to push the notion of interdisciplinarity further than it ever has before.

As many of us know all too well, this is a critical moment in academia, with public universities nationwide suffering heavy budget cuts and humanities programs usually feeling the brunt of them. As one of ASLE's many Ph.D. students,

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE continued on page 15

ASLE-Korea Continues to Grow

Prof. Chung-ho Chung of Chungang University in Seoul recently stepped down as president of ASLE-Korea, and Prof. Namho Lee of Korea University has been elected as his replacement. Moonsu Shin of Seoul National University and Yuchan Choi of Yonsei University are the new vice presidents, and Haewon Lee of Korea University-Seochang is the new general secretary.

The annual fall conference of ASLE-Korea was held far from the bustle and pollution of Seoul on November 29, 2003, at Chungnam National University in Taejon, South Korea. It drew about 250 people, almost triple the number at the spring meeting. ASLE-Korea is also planning an interna-

tional conference for Fall 2004.

At the November 2003 meeting, Simon Estok was appointed to the newly-created International Liaison Officer position. He may be contacted at scestok@chollian.net or Department of English Literature, Konkuk University, 1 Hwayang-dong, Gwangjin-gu, Seoul, 143-701, Korea.

In April, the English Language and Literature Association of Korea (the equivalent of the MLA in the US) is commemorating its 50th anniversary and has asked ASLE-Korea to host a session at its International Conference in June as a part of this commemoration. ASLE-Korea also plans to hold a spring workshop and seminar in June. 🌳

Call for Mentoring Narratives

The ASLE mentoring program continues to bring people together who share concerns beyond the often narrow and anthropocentric debates of academe.

This past fall, I put out a call for narratives from mentors and mentees describing their experiences in the program. We are fortunate to have generous faculty members committed to working with graduate students with particular needs; we are equally fortunate to have talented graduate students who offer their mentors new intellectual challenges and opportunities for professional growth.

Participants in the program, past and present, are exchanging reading lists, fresh ideas about teaching, new ideas, and work in progress. They are living the rewards of the personal, interna-

tional, and intergenerational conversation that the program was designed to promote. In forthcoming newsletters, I look forward to sharing some of the narratives I've received from mentors and mentees.

If you have any questions, or would like to share your own story of a mentoring relationship, please be in touch at mllong@keene.edu. 🌳

—Mark C. Long,
Mentoring Program Coordinator



Do You Know When Your ASLE Membership Expires?

You can help us make sure your membership is up to date so that you always receive your copies of *ASLE News* and *ISLE* promptly. Simply look at the address label on your most recent issue of either publication or at your listing in the most recent ASLE membership directory; the month and year that your membership expires will be identified in the last line.

To renew,

- use the membership form on page 19 of this newsletter,
- go to <http://www.asle.umn.edu/about/member.html>, or
- contact Cheryl Branz at chbranz@davidson.edu.

ASLE Bookshelf

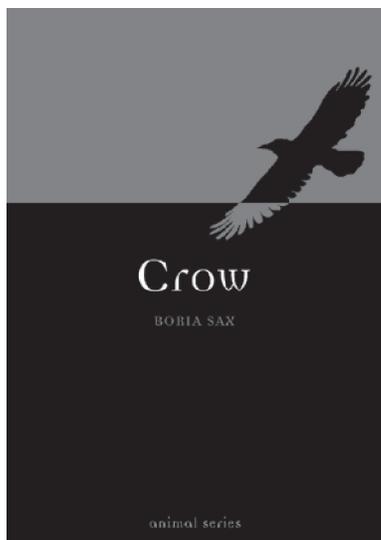
The following books, poetry collections and other works were recently published by ASLE members. If we've missed your publication, please send the bibliographic information to armbruka@webster.edu.

Chandler, Katherine R., and Melissa A. Goldthwaite, eds. *Surveying the Literary Landscapes of Terry Tempest Williams: New Critical Essays*. Salt Lake City: U of Utah P, 2003.

Clark, Jim, ed. *Buried Land: A Collection of Folk Song and Poetry* (CD). Wilson, NC: Eternal Delight Productions, 2003.

---. *The Selected Poems of Byron Herbert Reece*. Athens, GA: U of Georgia P, 2002.

DeBaise, Janine. *Of a Feather* (poems). Cincinnati, OH: Finishing Line Press, 2003.



Holleman, Marybeth. *The Heart of the Sound: An Alaskan Paradise Found and Nearly Lost*. Salt Lake City: U of Utah P, 2004.

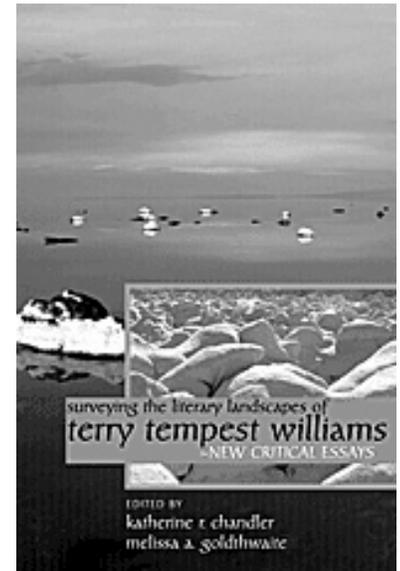
Hurd, Barbara. *Entering the Stone: On Caves and Feeling Through the Dark*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2003.

Lord, Nancy. *Beluga Days: Tracking a White Whale's Truths*. New York: Counterpoint Press, 2004.

Maynard, W. Barksdale. *Walden Pond: A History*. New York: Oxford UP, 2004.

Mitchell, Don. *The Nature Notebooks*. Hanover, NH: Hardscrabble Fiction-UP of New England, 2004.

O. Alan Weltzien and Susan N. Maher, eds. *Coming Into McPhee Country: John McPhee and the Art of Literary Nonfiction*. Salt Lake City: U of Utah P, 2003.



Piper, Paul S., and Stan Tag, eds. *Father Nature: Fathers as Guides to the Natural World*. Iowa City, IA: U of Iowa P, 2003.

Rosen, Susan A.C., ed. *Shorewords: A Collection of American Women's Coastal Literature*. Charlottesville: U of Virginia P, 2003.

Sax, Boria. *Crow*. London: Reaktion, 2003.

Willis, Paul. *The Deep and Secret Color of Ice* (poems). Concord, CA: Small Poetry P, 2003.

Diversity Caucus Coordinator Seeks Entries of Southern Environmental Writing

As part of her job as one of the coordinators of the Diversity Caucus, Ann Fisher-Wirth is working on a bibliography of Southern environmental writing, a field that is still underrepresented in ASLE. Please send any entries of poetry, fiction, or nonfiction (familiar or academic) to her by email: afwirth@olemiss.edu.

Visit the ASLE web site at <http://www.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.

Conferences of Interest

May 20-25, 2004. *15th Annual Environmental Writing Institute.* The University of Montana and Teller Wildlife Refuge will host this meeting at Teller Wildlife Refuge, located forty-five minutes south of Missoula, Montana. David James Duncan will lead the institute. For details, contact Phil Condon, Conference Director, at: phil.condon@mso.umt.edu. Visit the conference web site at: <http://www.umt.edu/ewi/>.

June 6-12, 2004. *Wildbranch Workshop in Outdoor, Natural History, and Environmental Writing.* Sterling College will host this workshop in cooperation with the Orion Society. For more information, or to request an application, please contact Douglas Haynes, Co-Director, at: (802) 586-7711 ext. 561; or dhaynes@sterlingcollege.edu; or see the conference web site: www.sterlingcollege.edu/wildbranch.htm.

June 15-18, 2004. *Third Writers' Conference and Workshop in Honor of Rachel Carson.* This meeting will be held at the Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, and will be sponsored by Nature and Environmental Writers College and University Educators (NEW-CUE). For more information, visit the conference web site: <http://www.new-cue.org/>.



A fallen log along the Etawah Woods trail, Highland County, Ohio. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

October 15-17, 2004. *Surf's Up! The Rising Tide Of Atlantic-Canadian Literature.* In recognition of the growing volume and profile of Atlantic-Canadian literature, Acadia University (Wolfville, NS) will be hosting a conference on contemporary Atlantic-Canadian literature as part of its ongoing Thomas Raddall Symposium series. The keynote speakers are Lesley Choyce and Wendy Lill, and there will be readings by Lynn Coady, Harry Thurston, Anne Compton and Michael Crummey. For more information, contact Dr. Herb Wyile, Department of English, Acadia University, Wolfville, NS Canada B4P 2R6, herb.wyile@acadiau.ca, Tel: 902-585-1255; Fax: 902-585-1070.

December 27-30, 2004. *ASLE Sessions at the Modern Language Association Convention.* The 2004 MLA Convention will take place in Philadelphia, PA. As an affiliated organization, ASLE is sponsoring the following sessions: "Reconsidering Theoretical Approaches to Global Environments" and "Ecocritical Perspectives on Cosmopolitan Spaces." For more information, contact Barbara Cook at barbara.cook@eku.edu.



Ice on Sam's Creek, upstream from Mt. Gilead Lakes, Ohio. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

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Nature and Culture in the Northern Forest

June 4-6, 2004

Crawford Notch

White Mountain National Forest, NH

You are invited to join about one hundred other scholars, educators, forestry and recreation professionals, artists, writers, and activists at the ASLE Nature and Culture in the Northern Forest symposium, June 4-6, 2004. This intimate regional discussion about Northern Forest studies will be a truly interdisciplinary event, bringing together participants from inside and outside academe and from a diversity of fields concerned about the future of what is a frequently contested region. The symposium will integrate field workshops, including interpretive workshops near the conference center and hikes on nearby mountains, with panel sessions and roundtable discussions.

Key speakers and field session leaders include:

- *John Elder*, current ASLE president and author of *Reading the Mountains of Home* and *Frog Run*
- *Jay Craven*, director of *Where the Rivers Flow North* and *A Stranger in the Kingdom*

- *Clare Walker Leslie*, author of *Keeping a Nature Journal*, *Into the Field*, and *A Naturalist's Sketchbook*
- *Tom Wessels*, author of *Reading the Forested Landscape* and *The Granite Landscape*
- *Kent Ryden*, author of *Landscape with Figures: Nature and Culture in New England* and *Mapping the Invisible Landscape*
- *Ian Marshall*, author of *Story Line: Exploring the Literature of the Appalachian Trail* and *Peak Experiences*
- *Rob Sanford*, author of *Stonewalls and Cellarholes*

Registration information will be posted on the ASLE website (www.asle.umn.edu) early this spring. Space is limited, so register soon. For more information, contact

Pavel Cenkl

Department of English and Communications
Green Mountain College

One College Circle

Poultney, VT 05764

(806) 287-8333

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Calls for Papers

June 1, 2004. *The Voyage Out.* The International Society for Travel Writing (ISTW) will hold its fourth biennial conference from October 21-24, 2004, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin. ISTW is an interdisciplinary group whose members study all aspects of traveling, tourism, and the journey. Proposals for panels and 20-minute papers are sought from scholars working in all areas of travel writing, including literary studies, history, sociology, anthropology, indigenous studies, political science, American studies, environmental studies, and media studies. In keeping with this year's theme, especially welcome are studies of nautical writing, including but not limited to tales of whaling ships and battleships; ports of call; sea captains' memoirs; travelers on rivers and the Great Lakes; voyageurs; and painters of seascapes. Please forward 300-word abstracts, including title,

professional affiliation, addresses (especially email), phone number, and AV requirements, by June 1, 2004. Electronic submissions are encouraged. Overhead projectors will be supplied by the conference host; there is a substantial charge to participants requesting other a.v. equipment. Proposals should be sent to: Tilar Mazzeo / ISTW 2004, Department of English, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, 800 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, WI 54901 USA; mazzeo@uwosh.edu. For information on the conference or on its edited proceedings, visit the web site: www.english.uwosh.edu/ISTW.

Calls for Manuscripts

July 23, 2004. *Ecocriticism and Film, Television, or Music.* *Green Letters*, the peer-reviewed journal of ASLE-UK, is devoted to exploring interdisciplinary interfaces between

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Globalization and the Environmental Justice Movement: An ASLE/UAS Symposium

September 23-25, 2004

Tucson, AZ

The 2004 Symposium on Globalization and the Environmental Justice Movement invites academics, activists, artists, scientists, graduate students, and government and industry representatives to submit proposals for sessions, papers, panels, posters, performances, films, workshops, roundtables, and readings. The symposium, sponsored by ASLE and the University of Arizona South, will focus on environmental justice, urban nature, native lands, and grassroots activism.

The goal of the symposium will be to push our conversations about environmental challenges beyond a focus on environmental racism and toxics and towards the proactive partnerships, successful community activism, and emerging conversations between government, industry, science, the academy, activist organizations, and local communities that are giving a new generation ideas for sustainable alternatives and hope for the future.

Scheduled keynote/plenary speakers include literary critic Annette Kolodny, writer and activist Demetria Martinez, and environmental historian Angus Wright.

The symposium will include a field trip, popularly dubbed the "Colonia Tour," led by Teresa Leal, founder of Comadres, a binational, multicultural group of women fighting the toxic effects of over 80 maquilas (transnational corporations located on the Mexican side of the U.S./Mexico border since 1965). We will travel just over one hour south to Nogales, Sonora, where we will tour one or more of the "colonias" (small squatter villages built to house maquila workers) as well as one or more of the more progressive maquilas attempting to address environmental problems.

The symposium invites discussion on a diversity of topics from a variety of disciplines, including:

- Interdisciplinary approaches to environmental justice, activism, literature, history, anthropology, political ecology, and ecocriticism

- The political ecology of free trade
- The environmental impact of globalization and transnational capitalism
- How to bring writing and teaching to bear on public policy and educational initiatives, public outreach, publishing, and environmental stewardship
- How to facilitate collaboration between the various sectors of the environmental movement, government, academia, and the arts
- How to teach courses which address the environmental justice and toxics movements, political ecology, globalization, corporate capitalism, etc.
- Practical solutions for solving problems of environmental racism and promoting sustainable alternatives (such as organic farming, community co-ops, etc.)

Send inquiries and one-page proposals by **May 31, 2004** (email preferred; no attachments please) to BOTH Joni Adamson and Tina Gianquitto. (Be sure to indicate whether or not you or your panel members will need multimedia equipment, and specifically what equipment you will need.)

Joni Adamson, Associate Professor and Head, English Program, University of Arizona, South, 1140 N. Colombo, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650; 520.458.8278 x.2136; jadamson@u.arizona.edu.

Tina Gianquitto, Assistant Professor, Colorado School of Mines, 1005 14th Street, Stratton Hall, Suite 305, Golden, CO 80401; tinagian@mines.edu.

Note: Conference organizers will make every effort to keep housing costs low and/or potentially free for activists and graduate students. Spanish translation will also be provided. Activists and graduate students should note their individual housing and/or language needs on their proposal submissions.

For more details, see http://www.asle.umn.edu/conf/asle_conf/global_ej.txt and www.uas.arizona.edu/ejsym.

humans and the natural and built environment. Articles are invited for our Autumn 2004 edition on ecocriticism and film, television or music. Topics may include, but are not limited to, a close reading of a particular text or work; an examination of environmental representations in the work of a particular director, screenwriter or musician; the cinematic or televisual construction of spaces: wilderness, rural and urban; ecology and debates around national cinemas; genre studies: environmentalism or ecology in westerns, science fiction, sitcoms, etc.; avant-garde and activist cinema and video; the role of music in environmental protest; television news and environmental issues; teaching ecocriticism and film, television or music in the classroom. We would also like to encourage contributions of book reviews and

thematically related creative nonfiction, fiction and poetry. Each article should be 4000-6000 words; typed double spaced, with references in the MLA style and any substantial footnotes at the end of the article; and accompanied by an abstract and a brief biographical note. Submissions should be made via email with a MS Word attachment of the document. Please send submissions and any inquiries to the *Green Letters* editorial board at GreenLetters@ntlworld.com.

April 1, 2004. *Plains, Deserts, Canyons, Mountains: Women Write About the Southwest.* The Story Circle Network is preparing a collection of writings by women, celebrating their experiences in the natural world of the Southwest. As

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ASLE SYMPOSIUM

Cross-Fertilisations: Literature, Science and Nature



University College Chichester, the site of ASLE-UK's third biennial conference.

ASLE-UK will be holding its third biennial conference at University College Chichester on July 16-18, 2004. Speakers include the eminent postmodern thinker and critic Patricia Waugh, Joseph Carroll, author of *Evolution and Literary Theory*, John Barnie, author of *No Hiding Place: Essays on the New Nature and Poetry*, and writers John Burnside and David Craig, two of Britain's leading environmental poets.

Submissions for papers are invited on any aspect of the relationships between literature, science and/or nature. We are also interested in submissions which explore the interfaces between different disciplines e.g. science and

literature, scientific and literary theory. In particular we are keen to encourage an interdisciplinary approach. Submissions can be in the form of individual papers (20mins) or panel discussion sessions. Poets, novelists, playwrights and non-fiction writers are also encouraged to submit proposals for readings. The closing date for submissions is April 30. In the first instance, please send a synopsis of your proposal to Hugh Dunkerley, University College Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 6PE or e-mail H.Dunkerley@ucc.ac.uk.

There will also be a number of field trips to sites of interest, including Kingley Vale, the largest yew wood in Europe, and Goodwood Outdoor Sculpture Park.

Originally a Roman settlement, Chichester is a small cathedral city situated in West Sussex. It is bordered to the north by The South Downs, an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and to the south by the sea. London is under two hours away by train, as are Heathrow and Gatwick airports. Accommodation is available on the attractive UCC campus in Chichester. Downloadable application forms, costings and further details will be available on our website: www.asleuk.webhop.org from early February onwards.

a whole, these writings will demonstrate and illuminate not only the rich diversity of landscapes and environments of the Southwest, but the extraordinary range of women's voices and women's experiences of the land. The collection will be made up of a variety of literary forms--memoir, creative non-fiction, essay, and poetry--and will include pieces by both established and new writers. To achieve the broadest geographical coverage, the editors have defined the southwest region as extending from the Gulf Coast across the Texas Hill Country to the dry deserts of west Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, southern Colorado, and southern California. The completed book manuscript will be submitted to the University of Texas Press, which published SCN's first memoir collection, *With Courage and Common Sense* (2004). For submission information, see the website: <http://www.storycircle.org/WomenWrite/>.

April 30, 2004. *The Frontiers of Environmental History.* A special issue of *Historical Social Research*, edited by Frank Uekoetter of Bielefeld University, Germany. It has become commonplace to state that environmental history has flourished during recent years. Environmental history has developed a certain topical canon: certain issues continue to attract great attention, while others remain at the margins of the field. Many scholars, however, are encouraging the field to broaden. This special issue intends to become a forum for this ongoing trend. Articles may deal with any aspect of modern Western history from an environmental history

perspective, provided that the author can make a legitimate claim that the topic has not received major or sufficient attention so far. This international journal is published by the Center for Historical Social Research at the University of Cologne, Germany. It publishes articles in both German and English; however, articles in the special edition should be in English. (If necessary, help with translations will be provided.) Articles should be between 15 and 30 pages in length. A style sheet is available upon request. Interested scholars should contact Frank Uekoetter via email at: frank.uekoetter@web.de.

Ongoing. *The International Fiction Review.* The editor invites essays on contemporary fiction by international writers, new and established, including minority writers. Equally welcome are essays on literary and narrative theory, comparative studies of world fiction, and surveys of contemporary national literatures or writers. Contributors are invited to explore all narrative forms in any interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, and critical context. Especially welcome are articles and reviews on environmental fiction and narrative theory, as well as comparative studies dealing with environmental fiction.

The *International Fiction Review*, now in its thirty-first year, is a reviewed scholarly periodical devoted to international fiction. It publishes articles and book reviews. The journal has a world-wide circulation and a diverse readership which shares an interest in fictions of other cultures and language groups.

The journal is available online to subscribers at www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/IFR. Recent publications include "The Quest for Community in American Postmodern Fiction," "The Politics and Poetics of Philippine Festival in Rosca's State of War," "International Fiction vs. Ethnic Autobiography," "Oral Tradition and Modern Storytelling: Revisiting Chinua Achebe's Short Stories," "African Interests: White Liberalism and Resistance in Margaret Laurence," "Early Precursors to the Egyptian Novel," and "Writing as Tea Ceremony: Kawabata's Geido Aesthetics."

Please send submissions to the editor via mail or email: Christoph Lorey, Editor, University of New Brunswick, Department of Culture and Language Studies, Fredericton, N.B. Canada E3B 5A3, Phone: (506) 453 4636; Fax: (506) 447-3166; email: ifr@unb.ca



A shell on a decaying log along the Barrier Ridge Trail, Highlands County, Ohio. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

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A spider eating a katydid on the porch of the Hermitage, Highlands Sanctuary, Highland County, Ohio. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

Ongoing. *Essays on the Literature and Art of Environmental Justice.* In addition to welcoming stories, creative essays, poetry, and black and white photography for the Art and the Natural Environment section of the journal *Organization and Environment*, section editor Patrick D. Murphy seeks critical essays that address literature, art and culture from environmental justice perspectives. *Organization and Environment* is published by Sage and edited out of the University of South Florida by John Jermier. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis since the journal appears quarterly and there is no specific length limitation. The journal as a whole uses APA style formatting, but MLA

may be acceptable in this section. The essays will be read by two referees as blind submissions. Send three paper copies or an email attachment in Word or rtf formats to Patrick D. Murphy, Chair, Department of English, University of Central Florida, PO Box 161346, Orlando, FL 32816-1346 (pmurphy@PEGASUS.CC.UCF.EDU).

Ongoing. *Sierra Club Books.* Editor Eva Diemel seeks new authors and invites ASLE members to submit book proposals or manuscripts. Please call or email her to discuss ideas: Eva.Diemel@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5707.

For more than 40 years, the Sierra Club has published a wide range of books on the environment, ecology, nature, and the outdoors. Their list includes everything from environmental issue books to fiction to anthologies of nature writing to memoirs. Recent publications include Douglas Chadwick's book *True Grizz*, which looks at the true nature of the grizzly bear from the perspective of a wildlife biologist and writer who has spent his lifetime studying this magnificent animal, and *Between Species*, an anthology of essays about the dolphin-human relationship. Forthcoming this spring is a book by Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope about the Bush administration and the environment, as well as a book on ecological medicine, with contributions from speakers who have participated in the annual Bioneers Conference. A complete list of titles is available at www.sierraclub.org/books. Please submit proposals to Eva Diemel, Editor, Sierra Club Books, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 977-5707.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE continued from page 7

I'm not alone in wondering what the future of the academy will look like. But if we are to keep our work both alive and meaningful, it's time that scholars and teachers and students of literature (and academic researchers in general) engage in public policy debates, bringing the tools of our training into the public discourse. Networking with those whose decisions impact the world beyond our universities; finding new ways to educate, such as the proposed "colonia tour"; making our voices heard as public intellectuals—these are only a few of

the possibilities. The Symposium on Globalization and the Environmental Justice Movement is a huge step for ASLE, one that can offer very real opportunities for us to explore the political and social ramifications of not only *what* we do as literary and cultural scholars, but of what we *can* do. 🌳

—Tom J. Hillard
University of Arizona
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*Restored tallgrass prairie along the Barrett's Rim Trail, Highlands nature Sanctuary, south-central Ohio.
Photo by Lewis Ulman.*

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With your support, ASLE publishes a biannual journal, ISLE, a newsletter, sponsors regular symposia, and hosts a conference every other year.

All this work is accomplished through members who volunteer their time.

Your contributions, though, support ASLE's operating costs. If you consider the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment to be one of your primary intellectual and creative homes, please consider joining your friends and colleagues by giving an additional gift.

New Members and Updated Contact Information

The ASLE members listed below have either joined or changed their contact information since the last directory was mailed.

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If you'd like to become an ASLE member, please provide the following information. (It will be published in the annual ASLE membership directory. If you prefer that your contact information not be published, please check this box.)

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* Couples: Please send contact information for both people.

** Names of sustaining, patron, and donor members will be published in *ASLE News* unless anonymity is requested.

Please make checks payable to ASLE. All checks must be in U.S. dollars, drawn on U.S. banks. International members may pay by Visa or MasterCard. Send this form, along with your check or credit card information (type of card, card number and expiration date), to:

Annie Ingram, ASLE Treasurer, Department of English, Davidson College, Davidson, NC, 28036



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*Wind
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