



Presenters:



Tom K. Wessels is an ecologist and founding director of the master's degree program in Conservation Biology at Antioch University New England. He is former chair of the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation that fosters environmental leadership through graduate fellowships and organizational grants. He serves as an ecological consultant to the Rain Forest Alliance's SmartWood Green Certification Program. In that capacity Tom helped draft green certification assessment guidelines for forest operations in the northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. Tom has conducted landscape level workshops throughout the United States for over 30 years. His books include: *Reading the Forested Landscape*, *The Granite Landscape*, *Untamed Vermont*, and *The Myth of Progress: Toward a Sustainable Future*.

Local Grassroot Approaches to a Sustainable Future (Keynote presentation, Friday): The fall of 2008 exposed major flaws in the functioning of our economic system, one of which is a serious lack of resiliency. Although our political leaders are addressing some of these flaws, I do not believe they have the understanding nor the where-with-all to institute the magnitude of change needed to forge a stable, sustainable economy. Creating a truly sustainable future will take the grassroots work of citizens within their towns and cities to rebuild local, self-organized economies that serve the total well being of their communities.

Reading the Forested Landscape (Saturday): Using clues such as the shapes of trees, decay patterns in stumps and downed trees, the construction of stone walls, and the general lay of the land detailed forest histories can be unraveled. This field walk will interpret the history of the Glen Brook woodlands.



Chris Camuto (Saturday) is the author of four books of nonfiction--*A Fly Fisherman's Blue Ridge*, *Another Country: Journeying Toward the Cherokee Mountains*, *Hunting from Home: A Year Afield in the Blue Ridge Mountains* and, most recently, *Time and Tide in Acadia: Seasons on Mount Desert Island* and numerous essays and articles. He is a columnist for *Gray's Sporting Journal* and *Trout* magazine. He will be reading from his newest book and talking about the art of writing about natural places.

Chris is an Associate Professor of English at Bucknell University, where he teaches American and Native American literature, as well as creative writing, primarily nonfiction. He is working to restore the ecology of an 80-acre woodland farm in western Union County in central Pennsylvania and writing a book about that experience--*Works & Days: Notes on a Woodland Farm*. He is also working on two volumes of verse and also doing field work in Parco Nazionale de Pollino in southern Italy and in the Aeolian Islands (Sicily).



Diane Les Becquets (Friday) is the director of creative writing at Southern New Hampshire University, and the assistant director of the university's low-residency MFA program in fiction and nonfiction. She is the award winning author of three novels: *The Stones of Mourning Creek*; *Love, Cajun Style*; and *Season of Ice*, and is a recipient of a prestigious PEN American fellowship. She has taught writing workshops across the country, including the shelters during Katrina's aftermath.

Three-Dimensional Prose: Subtext in Fiction and Nonfiction: If someone were to observe your personal life on the surface and describe the happenings of your day, the story told would be one thing. But if God were to look inside your heart and mind and understand all of the unspoken words, the implied thoughts and feelings, the hidden meaning behind the hidden gestures, the subtext, which according to the Oxford University Press means the "hidden theme," what would your story be? What are those hidden themes within your writing, whether it be fiction or nonfiction? What is the critical meaning? If a piece of fiction is driven by plot, the story will feel flat, two dimensional. If a piece of nonfiction is driven by descriptive narrative – same thing. However, if your work is driven by a larger critical meaning, a subtext beyond the obvious, you are on your way to creating art. Understanding the critical meaning of your work will also give you the language you will need to propose your project to the publishing world. This workshop will focus on metaphors, scenes, language, and implied dialogue. I truly believe that once you have this understanding in place for your project, it is as if you have a beacon of light in front of you guiding your writing forward. Let the journey begin!



Howard Mansfield (Friday) is the author of six books exploring sense of place, including *The Bones of the Earth*, *In the Memory House*, and *The Same Ax, Twice*. He edited the anthology, *Where The Mountain Stands Alone: Stories of Place in the Monadnock Region*. He lives in New Hampshire with his wife, the writer Sy Montgomery.

Howard Mansfield will be reading from *The Bones of the Earth*, a book about landmarks of the oldest kind – sticks and stones – as we find them within sight of Monadnock. Mansfield's reading will explore old stone arch bridges, landmark elms, small towns, impromptu memorials, and the forces that topple our original axis mundi, unsettling us and the land.



Sy Montgomery (Friday) has been chased by an angry silverback gorilla in Zaire and bitten by a vampire bat in Costa Rica. She has searched for snow leopards in the Altai Mountains of Mongolia's Gobi, worked in a pit crawling with 18,000 snakes in Manitoba, been deftly undressed by an orangutan in Borneo and hunted by a tiger in India. On her most recent expedition, to a remote island off the shores of New Zealand's South Island, one of the most endangered birds in the world, the flightless nocturnal kakapo parrot, copulated with her head. Sy is the author of 14 books for adults and children, including the national bestseller, *The Good Good Pig*. She lives with her husband, writer Howard Mansfield, rescued border collie Sally, and 10 free-range laying hens in Hancock, N.H.

Presentation: Christopher Hogwood, a spotted runt piglet almost too small and sick to live but who grew to 750 pounds and amassed a fan club spanning the globe, is the star of *The Good*

Good Pig. But the town of Hancock NH, population then 1500 (now it's grown to 1600) is also a vivid character in the story of Hogwood's life. Author Sy Montgomery will read from her bestselling book and speak about how "it takes a village" to raise a 750-pound hog to stardom.



RICHARD ADAMS CAREY (Saturday) grew up in Connecticut, studied drama and American literature at Harvard, taught school in several Yupik Eskimo villages of western Alaska, and has lived in New Hampshire since 1984. His essays and short fiction have appeared in a number of journals and magazines. He is the author of three books of narrative nonfiction: *Raven's Children: An Alaskan Culture at Twilight* (Houghton Mifflin, 1992); *Against the Tide: The Fate of the New England Fisherman* (Houghton Mifflin, 1999); and *The Philosopher Fish: Sturgeon, Caviar, and the Geography of Desire* (Counterpoint Press, 2005). *Raven's Children* was chosen as a New York Public Library Book to Remember, and *Against the Tide* won the 2001 New Hampshire Literary Prize for Nonfiction. He teaches in Southern New Hampshire University's MFA program in writing and is president of the New Hampshire Writer's Project board of trustees.

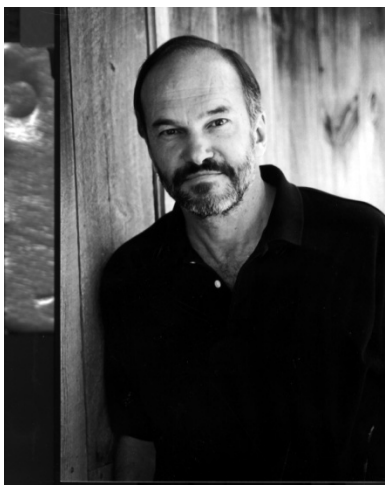
Presentation A: The junction of the Volga River and the Caspian Sea not only provides waters that are the world's richest source of caviar, but it defines a surreal and dangerous place where history, politics, ecology, and ordinary human greed all work at cross-purposes. A reading from *The Philosopher Fish: Sturgeon, Caviar, and the Geography of Desire* (Counterpoint, 2005). About 20 minutes.

Presentation B: In 1997, a bitter loner named Carl Drega went on a gun rampage through the little town of Colebrook, New Hampshire. Drega killed Judge Vickie Bunnell, newspaper editor Dennis Joos, and state policemen Scott Phillips and Les Lord before dying in a shoot-out in Vermont. The incident made headlines across the world, and much of its special horror lay in the place in which it occurred. A reading from a work in progress, *Their Town*. About 20 minutes.



Michael K. Steinberg (Saturday) is an assistant professor of environmental studies at the University of Alabama and curator of ornithology with the Alabama Museum of Natural History. His research, writing, and teaching are broadly focused on environmental management and conservation of endangered species. His research has taken place in Hawaii, West Africa, Central America, the U.S. South, and New England.

Michael K. Steinberg will discuss his 2008 book *Stalking the Ghost Bird*. In it, Steinberg engages the lengthy debate over the ivory-bill's status by examining the reported sightings and extensive efforts to find the rare bird in Louisiana. Louisiana has long been at the center of the ivory-bill's story. John James Audubon wrote about the bird and its habitat during his stay in St. Francisville, and scientists James Tanner and George Lowery studied the ivory-bill in Louisiana in the 1930s and 1940s. More recently, bird experts have conducted targeted searches in Louisiana. Interviews with conservation officials, ornithologists, and native Louisianans illuminate the ongoing controversy and explore why the ivory-bill, more than any other bird, arouses so much attention.



Robert J. Begiebing (Friday) is the author of thirty articles and stories and six books, including an historical New England trilogy of novels spanning 1648-1850. His novel *Rebecca Wentworth's Distraction* won the Langum Prize for historical fiction in 2003. *The Strange Death of Mistress Coffin* was chosen as a Main Selection for the Mystery and Literary Guild Book Clubs. His novels have been favorably reviewed in *The New York Times*, *The Times of London*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Yankee Magazine*, and *Library Journal*, among other periodicals. His fiction writing has been supported by grants from the Lila-Wallace

Foundation and the New Hampshire Council for the Arts. In 2007, Governor John Lynch appointed Begiebing to the Council for the Arts. He directs the Low-Residency MFA in Fiction and Nonfiction at Southern NH University.

Landscape and Memory: A reading and discussion from a work in progress: *A Berkshire Boyhood*. Those of us fortunate enough to grow from childhood into adolescence in a powerful landscape know how important a role our memory of that landscape plays in our lives. Following a brief reading, Robert Begiebing will engage the audience in a discussion of the power of their childhood landscapes in their own lives.



Kim Ponders (Saturday) is the author of two novels, *The Art of Uncontrolled Flight* (2005), named a BookSense pick, and *The Last Blue Mile* (2007). The *Los Angeles Times* has compared her work to that of James Salter and Joseph Heller. She is an Air Force Reserve officer and graduate of Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers. Kim is director of the A Room of Her Own Foundation Writers' Retreat in Abiquiu, N.M., and she teaches writing in the Southern New Hampshire University M.F.A. program. Her work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Story Quarterly*, and other magazines. She's currently at work on a memoir.

Getting the Sahara into the Genie's Bottle: I love the idea that place informs story, and that time informs place. That is, the same place is never quite the same twice. In this discussion, we'll look at how memory and time alter our sense of place, and I'll talk about some of my own strategies in pulling faraway places into a story's narrative.



Baron Wormser (Sunday) is the author/co-author of twelve books, most recently the paperback edition of *The Road Washes Out in Spring: A Poet's Memoir of Living Off the Grid*, *Scattered Chapters: New and Selected Poems* and a work of fiction entitled *The Poetry Life: Ten Stories*. He is a former poet laureate of Maine who teaches in the Stonecoast MFA Program and the Fairfield University MFA Program, directs the Frost Place Conference on Poetry and Teaching and works widely in schools. Wormser has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

People and Place: Linking the Two in Prose and Poetry: This workshop will focus on writing that seeks in a few pages to show a human life and its connection to a place. The intent is to honor the fullness of a life and its connections in not many words and without the abstraction of generalization. Accordingly, we will dwell with writing that seeks through a scene, a moment, a memory, an image to show the depth of the tie between a person and a place. Prompts to get us writing will come from *The Road Washes Out in Spring: A Poet's Memoir of Living Off the Grid* and some poems from *Scattered Chapters*, both by Baron Wormser.

PHOTO T/K

Ian Ramsey (Sunday) is a life-long resident of the Gulf of Maine, Ian Ramsey is a published poet and writer who is committed to his bioregion through environmental work, arts activism, and building community. His writing is focused on the challenges of living in a particular watershed, developing and maintaining rural culture, and the subtle connections between worldwide northern ecosystems and cultures. He has walked among migrating caribou herds and grizzlies in the arctic, paddled with whales and glaciers, and performed as a member of a subarctic Inuit dance troupe. As a musician he has toured Europe playing jazz, played folk music with mountain villagers in Vietnam, led chants in Northern Japan's Nebuta Festival, and has been the director of a community steelband for over a decade. For ten years, he has been on the faculty at North Yarmouth Academy, where he is the Chair of Fine Arts. Ian has been an artist-in-residence, teacher and performer throughout much of America and in several foreign countries. He is also a licensed Maine Guide, a certified BCU four-star sea kayaker, and has been featured in Backpacker magazine.

Giving Voice to Your Place: a Bioregional Approach to Poetry: In this workshop, poet Ian Ramsey will give a short reading, and then will discuss the concept of bioregionalism and how

that might alter how we look at, and live in, the places we inhabit. During the heart of the workshop, participants will craft writing that speaks to the characters and relationships, human and non-human, in places that are important to them.



Katherine Towler (Saturday) is author of the novels *Snow Island* and *Evening Ferry*. The third volume of her New England trilogy, *Island Light*, will be published in January 2010. She has been awarded fellowships by Yaddo, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and served as the George Bennett Fellow at Phillips Exeter Academy. She teaches in the MFA Program in Writing at Southern New Hampshire University.

Getting to Know You: Character and Place, Craft Workshop: In this workshop, we will look at the different types of characters found in fiction through the ages and will explore strategies for creating characters who are more dynamic and complex. We will discuss the intersection between character and such elements as setting, plot, dialogue, and language. How do you take a rough draft and through revision deepen your understanding (and the reader's) of your characters? We'll go over some strategies for accomplishing this and will complete a short writing exercise designed to help you discover more about a character (or characters) and their connection to place. Preferred time: 90 minutes.



Ken Wright resides with his daughter in the woods of Gilsum, NH, working to live sustainably within the landscape. He works as a crisis interventionist and teacher. Subject areas include tracking, edible and medicinal plants, forest analysis, sustainable land management planning, and wildlife management. He has self-published a wildlife food value guide and a small volume of poetry, *Dawn at the Tree of Knowledge*. Ken's poetry and philosophy reflect the integration of place to self, self to place, and self to self. He portrays life and realization with honesty, humor and respect. A voice of New England.

Musicians:



Keynote Musician: Erica Wheeler (Friday night)

“Her voice and lyrics are beautifully expressive....a Major Talent.” --*The Boston Herald*

“Insightful, imaginative songs...her imagery can nail down relationships in a single verse.” --*The Washington Post*

Based in western Massachusetts, **Erica Wheeler** is an award-winning songwriter with five critically acclaimed releases to her credit. She has been featured on NPR’s *All Things Considered* and WXPN’s *World Café*. Her CD *The Harvest* remained on Billboard’s Gavin Americana Chart for five months with a solid month in the top ten. Erica has appeared at clubs, concert halls, colleges and festivals across the country and has shared the bill with Shawn Colvin, Indigo Girls, Greg Brown and many others. She has been a featured presenter at conferences, events and learning centers across the country, from Yosemite National Park (CA) to the National Land Conservation Conference (TN.) Her environmental work has been featured in national publications such as *Orion*, *Yankee* and *Yes!* magazines, and *Good Summer Rain* was the winner of the 2008 National Association for Interpretation Media Award for “Best Interpretive Music.”

Erica Wheeler is also offering a workshop presentation on Saturday: **The Soulful Landscape: Restoring the Relationship between People and Place:** This workshop explores the relationships between people and place today, and offers tools and opportunities for you to craft your own stories of place and belonging.

Beginning with a presentation of “place-based” songs, stories, poems and visual art, Erica inspires participants to find their own creative voice. They are guided through a series of writing exercises designed to reveal the connections between people and place today. This is followed by group sharing and discussion, as time allows. Participants are encouraged to give form to their in-class writings. (As a demonstration, Erica often creates a “song on the spot” drawing lines from a participant’s writings, mirroring back to them the power of their words.) Participants leave inspired and with a new method of writing for further exploration. They gain a renewed sense of connection to themselves, their work and their surroundings. Handouts are provided for continued creative inspiration and exploration.



Dan Strauss started writing music when he picked up the guitar at age 17 upon realizing that a piano was too heavy to carry around. Original songs started emerging as soon as three chords were learned. Over the years, through much collaboration, a writing style began to evolve. His songs, steeped in melody and lush hooks, pen tales about life and relationships with a Dylan-esque insight, Springsteen sincerity and classical music sensitivity. Whatever the message, each song is charmingly delivered through the engaging, untainted voice and mature musical renderings of this Brooklyn-based rock artist.



Peter Siegel's music is a melting pot of radical Americana. With roots in the Hudson Valley of NY, Peter was raised on Phil Ochs, lefty Jewish politics, the post 60's environmental activism of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Pete Seeger, the old time square dance scene, Warner Brothers cartoons, Jimi Hendrix and 70's and 80's pop. Put that together in a warm stew and you've got the mix that is Peter Siegel's Radical Roots music.



Lunatic Fringe (Sunday noon) is an exciting 5-piece ensemble based in New Hampshire, specializing in West African and American roots rhythms and melodies using unique instrumentation. Whether playing original compositions or breathing new life into well-known New Orleans and Motown cover songs, the music exudes an earthy joy and their performances are a life-affirming celebration. The tuba and trombone conjure up New Orleans jazz and parade music, baroque horn music, and jamband grooves. The balafon draws upon the West African influences that informed our American music. The acoustic guitar opens the door to all of our western folk traditions. The percussion, whether djembe or trapset, bring it all home, with an immediate, irresistible sound. Fred Simmons: Trombone, vocals; Philip Sherwood: Guitar, vocals; Karl Wilson: Tuba; Barbara Leavy—Balafon: Percussion; Tara Greenblatt: Drum set, Percussion, vocals.

Sarah Atwood, a native of Keene, NH, has been playing for the Keene Chamber Orchestra since elementary school.

Artists:



Taryn Day graduated from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine arts in 1982 with a four-year certificate in painting. She has been painting and exhibiting ever since, but recently completed her BFA from the University of Pennsylvania. She has won many grants and awards, notably the Ware Scholarship for European Travel from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and an artist residency with the Helena Wurlitzer Foundation in Taos, New Mexico. Her painting style can be described as "painterly realism". A review in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (by Victoria Donahoe) has described her paintings as "subtle and intense works that somehow achieve serenity and energy at the same time."



Peter Foster is a second-year student at the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture in Manhattan. His recent interest in painting tended to the abstract, but while at Glen Brook he hopes to develop proficiency in *plein-aire* landscape painting, offering a unique understanding of the New Hampshire countryside -- trees, farm animals, human activity, buildings.



Eleanor Briggs, founder of the Harris Center in Hancock, N.H., and active worldwide in the Wildlife Conservation Society, is an accomplished travel photographer, having explored India, Bolivia, Laos, Burma, Thailand, Bhutan, and the wilds and byways of North America. Whether up a tree in the flooded forest of Cambodia's Tonle Sap with bird guano, ants and a 400mm lens, or lurking in a blind in Bhutan's Himalayan foothills, Eleanor Briggs has photographed some of the most spectacular and wild parts of the world. Over the last three decades, Briggs' work has been shown in museums and galleries in New England, as well as around the country. Her photographs have appeared in national magazines and books, including *The Man-Eating Tigers of Sundarbans* (written by Sy Montgomery), published by Houghton Mifflin. Her work hangs in the American Embassies in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and Lima, Peru. In April 2007, she was awarded the Sahametrei Medal by the Government of Cambodia for her conservation efforts and book on that country. She will present a selection of her work from a recent expedition to Prek Toal, a floating village in Cambodia's Great Lake.



Brooklyn-based artist **Gregory William Frux** paints both urban landscape and wilderness scenes. His cityscapes portray brownstones, landmark churches, industrial architecture and New York's waterfront. His landscape work includes the Northeast's forests and crags, the Northern Rockies, desert California, Antarctica, Alaska, the Yukon and the Bolivian Andes. Greg's mountaineering and wilderness travels feed his imagination and fuel his creative life. Frux has served as artist-in-residence in Glacier National Park Montana, Joshua Tree National Park and Death Valley National Park. His paintings have been exhibited widely, including Lincoln Center, the Cordova Historical Museum, the Coney Island Museum, the Salmagundi Club, Long

Island University, Brooklyn College, the Greenwich Arts Council, and the offices of HBO and the United States Embassies in Ethiopia and Madagascar. He was the first American to show at the Kyrgyz National Museum of Art and his work is in the collections of the Library of Congress, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, The New York City Department of Education and the National Park Service. His travel adventures have become sources for his art. Greg Frux and Janet Morgan will together offer a participatory workshop on *pleine aire* painting (watercolor and sketching) and will also engage in *pleine aire* work throughout the day.



Janet Morgan Janet Morgan's expressive paintings capture movement, sound and a visceral response to the earth and her inhabitants. She has been artist-in-residence in Death Valley National Park, Weir Farm National History Site in Connecticut, and the Omega Institute in New York. Morgan worked for 18 years as an Expressive Arts Therapist at Sloan Kettering with adult cancer patients, and is now a full time artist. Her paintings have been shown extensively, including Microcosm Gallery in New York City, the Tabla Rasa Gallery and the Williamsburg Art & Historical Center in Brooklyn, on stage at Omega's Women and Power Conference and in the Kostume Kult Theme Camp at the Burning Man Festival. She has created her own pantheon of Gods and Goddesses - 165 large watercolors, and has painted landscapes inspired by Bolivia, Kyrgyzstan, the American southwest, west and east and now Antarctica. She has also studied and painted images of Belly Dance for over a decade. Morgan has just completed a children's book called *Welcome to Death Valley*. Her work has been published and honored by the Brooklyn, N.Y., Arts Council, *Plein Aire* magazine, and *The New York Times*. She lives in New York. Greg Frux and Janet Morgan will together offer a participatory workshop on *pleine aire* painting (watercolor and sketching) and will also engage in *pleine aire* work throughout the day.

Filmmakers:



Anna Holtzman, *Subway Dreams*, is a filmmaker based in Brooklyn, NY. Her project *Subway Dreams* documents the lives and subterranean performances of several subway musicians who utilize the unique sound capabilities and public audience of New York City's subway systems.



Heather Spilkin, *Above Brooklyn*, is a filmmaker and editor based in Brooklyn, New York. In 2008, Heather directed, produced and edited *Above Brooklyn*, a documentary about Brooklyn's rooftop pigeon flyers. Through her research of the small and close-knit subculture of pigeon enthusiasts, she met many types, from competitive homer racers, to hobbyists who try to catch each other's birds in a game of aerial combat. Many years ago, the Brooklyn skies were filled with the birds of the rooftop pigeon breeders, flying together in complicated and beautiful formations. Today the hobby is on the wane, but there is still a small group who continues the tradition. Through interviews with many of the city's longtime pigeon fanciers, we are able to explore the lives of these true Brooklyn characters, their relationships with each other and the ever-changing neighborhoods in which they live and fly. From rooftops to pigeon auctions, Heather thoroughly enjoyed documenting this old but vanishing hobby in the ever-changing neighborhoods of Brooklyn.

Organizers:

Twain Braden, Glen Brook director, has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Hobart College and a J.D. from the Charleston School of Law in Charleston, SC. Twain has led wilderness trips and sailing adventures throughout Northern New England and the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea and holds a current master mariner's license. Twain is the author of three books,

most recently, *Ghosts of the Pioneers: A Family Search for the Independent Oregon Colony of 1844* (The Lyons Press, 2007). He and his wife Leah Day have four children.

Willow Nilsen, Glen Brook's program director, is a New Hampshire native. Her passion for natural history, specifically, the ecosystems of Northern New England, suffuses Glen Brook's programs with a solid foundation in the natural world and sustainable land stewardship. Willow holds a B.A. in environmental studies from Norwich University/Union Institute, Norwich, Vt. She is certified in Wilderness First Aid (WFA) and ropes course instruction. Willow is an avid rock climber, beekeeper, a self-described bird-nerd, a certified yoga instructor, and has received Waldorf training at Antioch University New England. She has a daughter, Sage, in the Monadnock Waldorf School in Keene, NH.

Fred Taylor is a writer and teacher of writing who has taught Environmental Writing and Literature in Antioch University New England's Environmental Studies Masters program for 18 years. He has also taught in Vermont College's M. A. Program and the Community College of Vermont. He has led workshops for a variety of retreat centers and community groups, including Pendle Hill and the Truro Center for the Arts. His own writing focuses on themes of a sense of place and the relationship between inner and outer landscapes. His nature essays have been published in a variety of books and journals, including *The North American Review*, *Alligator Juniper*, *Whole Terrain*, *Teaching in the Field*, *Teaching with Fire*, and Scribners' *American Nature Writers*.

Writing Inner and Outer Landscapes

In this workshop we'll explore the rich interaction between the outer landscape and the landscapes we carry within. Barry Lopez writes that a good story brings together the inner and outer landscapes, and creates a harmony in the listener or reader that brings great satisfaction. We'll explore the forests and fields of Camp Glen Brook, in search of places and living things that resonate with our inner worlds, and explore several easy writing exercises to enable us to discover the deeper connections and the fascinating stories that they hold. All you'll need is a journal and a pen, and the readiness to explore. Writing experience is not necessary.

Rowland Russell is a *bricoleur*, combining writing, art, teaching and consulting into a multifaceted career. In his studies in natural history and ecology, he's found the inspiration and wisdom that informs both spiritual discipline and professional practice. His words and images convey a deeply experienced relation to nature within and around him; his teaching, advising and mentoring link students to ideas, books, places, each other, and to their deeper selves; his information systems expertise, consulting skills and board service weave institutions and projects into the warp and weft of community, ecology and technology. Connecting seemingly isolated elements in nature and culture creates vivid tapestries of learning, healing, hope and sustenance. He and Fred Taylor co-facilitate an annual gathering of nature writers at Glen Brook. Russell is currently working on three separate book proposals; *The Ecology of Paradox: Disturbance and Restoration in Land and Soul*; *Thinking Like a Prairie: Cultivating Biodiversity Within, Among, Between*; and *Death Valley Seeing* (collaborating with artists Gregory Frux and Janet Morgan).