



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

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Notes from the Blooming South

I've noticed one thing about ASLE folks and my other friends who are environmental writers: no matter what they email about, they mention the weather. I love this, because it reminds us that we are not disembodied clickers-of-keys and pushers-of-buttons, that there is a world and we are part of it, inseparable from it, constantly changing and changed by it. Greetings, then, from Oxford, Mississippi, where the forsythia, daffodils, and Bradford pear trees are blooming on this mid-March morning. Outside, it's chilly but dazzling, one of those days that reminds me why so many poems have been written about the tenderness and exhilaration of springtime.

I have been President of ASLE for three months now, and I'm happy to report they have been mellow ones. I am grateful to my predecessor, Allison Wallace, who generously agreed, when the vote that elected us was tied, to serve as President during a conference year; I have the easier job by far, and she is welcome to remind me of it. I am also grateful to our Managing Director, Amy McIntyre, who has taken over all matters of budget and record-keeping, and who turns out to have a rare genius for her job, as well as a kindly disposition. With ASLE membership up around one thousand, and with international affiliations growing and thriving, we are lucky indeed to be in Amy's hands. Everything was running smoothly when I took over as President at the beginning of the year, and I hope to be able to provide such an easy transition for Karla Armbruster next January.

My activities as ASLE President kicked into high gear last week, when sixteen of us gathered for the annual executive council retreat. We met at the Chewalla Retreat Center outside Holly Springs, Mississippi, for two days of discussion and planning broken by plenty of strolling and eating, since the South is famous for both its beauty and its food. Those in attendance included the past, present, and future Presidents; the Managing Director; next year's conference planners, John



2006 ASLE President Ann Fisher-Wirth

Lane and Ellen Goldey; and the Executive Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Bibliography Editor, Graduate Student Liaisons, and all six members of the Executive Council. Richard Kerridge gets the prize: newly elected to the Executive Council, he came all the way from England. I was so excited to host everyone, and especially to introduce those who do not know it to this part of the world. Everyone seemed to have a great time, both at Chewalla and at our Saturday night "banquet" held at the famous Taylor Grocery, a catfish restaurant located outside Oxford in a deliberately ramshackle old grocery store, whose motto is "Eat Or We Both Starve." The bouncer among us then proceeded back to Holly Springs, where they paid a visit to Graceland Too, one man's shrine to Elvis that you have to see to believe. The rest of us went back to Chewalla, where, like the boy in Whitman's "Song of Myself," we lay in our cedar-roofed houses and harked to the musical rain.

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ASLE News is the biannual newsletter of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, reporting ASLE business and publishing information of interest to its membership. Have any news or ideas? Contact newsletter editor Kathryn Miles at kmiles@unity.edu.



Loblolly Pine. Chewalla Lake, Holly Springs, MS. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

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Society for Early Americanists

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ASLE Affiliates

ASLE-UK • ASLE-Japan • ASLE-ANZ

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ASLE-India

ASLE News accepts advertisements of interest to our members at rates of \$200 full page, \$150 1/2 page, \$100 1/4 page and \$75 1/8 page. Contact Kathryn Miles, kmiles@unity.edu, with inquiries.

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We had some interesting discussions at the retreat, particularly about next year's conference at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and about our new plan (spearheaded by Tom Lynch) to award four biennial prizes: one for best graduate student creative presentation at an ASLE conference; one for best graduate student scholarly presentation at an ASLE conference; one for best creative book of environmental writing published between ASLE conferences; and one for the best scholarly book of environmental writing published between ASLE conferences. Details about both topics occur on page 8 of this newsletter.

One of the things that pleases me most about ASLE is its increasing diversity. Louise Westling, co-chair of the fabulous 2005 ASLE conference, described the slate of plenaries as "the most diverse group ASLE has ever had, including four scholars and writers of color from very different communities, with much emphasis on environmental justice writing, and interdiscipli-

nary perspectives from biology, law, and global environmental policy." After meetings at that conference, the Diversity Caucus is newly energized, with two new coordinators, Levita Mondie-Sapp and Priscilla Ybarra. Just a few days ago I received an email from a professor who's interested in developing an ASLE affiliate in Southeast Asia, and another email regarding a forthcoming conference in India. I'm delighted that we now have members on the Executive Council teaching in both Canada and England, and all regions of the United States. And as a transplanted Southerner, I am especially pleased that the 2007 ASLE conference will be held for the first time in the South.

They're paving the hiking trails south of town, and condos are going up all over. Yet recently, walking near faculty housing, I saw a gray fox dart out from the trees. There is much to grieve for, much to work for (or, to work *against*), and much to celebrate. I wish you all a full and beautiful springtime.

— Ann Fisher-Wirth, President

News from the Managing Director

After spending more than a year as Managing Director, I finally feel like I have had a chance to experience most of the aspects of the job. The highlight so far of course has been the wonderful biennial conference in Eugene last year, not the least for the opportunity it afforded me to finally meet some of the members and officers in person!



Great Blue Heron. Olentangy River Wetlands Research Park, Franklin County, OH. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

For those with an interest in the more "practical" aspects of ASLE, which is mostly my territory, I'd like to share a quick update of finances as well as a membership summary.

At the close of 2005, thanks to a successful conference in Eugene, Oregon, the organization had assets of nearly \$79,000. We have invested \$30,000 of this in short term CDs for a better interest return, with plans to set aside a little more here in 2006. For more details about the 2005 fiscal year and ASLE finances, please see the recently updated financial statements page in the "About ASLE" section of the Web site (<http://www.asle.umn.edu/about/finance/finance2005.html>).

As most of you know, our new income-based membership fee structure went into effect at the start of 2006. If you have any feedback about this change I would be glad to hear it so we can evaluate the program as we go forward to 2007. As I write this, our membership remains steady with about 1000 active ASLE members, including nearly 150 people from other countries. You can find out more about who our members are and where they are from by perusing the 2006 Membership Directory, which was mailed at the end of January. If you have not received your copy by now, please contact me at asle.us@verizon.net or 603-357-7411 and I will make sure to send you one.

— Amy McIntyre, Managing Director



Results of the 2005 ASLE Election

Karla Armbruster, associate professor of English at Webster University in St. Louis, has been elected vice-president of ASLE for 2006. She will become president the following year and will help plan the program for ASLE's 2007 conference, to be held at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Richard Kerridge and Sheryl St. Germain have also been elected as the newest members of ASLE's Executive Council. Executive Council members serve three-year terms. ASLE thanks all the candidates for their willingness to serve and expresses its gratitude to Pamela Banting and Adam Sweeting, who are rotating off the Council, for their work on behalf of ASLE.

If you or an ASLE member you know has an interest in serving as a member of the Executive Council or as President, we are currently accepting nominations for the election of two Executive Council members and a Vice President for 2007, who will serve as President in 2008. Please send nominations to Ann Fisher-Wirth, afwirth@olemiss.edu, by June 30, 2006.



Karla Armbruster, 2006 ASLE Vice President

ASLE-India Crosses Disciplinary Boundaries

ASLE-India has had four meetings: three in Chennai, and one in Madurai. The first inaugural meeting was held on 3 August, 2005. In a special lecture for ASLE-India, the Director of Centre for South Asian Studies, Hawaii, discussed the environmental implications of globalization. The second meeting, held on 21 August, focused on sharing ideas and concerns pertaining to ecocriticism. One of the topics of discussion was the approach to simple societies. Prof. Narasimhan, (Plant Biology) struck a note of caution on the possibility of romanticizing simple societies. On 4 November, 2005, the group met to share experiences in the field and review each other's work. Prof. Dayanandan, an Emeritus Scientist, drew the attention of the participants to the dilemmas before a sensitive ecocritic, emphasizing the ethical basis of ecocriticism. The fourth meeting was held in Madurai, where four Plant Biologists enriched the discussion on interdisciplinarity in ecocriticism. Prof. Narasimhan spoke briefly on the role of plants in colonialism and slavery while reading his own poems that addressed ecological issues. Prof. Nirmal Selvamony shared his ideas on "oikosemiotics." In order to strengthen the work of scholars in Kerala, the next meeting of ASLE-India is likely to be held there. The meetings held so far have succeeded in no small measure in encouraging true interdisciplinarity by bringing down the obtrusive wall between the "arts" and the "sciences."

Members of ASLE-India interact not only with scholars in India, but also with those from other countries. Prof. Narasimhan visited Queen's University, Canada, in October,

2005, to participate in a seminar on agrobiodiversity. Prof. Nirmal Selvamony has presented several papers internationally in 2005: "Power, Agency and the Oikos" at the Third Tamkang International Conference on Ecological Discourse at Tamkang University, Taipei, Taiwan, in May, 2005; "Endangering Ontology: A Critique of Humanistic Ecocriticism" at the IV International Conference of Literatures in English, on the Endangered Planet in Literature, at Dogus University, Istanbul, Turkey, in November, 2005; "Literature, Nature, India: From *Tinai* to Oikocriticism" at the Institut fur Anglistik und Amerikanistik, Universitat Dortmund, Germany, in November, 2005; and "A Heaven of Blue Glass and the Jasmine Bower: American and Tamil Paradises" (the concept of oikos), at John F. Kennedy Insitut fur Nordamerikastudien, Freie Universitat, Berlin, Germany, in November, 2005.

Additionally, members of ASLE-India have been working to develop research opportunities for students. The postgraduate students at Loyola College, Chennai, who take the course "Ecopoetics" with Prof. Jeyadoss, recently went on a study tour to Kodaikkanal. This, probably, is the first ever such tour in India. The postgraduate students from Madras Christian College, who take a similar course with Prof. Nirmal Selvamony, visited the Malayali tribes of Kolli Hills (of the Eastern Ghats, Tamil Nadu) in March of this year.

ASLE-India published its second newsletter, in March, 2006. Its focus is on syllabi for ecocriticism from four colleges. The group encourages more colleges to introduce courses in ecocriticism and more scholars to take up research in this area. An update on research is planned for the next issue.

– Nirmal Selvamony, President, ASLE-India

Graduate Student Working Group Activities

Syllabus Database Update

The ASLE Graduate Student Working Group is currently updating the online ASLE Collection of Syllabi in Literature and Environment. Over the past decade, literature and environment studies have shifted and evolved, and these changes are often reflected in the courses we teach. One of the Working Group's goals is to see that the syllabi collection reflects this diversity of approaches to teaching about literature and nature. To that end, we encourage ASLE members to browse the current collection and help identify gaps that need to be filled.

For those interested in adding their own syllabi to the collection, please contact Tom Hillard for more information: thillard@email.arizona.edu. The current collection of syllabi can be found at: <http://www.asle.umn.edu/archive/syllabi/syllabi.html>.

New Dissertation Database in the Works

The graduate student committee of ASLE seeks submissions to the Dissertations in Progress database, which will be posted to the Online Bibliography and accessed through a special page on the ASLE Web site. Submissions should demonstrate relevance to concerns and interests in the ASLE community; this relevance should appear in the abstract of the dissertation project. Graduate students interested in participating should send the following information to Tom Hillard, thillard@email.arizona.edu:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Name | Email |
| Institution | Degree/Program |
| Advisor (Other Committee Members) | Dissertation Title |
| Expected Completion Date | Keywords (no more than 10 words) |
| Abstract (no more than 250 words) | Title of completed master's thesis and institutional affiliation (if relevant) |

Become an ASLE Graduate Liaison

As I finish my term as a graduate student liaison for ASLE, I would like to encourage other graduate students to consider the opportunities the position affords. For me, it has been a way to contribute to the organization, connect with others in environmental literature, creative writing, and science, and work on projects with graduate students around the country. Some of the projects we have collaborated on include a survey aimed at meeting the professional needs of student members, the organization of professionalization sessions at the bi-annual conference, a membership drive, and contribution to the online bibliography. Projects the liaisons and other graduates are currently working on include collecting abstracts of dissertations in progress, updating the ASLE online syllabus collection, building connections among ASLE and ASLE-affiliate graduate students in North America and abroad, and preparing for the conference in 2007. Collaborating with other ASLE students and faculty from around North America has resulted in friendships and valuable professional relationships. And of course, one of the biggest reasons to become a liaison: it's fun! Yes, there's work involved, but the business meetings and gatherings at the conference—sometimes to meet for the first time those you've spent a year working with over the phone and email—are more like reunions of family and friends. The spirit of the organization and the caliber of its leaders and members have made it an honor to serve ASLE—I encourage any ASLE graduate student to consider this commitment a valuable opportunity.

The ASLE graduate liaison position is a two-year term that begins July 2006. Interested graduate students should send a c.v. and letter of application explaining their experience with ASLE, why they want to be a liaison, and what they bring to the position to Ann Fisher-Wirth (afwirth@olemiss.edu) by May 15, 2006.

— Amy M. Patrick, Current Graduate Liaison

ASLE-UK Promotes Research and Learning

Here in the UK the Arts and Humanities Research Board have launched a large nationwide project to support research on landscape and environment. It will draw proposals from cultural geographers, cultural critics with interests in animal representations and ecocritics. Part of the aim of the project is to promote interdisciplinary networks.

In addition to support for research, the UK Government has started a programme to encourage integration of 'sustainability' in learning and teaching at all levels of the education system. As present and former Chairs of ASLE-UK, Richard Kerridge and I were commissioned to write a report for the Higher Education Academy on the state of sustainability literacy in English. Having surveyed the courses available, we concluded that ecocriticism is thriving in certain institutions in the UK, but has yet to make a national impact. There are many reasons for this disparity (or perhaps time lag) relative to the USA, one of which seems to be a more deeply entrenched 'nature-scepticism' in this country due to the influence of Marxism and suspicion of the conservative tendencies of appeals to 'nature'. However, we hope the Lincoln ASLE-UK conference in September will be an opportunity to consolidate advances so far as well as add new members.

The Call for Papers for Lincoln will be circulated separately, but one thing I would draw attention to is the availability of some funding support for scholars intending to contribute papers on ecocritical pedagogy instead of – or in addition to – ecocritical research. The funding also derives from the sustainability initiative, provided through the English Subject Centre (the central organization supporting learning and teaching development in the subject).

– Greg Garrard, President, ASLE-UK

Springtime at ASLE-Canada

In Spring 2005, I created an ASLE-Canada listserv with just eight subscribers. However, since meeting face-to-face with Canadian members of ASLE during the Eugene conference, both the listserv and our incipient organization have overwintered nicely. Plans are in the works to finalize an organizational structure and identify officers to make ASLE-Canada an official affiliate. There are currently 112 listserv subscribers, including professors of English, French, creative writing, comparative literature, sociology, and environmental studies, graduate students, a significant number of writers, an editor of

a literary press and a filmmaker. Subscribers are mostly Canadians, but we also have a number of Canadianists from Britain, Belgium, Finland, and the United States. This spring I shall be contacting international Canadian Studies eco-scholars and departments to let them know about us and our work and to invite them to join the listserv.

In fall 2006, three graduate students in nature writing and ecocriticism – Lisa Szabo, Ella Soper-Jones and Michael Pereira – created an online newsletter for ASLE-Canada. As this was our inaugural issue, it was graphically poor but extraordinarily information rich. Pointing your browser to <http://individual.utoronto.ca/esjones/> will launch *The Goose*, which has links to editorials, calls for papers for journals and for Canadian and international conferences, upcoming events, new publications, book reviews, featured creative work, the graduate network, and a focus on nature writing and ecocritical work being done in one of Canada's provinces. The first issue featured a short piece by Jennifer Delisle on "Writing the Country of Newfoundland."

The April 2006 issue of *The Goose* (due out April 15th) will feature a new poem by Anne Simpson and a short article by Jonny Covello on readings and writings of the Northwest Territories, accompanied by a bibliography of Territorial literature, arts and archival resources. The Graduate Network will review the University of Calgary's courses and programs in literature and the environment and its Creative Writing Program, the only English-language Ph.D. in creative writing in Canada. Also included will be Paul Huebener's personal narrative about his experiences volunteering with a grassroots organization in Venezuela and a review of John Vaillant's *The Golden Spruce: A True Story of Myth, Madness and Greed* and Birk Sproxtton's *Phantom Lake: North of 54*, about growing up in the Manitoba mining town of Flin Flon north of latitude 54. We encourage ASLE members worldwide to browse our newsletter and even to use it in conjunction with their own teaching and research.

Several ASLE-Canada members are presenting papers during Congress, Canada's annual spring conference of conferences, held this year at York University in Toronto. For example, Cate Mortimer-Sandilands of York and Lorelei Hanson of Athabasca University are organizing a special series of panels this year on the topic of "*The Country and the City Revisited*." Publisher Brick Books is organizing a poetry event featuring Brick poets who write about the natural world, including Jan Conn and Adam Dickinson, which promises to be a highlight. And an ASLE-Canada meeting and festive gathering are in the works.

The seeds planted in Eugene have germinated, and we look forward to healthy and sustainable organizational growth this season.

– Pamela Banting, ASLE-Canada

Retreat Reflections

(or ‘How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Southern Gothic’)

The ASLE Executive Committee Retreat at Chewalla Lake, Holly Springs, Mississippi, took me to the American South for the first time. Clichés, mostly to do with Southern Gothic, were in my mind. Some of them materialised in the landscape. As we drove towards the retreat centre, we crossed bridges over deep swampy woodlands. Every so often a bashed-up car or derelict house appeared among the trees. Most trees were not yet in leaf, and the forests were brown and spiky, but occasionally vivid purple sprays of redbud stood out, and white sprays of dogwood. These were signs of spring. But for long stretches of road, kudzu had wrapped itself around the trees, forming a great, dry, skeletal blanket, covering everything. These sections of forest looked like the floors of fish tanks furred up with algae. I was hoping to see alligators, but was told they didn’t come this far north.

Near the turn-off we saw old sharecroppers’ dwellings, collapsing dark wooden shacks. But the retreat centre itself was a neat set of buildings just off the road, beside a pond, in brown woods of loblolly pine and sweetgum, with patches of flowering dogwood. The woods were still. Leaves dropped, twisting gently. The colours were dry browns: the floor deep with needles. Sounds of cars from the road carried deep into the woods, but only once in a while, a thin, retreating sound. Wildlife wasn’t much in evidence at first, but we soon began to find traces. Woodpeckers drummed intermittently. Tiny blue butterflies flickered in the spots of sunlight, and ragged, rusty-brown commas, just like the English ones. Frogs plopped in, as I approached the pond, and two turtles scrambled down the bank, kicking furiously for purchase. Safe out in the middle, they surfaced, their tiny heads like the ends of sticks. I looked into the water and saw big tadpoles, sitting suspended, like sleek, miniature beavers.

On the drizzly morning we left, we encountered two interesting items of roadkill along the wet forest road: a baby snake, fine in all its detail, showed us its pure white belly; an armadillo looked as if it had crawled from the middle of the road. Almost the right shape, but not quite: in fact smashed like a watermelon, its red flesh visible inside the hollow shell. The tongue was like a worm.

So there was some Gothic, and when, on our first evening walk, we found a maze in the woods, some sculptures and mobiles in the trees, they prompted a few jokes about the Blair Witch Project. Calming ourselves with a sober deconstruction of the anti-environmentalist sub-text of that movie, we flashed our



ASLE officers outside the Chewalla Retreat Center in Holly Springs, MS.

torches jerkily in the trees and found our way back easily enough. And quickly we realised that the figures in the trees, put their by some artists who had previously owned the centre, were actually friendly.

Friday night and the whole of Saturday were taken up with intense discussion. After that we went to Taylor Grocery for fried catfish. This was poor white culture turned into heritage: the benches were bare, the walls and ceiling dense with graffiti, to which we were invited to add. There was a stuffed bobcat on a cupboard, and above our heads, on the wall, the huge head of a russet steer, with felt tip scrawl on his horns and even his fleshy muzzle. The catfish was deliciously salty.

That night we made a strange expedition. Wes Berry had told us about ‘Graceland Too’, a house in Holly Springs that the owner, Paul MacLeod, had turned into an Elvis museum, or shrine. It was painted pink and festooned in Christmas lights. You could visit any time of day or night. So at topm we knocked on the door, and Paul greeted us. He consumed, he told us, a case of Coca-Cola a day, and it looked possible. Elvis memorabilia filled all the rooms, covering the walls and ceilings, pressing us into small clearings: everywhere, in every corner of your eye, that face framed with sideburns or that single dancing figure. Paul’s speech was continuous, rattling with energy, and hard to follow, but certain phrases jumped out: ‘then I moved with the speed of a black mamba’; ‘it has to be someone who doesn’t hate money’; ‘here’s the baby licking up the blood’. He ushered us into his garden, which contained his collection of home-made model electric chairs, and a swing splashed with red paint. ‘Er.. it’s a cage,’ said one of my colleagues, looking up. It was. But he let us out.

We got a lot done. We ate Ann Fisher-Wirth’s gumbo. I want the recipe. I learned a lot about how ASLE works. And I can’t wait for the next one.

– Richard Kerridge, Executive Council Member

Move Over, Grammys. Step Aside, Pushcart!

Executive Council Announces New ASLE Awards

The Executive Council recently approved the creation of four new awards recognizing outstanding achievement in scholarship and creative writing. The biennial ASLE Awards will be awarded in four categories: best book-length publication of scholarly eco-criticism, best book-length publication in creative writing, best scholarly paper delivered at the biennial ASLE conference by a graduate student, and best creative reading given at the biennial ASLE conference by a graduate student. A committee of scholars and writers will review all books and papers submitted; winners will be announced at each biennial conference banquet.

Nominees for the first two awards—best book-length eco-criticism and best creative writing—must be members of ASLE who have published works in the two years prior to each ASLE conference. Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by other members of ASLE or their publishers; all are asked to submit a one-page letter of nomination outlining the merits of the submission. Nominations in advance of the 2007 ASLE conference should be sent to awards coordinator Tom Lynch (tlynch2@unlnotes.unl.edu) by 1 November 2006. Finalists selected by the review committee will be asked to provide the committee with copies of their book by 1 January 2006 for full review.

Graduate students interested in submitting their conference papers for consideration will be asked to submit a completed copy of either their scholarly or creative pieces a month before the conference. A formal CFP detailing evaluation criteria and deadlines for these two awards will appear in the Fall 2006 newsletter.

All four awards will include a monetary prize in addition to inclusion in the conference banquet program. ASLE members may make contributions to the awards fund by contacting Amy McIntyre (asle.us@verizon.net). Donors may contribute to the general award fund or specify which award they would like to help endow.



Mushrooms. Prairie Oaks Metro Park, Franklin and Madison Counties, OH. Photo by Lewis Ulman

ASLE News Notes



ASLE Emeritus

Beginning this fall, *ASLE News* will honor those ASLE members retired or retiring from teaching. If you would like to acknowledge someone in this new feature—or if you yourself will be retiring during the coming academic year—please contact Kathryn Miles (kmiles@unity.edu). We will include a brief account of scholarly interests, the institutions of employment and years taught in the next newsletter.

ASLE in Your Own Backyard

Interested in hosting the ASLE biennial conference in 2009, 2011, or 2013? Want to propose an off-year symposium? ASLE wants to hear from you! Please consult the “Guidelines for Conference Proposals” on the ASLE website and submit your proposal.

Mentoring Program

ASLE is currently seeking faculty willing to serve as mentors for ASLE’s graduate student mentoring program. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mark Long (mlong@keene.edu).

ASLE-Affiliated Organizations

ASLE is affiliated with a number of other professional organizations, and as such regularly organizes panels at the annual conferences and meetings of these groups. These organizations and their ASLE liaison contacts are listed below, as well as specific information on upcoming panels if known.

American Literature Association (ALA)

ASLE will sponsor a panel called "The Place of Race in Ecocriticism" at the American Literature Association's annual meeting, May 25-28, 2006, in San Francisco. Presenters include Lance Newman (California State University, San Marcos), Megan Simpson, (Pennsylvania State University, Altoona), and Jeffrey Myers (Manhattan College). For more information, contact panel chair Rochelle Johnson, Albertson College of Idaho, rjohnson@albertson.edu.

American Studies Association (ASA), The Environment and Culture Caucus (ECC)


Each ASA conference includes a meeting of the ECC. For more information, contact Adam Sweeting, sweeting@bsu.edu, or Joni Adamson, jadamson@u.arizona.edu.

Conference on College and Composition & Communication (CCCC/4Cs)

The annual CCCC also includes meetings for the "Ecocomposition Special Interest Group." For more information, contact Anthony Lioi, lioi@mit.edu.

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guidelines, samples and information on how to submit
to our annual editors' prizes available online at

<http://isotope.usu.edu>

Midwest Modern Language Association (M/MLA)

Information regarding this year's panel is available under "Call for Papers" on page 14. For more information, contact Tom Dean, thomas-k-dean@uiowa.edu.

Modern Language Association (MLA)

ASLE hosts two panels each year at the MLA meeting. For more information, contact Sarah McFarland, sarah.mcfarland@uas.alaska.edu.

Northeast Modern Language Association (NEMLA)

ASLE hosts at least one panel each year at the NEMLA meeting. For more information, contact Mark Long, mlong@keene.edu.

Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA)

ASLE hosts a session titled "Literary Natures" at the annual meetings of PAMLA. For more information, visit the PAMLA website, <http://www.pamla.org/>.

Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association (RMMLA)

For more information, contact Rochelle Johnson, rjohnson@albertson.edu.

Society of Early Americanists (SEA)

ASLE hosts one panel at the biennial SEA meetings. For more information, contact Michael Ziser, mgziser@ucdavis.edu.

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA)

Frequently, the SLSA conference features literary-environmental panels. For more information, contact Stacy Alaimo ALAIMO@UTA.EDU.

Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)

With the Society of Early Americanists (SEA), ASLE will co-sponsor two sessions at the next biennial meeting of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW), in Philadelphia, November 8-11, 2006. Presenters include Lisa Logan (University of Central Florida), Annie Merrill Ingram (Davidson College), Spencer Schaffner (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Lisa May Giles (Brandies University), Corinne Kopicik (Georgia State University), and Susan Hall (Cornell University). For more information, contact Rochelle Johnson, Albertson College of Idaho, rjohnson@albertson.edu, or Zabelle Stodola, kzstodola@ulr.edu.

ISLE Seeks Essays on Ecocriticism and Postcolonialism

While considering the human and environmental disasters of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, Amitav Ghosh reflects upon the migration of Indians to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands generated by the promise of land for agriculture. In Ghosh's view, the government's ill-fated decision to allocate beach-front property to migrants was "no mere accident"; some housing's "location was determined by an ordering of space that owed more to Europe than to its immediate surroundings." Well before the tsunami struck, local inhabitants knew the sea's enormous expansive power, yet the topographical development of the islands followed a European model, one that Ghosh likens to "the smiling cornices of the French Riviera or the coastline of Italy." While conceding the clarity of hindsight, Ghosh nonetheless wonders, "surely the planners were not unaware of" the volatility of the sea in this region? In his attempt to make sense of the decimation of human life in the wake of the tsunami, Ghosh also seeks to historicize a postcolonial environmental ethic that would help explain the complex layering of spatial use in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

This example, taken from Ghosh's essay "A Town by the Sea," demonstrates a productive interface between postcolonial and ecocritical studies. How do postcolonial studies' interrogation of colonial discourses and insistence on historicity push at ecocriticism's seeming reluctance to historicize environmental realities? In turn, in what ways does the non-human emphasis in ecocritical studies work alongside or perhaps against the postcolonial model of human agency?

We seek essays for a special cluster of articles on ecocriticism and postcolonialism to be featured in *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment* that address these and similar questions through the analysis of postcolonial and indigenous works of writers from all geographical areas, especially Africa, the Caribbean, South Asia, and the Pacific Islands. Possible topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ♦ In what ways have the historical changes wrought by colonization, decolonization, and globalization affected human relationships to the non-human world and the representation of these relationships?
- ♦ How does postcolonial literature depict the spatial organization of place? Does it rely upon or reconfigure urban/rural, modern/primitive, domesticated/wild, and other possible binaries?
- ♦ How are postcolonial writers using genre to portray and, perhaps, introduce alternative ways of being in and knowing the non-human world?
- ♦ Does postcolonial literature offer ways to work through romanticized images of natives, peasants, the folk, and the primitive so as to move us from the idealized to the "ecocritical"?
- ♦ How do postcolonial writing and the global environmental justice movement articulate a critique of first world political, economic, and even literary practices?

Please send all inquiries and full-length submissions (btw. 4000-6500 words, MLA format) to both Cara Cilano (cilanoc@uncw.edu) and Elizabeth DeLoughrey (emd23@cornell.edu) by 15 June, 2006.



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Dr. Kathryn Miles, kmiles@unity.edu

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 6, 2006. *Making Ethics Visible.* The 2nd Midwest Environmental Ethics Conference, St. Paul, Minnesota. Featured speakers include J. Baird Callicott, Andrew Light, and Peter Bell. For more information, visit www.stthomas.edu/phil/ and www.agricola.umn.edu/ethics/.

May 12-13, 2006. *Natural and National Crises: The Shifting Sands of the Literary.* Université de Montréal. For more information on this graduate student conference, visit www.geocities.com/egssmontreal/Call.html.

May 30-June 3, 2006. *Third Annual Joint Meeting on Environmental Philosophy.* Highlands Center, near Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado. This meeting will feature a broad cross-section of the environmental philosophy community. For more information, contact Robert Frodeman (philosophy@unt.edu) or Dale Jamieson (dwj3@nyu.edu).

May 23-26, 2006. *The Human and Its Others.* This seminar will focus on the actual act of defining “the human” in opposition to the deemed “other.” For more information, visit www.princeton.edu/~aclao6.

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ASLE-Related Conferences

April 28-May 1, 2006. *Water: Literary, Cultural and Environmental Perspectives.* The European Association for the Study of Literature, Culture and Environment (EASCLE) will host its second biennial conference at the Alps-Adriatic University of Klagenfurt in Klagenfurt, Austria, located near Lake Wörthersee, Carinthia, Austria. A lake district surrounded by mountains and bisected by the Drau River, this region is particularly well suited for a conference on water issues. The focus of this conference was formed in large part by the United Nations “Water for Life” Decade for Action launched in March, 2005. The preservation and management of water and wetlands are likely to have increasingly important political and social implications in the future. To this end, organizers stress their interest in enhancing interdisciplinarity, and they encourage the interest of colleagues from disciplines outside the Humanities who adhere to the environmental philosophy that all organisms share the biosphere and need to learn to live together in order to ensure a stable sustainable future. Participants will have an opportunity to visit protected wetlands and the surrounding valleys. In keeping with the association’s principle that its annual conference recognize the official language of its host country, the conference will be held in German as well as English. For more information contact Maureen Devine, Maureen.Devine@uni-klu.ac.at.

June 2-4, 2006. *Maine’s Place in the Environmental Imagination* (ASLE Off-Year Symposium). University of Maine at Farmington. Conference organizers invite presentations on the ways in which Maine has figured in the Environmental Imagination of North America: as a storehouse of transcendental virtue and authenticity for Massachusetts, southern New England, and the rest of the nation; how Maine’s “unspoiled” image was reconciled with the reality of clear-cutting and river pollution. Creative presentations are welcome. Conference topics to include, but not limited to: Thoreau and Maine; Maine and the Gothic; Maine as Myth, Symbol, Idea; Coast vs. Mountains: The Two Maines; Maine Logging/Maine Wilderness; Poverty and Wilderness. For more information, please visit the ASLE website (www.asle.umn.edu/conf/asle_conf/asle_conf.html), or the conference website at www.asle.umf.maine.edu. Contact conference host Michael Burke at 207-778-7205 or mdburke@maine.edu.

September 8-10, 2006. *Discordant Harmonies: Ecocriticism in the 21st Century* (ASLE-UK fourth biennial conference). University of Lincoln, England. ASLE-UK invites proposals (deadline May 1, 2006) for papers exploring any aspect of literary and other cultural treatments of the environment. The ideal relationship between humans and the natural world has been imagined in terms of “harmony” and “balance” for at least three centuries. Ecocriticism and environmentalism have been shaped by such metaphors, yet in the science of ecology itself, metaphors of flux and change are challenging the “balance of nature.” What are the consequences for ecocriticism and environmentalism, and for the ways in which we all imagine nature? Interdisciplinary approaches and thematically related creative writing are welcome. Plenary speakers include Dana Phillips, Ursula Heise, and John Simons. Email proposals (200 words max) to: conferences@lincoln.ac.uk. For more information, email Rupert Hildyard, rhildyard@lincoln.ac.uk. For conference information, visit: www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/conferences/index.htm.

ASLE Bookshelf

The following works were recently published by ASLE members. If we've missed your publication, please send bibliographic information to Kathryn Miles at kmiles@unity.edu.

Fisher-Wirth, Ann. *Five Terraces*. Nicholasville, KY: Wind Publications, 2005.

Hinkle, Harry A. and Weis, Monica. *Thomas Merton's Gethsemani: Landscapes of Paradise*. Lexington: UP of Kentucky, 2005.

Jackson, Robert. *Seeking the Region in American Literature and Culture: Modernity, Dissidence, Innovation*. Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 2005.

Klindienst, Patricia. *The Earth Knows My Name: Food, Culture, and Sustainability in the Gardens of Ethnic Americans*. Boston: Beacon Press, April, 2006.



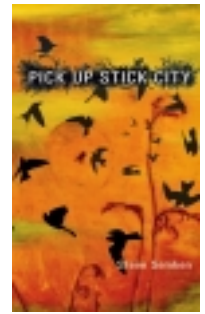
Lynch, Tom (Editor). *El Lobo: Readings on the Mexican Gray Wolf*. Salt Lake City: U of Utah P, 2006.

Rozelle, Lee. *Ecosublime: Environmental Awe and Terror from New World to Oddworld*. Tuscaloosa: U of Alabama P, 2006.

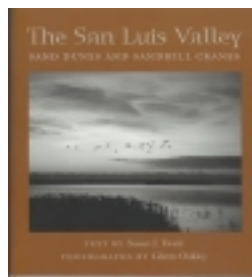
Schmidt, Susan. *Landfall Along the Chesapeake: In the Wake of Captain John Smith*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2006.

Semken, Steve. *The Great Blues*. Topeka, KS: Woodley Press, 2005.

—. *Pick Up Stick City: restoration fiction*. Stillwater, MN: River's Bend Press, 2005.



Simo, Melanie. *Literature of Place: Dwelling on the Land Before Earth Day 1970*. Charlottesville: U of Virginia P, 2005.



Southwick, Sally J. *Building on a Borrowed Past*. Athens: Ohio UP, 2005.

Steinberg, Jim and Tweit, Susan J. *Colorado Less Traveled*. Steamboat Springs: Portfolio Publications, 2005.

Tweit, Susan J. *The San Luis Valley: Sand Dunes and Sandhill Cranes*. Tucson: U of Arizona P, 2005.

Wingfield, Andrew. *Hear Him Roar*. Logan: Utah State UP, 2005.

Wockner, Gary, Gregory McNamee, and Sue Ellen Campbell (Editors). *Comeback Wolves: Western Writers Welcome the Wolf Home*. Boulder: Johnson Books, 2005.

In Memoriam: Luna Leopold

Luna Leopold, respected earth scientist and son of Aldo Leopold, died recently at his home in Berkeley, California. In his 90s, he had been in poor health for the last few years. One of the five children of Aldo and Estella Bergere Leopold, Luna was the primary force in compiling and editing the essays that were published as *A Sand County Almanac*. As chief hydrologist for the US Geological Survey, he fostered a generation of earth scientists who valued field observation and longterm studies, and transformed the disciplines of hydrology and geomorphology. On retiring from the USGS, he taught at the University of California, Berkeley, launching yet another generation (or two) of hydrologists with their feet on the ground and their eyes on the water. Retiring from a second career, he continued to teach field sessions and sponsor symposia, and remained active in both field studies and scientific publication.

I had the great pleasure of knowing and working with Luna. Besides his primary scientific work, Luna was a dedicated naturalist, with the most disciplined curiosity I've ever seen. At his cabin on the New Fork River in Wyoming, he had a simple prop trap for birds, and banded them for 30 years or so, recording the oldest sparrow in North America. One afternoon, he handed me a net and pointed out butterflies in the meadow by the house. He was studying which species came back most quickly after a severe thunderstorm. I've never met anyone who could sustain so many interests in parallel, and collect high-quality data on all of them. His field notes (shelves of those orange K & E Mining Transit books) are a treasure that ought to be published entire.

Last year, he sent me three chapters of a memoir-in-progress and two published papers: one on a 41-year record of changes in a stream channel, and the other on flaked stone found near Pinedale, Wyoming, that showed surface erosion by wind (ventifacts), indicating a much older date than any previously accepted. When I visited him, in January 2005, he showed me the collection, some cleanly faceted and others abraded by millennia of blowing sand. I remember the look of those stones- the polished roundness and sharp edges- and the weight of them in my hand. And just so, his friendship.

— C.L. Rawlins

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June 5-9, 2006. *Writing the Land: John Burroughs and His Legacy.* State University of New York at Oneonta. The 2006 Burroughs Conference will focus on the work of nature writers who, like Burroughs, are linked to a particular place or region. Papers are sought on topics including: nature writing and bioregionalism; regional or “local color” writers; the notion of the “genius loci” in literature; and “back to the land” writers and/or works. For more information, contact Daniel G. Payne, paynedg@oneonta.edu.

June 9-10, 2006. *Symposium on Technology, Knowledge, and Society.* McGill University, Montréal, Canada. The symposium will take a broad and cross-disciplinary approach to technology in society, with an emphasis on the relations between technology and citizenship. Participants will include researchers, teachers, and practitioners whose interests are either technical or humanistic, or whose work crosses over between the applied technological and social sciences. For more information, visit www.Technology-Conference.com.

June 13-16, 2006. *Fourth NEW-CUE Writers' Conference and Workshop in honor of Rachel Carson.* Spruce Point Inn, Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Lawrence Buell, keynote speaker. Featured speakers include Jane Brox, Franklin Burroughs, Jeffrey Cramer, Ted Levin and Jennifer Sahn. For more information, visit <http://www.new-cue.org>.

June 23-27, 2006. *Romanticism, Environment, Crisis.* Centre for Romantic Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwth. This meeting will highlight the continuing urgency of the Romantic text at a time when changes in our biosphere threaten to realize Romanticism's prophetic anxieties. Plenary speakers include Lawrence Buell, Cheryl Glotfelty, James C. McKusick, George Monbiot, and Kate Soper. For more information, contact: Richard Marggraf Turley (rctm@aber.ac.uk) or Damian Walford Davies (dmw@aber.ac.uk), or visit www.aber.ac.uk/english/rec/.

June 22-24, 2006. *First, Do No Harm: Exploring the Theoretical and Practical Challenges Posed by Ecological Restoration.* Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles. This gathering will explore the theoretical and practical difficulties posed by ecological restoration and will culminate in an edited collection of essays. Keynote speaker is Eric Higgs, author of *Nature by Design*. Send inquiries to Scott Cameron at scameron@lum.edu.

June 24-28, 2006. *Conservation Without Borders.* Society for Conservation Biology 20th Annual Meeting, San Jose, California. For more information, visit the conference website: www.conbio.org/2006/.

July 27-30, 2006. *The Lie of the Land: Scottish Landscape and Culture.* The Centre for Scottish Studies, University of Stirling, Scotland. Plenary speakers include Neal Ascherson, Lawrence Buell, Steve Duguid, Murdo Macdonald, and James Robertson. For more information, visit www.land.stir.ac.uk/.

August 3-6, 2006. *Urbanism, Urbanity, and the Nineteenth-Century Novel.* University of California, Santa Cruz. For more information, visit the website: <http://humwww.ucsc.edu/dickens/universe/weekend2006.html>.

September 7-9, 2006. *Kindred Spirits: The Relationship Between Human and Non-Human Animals.* Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. For more information, visit www.indiana.edu/~kspirits/.

September 8-10, 2006. *Re-mapping the American South.* University of the West of England, Bristol, UK. The conference will explore the question of the American South in a global context, examining links with Europe as well as the cross-cultural references between the region and South America and Asia. For information, contact Sarah Robertson, Sarah.Robertson@uwe.ac.uk.

September 14-15, 2006. *Victorian Geographies.* The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York City. The Research Society for Victorian Periodicals (RSVP) meeting will focus on the topic of geographies, broadly construed. For more information, visit www.rs4vp.org/.

September 28-30, 2006. *The Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS).* Sheraton Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska. This 35th anniversary colloquium will examine Canada's role and relationships in the North Pacific region. For more information, contact acsusinalaska@acsus.org.

October 20-21, 2006. *Comparative and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on North American Borderlands.* Louisville, Kentucky. The Filson Institute for the Advanced Study of the Ohio Valley and the Upper South sponsors this conference examining the nature and variety of North American borderlands and their peoples from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Papers will be placed online on the Filson Historical Society's website prior to the conference. For more information contact A. Glenn Crothers, Crothers@filsonhistorical.org; or visit www.filsonhistorical.org/institute.html.

October 26-27, 2006. *Surrealism and the American West.* Arizona State University, Tempe. This meeting will explore the multifaceted Surrealist engagement with the myths, landscapes, and cultures of the American West. For more information, visit www.public.asu.edu/~cmesch/SurrWesthome.htm.

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November 9-12, 2006. *Engaged Romanticism: Romanticism as Praxis.* The 2006 International Conference on Romanticism, Arizona State University, Tempe. For more information, contact Mark Lussier, mark.lussier@asu.edu.

Research Opportunities

No deadline given. *Animals & Society Institute Fellowship Program.* Animals & Society Institute is launching a new program in support of the field of Human-Animal Studies (HAS). Four one-month summer research fellowships are available. Scholars will reside at the host institution and meet for discussion of individual projects and to hear guest lectures by other scholars. The host institutions are chosen for their library resources and faculty of established HAS scholars. The first program will be held at North Carolina State University, which houses the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive. Scholars from all fields are welcome. For more information, visit www.animalsandsociety.org.

Calls for Papers

April 15, 2006. ASLE Associated Organization Panel at the 48th Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention. November 9-12, 2006, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois. "Reconciliation in Environmental Writing." Any topic relating to the idea of human reconciliation with nature as a theme, purpose, subject, or method in writing about the environment. For more information, contact Thomas K. Dean at 319-335-1995, or send abstracts to thomas-k-dean@uiowa.edu.

April 23, 2006. *Southern Writers, Southern Writing.* July 20-22, 2006, University of Mississippi Graduate Student Conference and the Annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, University, Mississippi. Conference organizers welcome abstracts on topics including Southern culture, ecocriticism, nature writing, the Southern landscape, religion, gothic, the grotesque, folklore, material culture, and community oral culture, music, Southern foodways, the South in global contexts, race, gender, class, and identity. Send entire creative works or 200-300 word abstracts of critical works suitable for 15-minute reading time to Kacy Tillman at: ktillman@olemiss.edu (write SWSW in subject line). For information, visit: www.olemiss.edu/conf/swsw/.

May 15, 2006. "Ecocriticism and the Interaction between the Global and the Local in Recent Canadian Literature and Art." *Congreso de la Asociacion Espanola de Estudios Canadienses.* November 17-18, 2006. Madrid, Spain. This panel proposes to

look at the Conference theme from the perspectives opened up by the relatively new interdisciplinary contexts of ecocriticism in Canada. Papers may address any issue within that general framework, from immigrants' revisions of nature-based Canadian myths to First Nations' critiques of those same myths and their reworking of the connection between Canada and the wilderness. Additionally, in recent years the relationship between ecocriticism and gender, as geofeminism or ecofeminism, has produced a whole body of theory, literature, film and art still awaiting analysis. Please send paper proposals to Eva Darias Beautell (U. de La Laguna): edariasb@ull.es, and a copy to the Conference Organizing Committee: congreso@estudioscanadienses.org.

June 1, 2006. *Roughing It.* September 29-October 1, 2006, Denver, Colorado. The fifth International Society for Travel Writing conference seeks proposals for panels and 20-minute papers from scholars working in all areas of travel writing worldwide. Topics may address the literature of travel, exploration, discovery, and adventure from the ancient period to the present, as well as written and visual travel documents such as paintings, guidebooks, postcards, photographs, and films. Especially welcome are studies of adventures in the West. Send 300-word abstracts, including title, professional affiliation, addresses (especially e-mail) phone number, and AV requirements as a MS Word attachment to James Poynter at: poynterj@mscd.edu. For more information, visit: www.mscd.edu/~hmt/new/travel.htm.

July 31, 2006. *Toxic Belonging?: Ecology and Identity in Southern Africa.* October 6-8, 2006, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa. Culture, Literature, and Nature (CLAN) invites submissions. Topics may include: landscape aesthetics and belonging; literary treatments of the politics of land ownership; nature as trope for Africanness/indigeneity; notions of wilderness as expressive of identity; urban vs. rural representations of belonging; pre-colonial societies as exemplars of ecological belonging; influences of scientific ecology on conceptions of belonging. Papers focused on southern African material are especially welcome. Send submissions or inquiries to Dan Wylie at: D.Wylie@ru.ac.za. Visit the colloquium website: www.ru.ac.za/clan.

No deadline given. *Imaginary Cities: Fictions of Urban Space in the Early Modern World.* Pennsylvania State University. This ongoing lecture series and culminating symposium will concentrate on the utopian or mythic metropolis as an idealized representation of urban space. Send inquiries or 500-word abstracts and c.v.'s to Daniel Purdy (dlpr4@psu.edu) or Charlotte Houghton (cmhr7@psu.edu), or visit this site for more information: cfp.english.upenn.edu/archive/Renaissance/or34.html.

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No deadline given. *Society for Human Ecology*. October 18–22, 2006, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, Maine. Proposals invited. For information, www.societyforhumaneecology.org.

Calls for Manuscripts

April 30, 2006. *Early Modern Ecostudies*. This volume seeks to examine constructions of the natural and non-human in the early modern world (to 1700). The editors welcome essays that offer ecocritical readings of early modern texts and contexts; essays that theorize and/or examine the current emphasis in ecocriticism and ecostudies on nineteenth century American literature and culture; and essays that focus on connections between literature, culture, history, and the environment of geographies beyond England and America in the early modern world. Submit abstracts or completed essays to Karen Raber (kraber@olemiss.edu), Tom Hallock (thallock@olemiss.edu), or Ivo Kamps (egkamps@olemiss.edu), Department of English, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.

April 30, 2006. *Exploring Early Modern Regions*. Submissions sought for a volume on early modern approaches to region to be published by Cambridge Scholars Press. Submissions that

look at liminal geographic, linguistic, and textual regions are particularly welcome. Possible avenues of inquiry might investigate different “regions” of early modern books, cartographic representations of regions, household regions, and dialect regions, among other topics. Submit inquiries or abstracts to Emily Smith at: ebowles@learnlink.emory.edu. Full articles (20–30 pages) due May 20, 2006.

May 1, 2006. *KNOCK* Ecolit and Green Art Contest. Sponsored by KNOCK, the literary arts magazine published at Antioch University Seattle. The contest will exhibit ecoliterature and green art that takes on an ecological crisis – past or present – with skill and imagination. Categories include poetry, fiction, nonfiction, art, and cartoons. For submission guidelines and information regarding awards, see the KNOCK website at www.knockjournal.org or contact Bryan Tomasovich, (knock@antiochseattle.edu) editor of KNOCK. KNOCK is a participant in the Green Press Initiative.

May 31, 2006. *CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual, Volume Four*. This publication is dedicated to the interdisciplinary study and artistic appreciation of the South (broadly defined) and Southern culture. For more information, visit www.mupress.org/webpages/books/crossroads.html. Send submissions to Ted Olson at olson@etsu.edu. Submissions will not be returned.

June 15, 2006. *ISLE: Ecocriticism and Postcolonialism*. Please see full notice on page 10 of the newsletter.

July 15, 2006. *Actually Existing Colonialisms*. Special issue of *Journal of Contemporary Thought* (Baroda, India). Guest Editor, Gaurav Desai, Tulane University. While much contemporary social theory focuses on postcolonial temporality, there are many locations—geographical as well as political—that are still best understood as continuous with the era of high colonialism. Papers might address both local politics and its representational claims in areas as diverse as Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Palestine, Tibet, Iraq and in Native American and other indigenous contexts. Email inquiries/essays to gaurav@tulane.edu.

November 1, 2006. *Fashion Theory* (Berg Publishers) would like to publish a special issue on Eco-fashion, edited by Regina A. Root. All topics related to dress and the environment are invited; the issue will integrate both local and global perspectives. Topics might include recycling of textiles or trash in dress; fashion that advocates social change; eco-tourist style and adventure gear; cultural histories of “natural” looks, fabrics and designs; dress and ecological utopia. Submit a two-page abstract, bibliography and CV to Dr. Regina A. Root, Modern Languages & Literatures, College of William & Mary, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795 or email your submission to rroot@wm.edu.

Interested in Literature and the Environment? Join ASLE!

If you are not a current member of ASLE but would like to join, or you need to renew your membership, you can download the application form at <http://www.asle.umn/about/member.html> or email us at asle.us@verizon.net to have one sent. Current yearly membership rates are based on annual income and range from \$20–\$80 a year. ASLE members receive: 2 issues per year of the journal *ISLE*, 2 issues per year of the online newsletter *ASLE News*, the *ASLE Membership Directory*, access to collegial conversations and networking on the ASLE-sponsored listservs, graduate student mentoring, and lots of opportunities to meet new colleagues and friends at fun and engaging conferences and symposia! Membership forms should be sent to:

Amy McIntyre, Managing Director
ASLE
P.O. Box 502
Keene, NH 03431-0502

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No deadline given. *Nature and Culture*. This new journal is a forum for an international community of scholars and practitioners to present, discuss, and evaluate critical issues and themes related to the historical and contemporary relationships that societies, civilizations, empires, regions, nation-states have with nature. The journal contains a serious interpolation of theory, methodology, criticism, and concrete observation forming the basis of this discussion. The mission of the journal is to move beyond specialized disciplinary enclaves and mindsets toward broader syntheses that encompass time, space and structures in understanding the Nature-Culture relationship. For more information, visit www.berghahnbooks.com/journals/nc/.

No deadline given. *Ashgate Series in Nineteenth-Century Transatlantic Studies*. The editors of this new series—Kevin Hutchings, University of Northern British Columbia, and Julia M. Wright, Dalhousie University—invite English language studies focusing on any area of the period ca. 1750-1900, including innovative works spanning transatlantic Romantic and Victorian contexts. Manuscripts focusing on European, African, U.S., Canadian, Caribbean, Central and South American, and Native or Indigenous literature, art, and culture are welcome. Proposals for monographs, collaborative books, and edited collections will be considered. For more information, including a list of prospectus materials, contact the series commissioning editor, Ann Donahue, adonahue@ashgate.com.

No deadline given. *The Journal of Florida Literature*. Since 1988, *The Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Journal of Florida Literature* has published material relevant to the life, works, and friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. The new co-editors would like to invite submissions of critical articles that focus not only on Rawlings but also on issues that fit within the broader contexts of Florida writing, regionalism, feminism, race, ecocriticism, literature of place, domesticity, and Southern culture. Papers should in some way connect with Rawlings and/or contemporaries of Rawlings. Fiction and poetry are also welcome. For more information, contact Brent Kinser at bkinser@email.wcu.edu or Anna Lillios at lillios@mail.ucf.edu.



Spring Azure butterfly. Chewalla Lake, Holly Springs, MS. Photo by Lewis Ulman.

Sustaining Members

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

Much of this work is accomplished through your membership contributions and the members who volunteer their time to serve the organization.

Your contributions 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 listed here by giving at the Sustaining (\$100+) or Patron (\$150+) level.