



ALABAMA WILD



*"In Literature,
it is only the wild
that attracts us.
Dulness is but
another name
for tameness."*

Thoreau



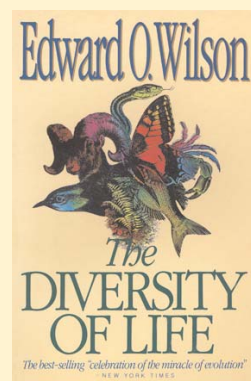
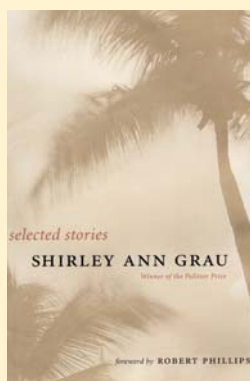
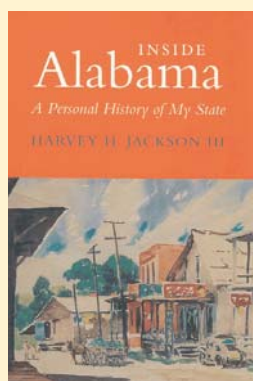
Eighth Annual

ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM

May 5-7, 2005
Monroeville, Alabama
The Literary Capital of Alabama



Join us for the eighth annual Alabama Writers Symposium May 5-7, 2005, in Monroeville, Alabama



M.A. Battilana

The wildlife photographs featured in this brochure are the work of wildlife photographer M.A. Battilana. Battilana has spent untold hours waist deep in the Alabama River swamp to bring back images of what few people will ever see in the wild. He also specializes in portrait and landscape photography. M.A. Battilana currently lives near Monroeville in Southwest Alabama.

Explore "Alabama Wild" at the 2005 Alabama Writers Symposium

The eighth annual Alabama Writers Symposium will continue its recognition and celebration of Alabama writers and scholars May 5-7, 2005, in Monroeville. The symposium will provide a venue for writers, scholars and readers to probe deep into wild territory, surveying the length, breadth, and diversity encompassed by the notion of this year's theme, "Alabama Wild."

Alabama literature runs wild in every sense of the word, and the eighth annual Alabama Writers Symposium sets out to explore and celebrate that wildness in all its diversity of meanings and manifestations. From the

boisterous, extravagant language of Inman Majors' first-person protagonist in *Wonderdog* to the nonconformist social acuity of Pulitzer Prize winner Shirley Ann Grau; from Charles Gaines' wide and wild spectrum of topics and genres to Edward O. Wilson's twenty books (and two Pulitzers) on natural history, evolutionary biology, and the diversity of life; from Barbara Robinette Moss' fierce determination to break the dysfunctional family patterns defining and confining her life to *The Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth's* lifelong struggle for civil rights and social justice, the wild nature of Alabama's contemporary literature is open to investigation.

WRITERS & SCHOLARS



Featured Alabama Writers

PHILIP BEIDLER, who received the 1999 Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar, is Professor of English at the University of Alabama, where he has taught American literature since receiving his PhD from the University of Virginia in 1974. His recent books include *The Good War's Greatest Hits: World War II and American Remembering* and *First Books: The Printed Word and Cultural Formation in Early Alabama*. A memoir, *Late Thoughts on an Old War: The Legacy of Vietnam*, was published in May 2004.

DIANN BLAKELY's third book, *Cities of Flesh and the Dead*, to be published by Zoo Press this spring, won the Alice Fay di Castagnola Award, given for a work-in-progress by the Poetry Society of America. Currently serving as a poetry editor of *Antioch Review*, Blakely works as an arts reviewer for the Village Voice Media Group.

LORETTA COBB is Founder and Director Emerita of The Harbert Writing Center at the University of Montevallo. She graduated with honors at the University of Montevallo and Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont. "Seeing it Through," in *Belles Letters*, was her first published fiction. A collection of her short stories, *The Ocean Was Salt*, was published by Livingston Press in 2004. One of the stories, "Feeling Salty," was short-listed in the international Fish Publishing Contest, 2000, based in Bantry, Ireland. Cobb has published academic essays and poetry, as well as frequent articles for *The Birmingham News*. She is currently at work on her first novel, *How Can I Keep from Singing?* She lives in Montevallo with her novelist husband William Cobb.

JOHN COTTLE's first book, *The Blessings of Hard-Used Angels* (August 2004) won the 2003 George Garret Fiction Prize: Short Fiction. Cottle lives on Lake Martin in central Alabama.



KIRK CURNUTT is a professor of English at Troy University Montgomery. The short story collection *Baby, Let's Make a Baby* (April 2003) is his first book-length work of fiction. He recently completed a novel, *Aphrodite and Dad*.

CHARLES GAINES, a native of Birmingham, is one of the nation's premiere outdoors writers. A graduate of Birmingham Southern College, he writes fiction, nonfiction, and screenplays. His first novel, *Stay Hungry*, nominated for the

National Book Award, was made into a major motion picture starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, for which Gaines wrote the screenplay. His second book, the nonfiction *Pumping Iron*, was an international bestseller and was also made into a film which he scripted and narrated. His other titles include *Survival Games*, *A Family Place*, *Dangler*, *Staying Hard*, *Pumping Iron II: The Unprecedented Woman*, and *Yours in Perfect Manhood*; other honors include a nomination for the Writer's Guild of America Annual Award for film writing, two Cine Gold Eagle Awards for television writing, and a National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Emmy for Television Writing. He lives with his wife, Patricia, in Monastery, Nova Scotia, and Argo, Alabama.

SHIRLEY ANN GRAU's novel *The Keeper of the House* won the 1965 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. The author of four collections of stories and five novels, including *The House on Coliseum Street*, *The Hard Blue Sky*, and *Roadwalkers*, Grau lives in Metairie, Louisiana, and on Martha's Vineyard. Her *Selected Stories* (July 2003) was a Paterson Fiction Prize Finalist.

ANTHONY GROOMS is a professor of creative writing at Kennesaw State University. A poet and fiction writer, Grooms has published several books, including *Trouble No More: Stories* and *Ice Poems*. His novel *Bombingham* won the 2002 Lillian Smith Award for Fiction, was a finalist for the Hurston-Wright Legacy Award, and was a *Washington Post* Most Notable Book of the Year.

ROY HOFFMAN is author of the novel *Chicken Dreaming Corn*, an October 2004 BookSense Pick, inspired by his grandparents' sojourn from Eastern Europe to Alabama in the early 1900s. He is also author of the novel *Almost Family*, recipient of the Lillian Smith Award for Fiction, and the non-fiction *Back Home*, a collection of essays and profiles published in the *Mobile Register*, where he is a staff writer, and in *Preservation*, *Southern Living*, and the *New York Times*. He lives with his wife and daughter in Fairhope, AL, and periodically visits Louisville, KY, where he teaches in the Brief Residency MFA in Writing Program at Spalding University.



John Sledge



ANDREW HUDGINS attended Huntingdon College and the University of Alabama, and earned an MFA from the University of Iowa. Hudgins has published six books of poetry: *Ecstatic in the Poison*, *Babylon in a Jar*, *The Glass Hammer*, *The Never-Ending*, *After the Lost War*, and

Saints and Strangers, and a collection of literary essays, *The Glass Anvil*. *Saints and Strangers* was one of three finalists for the 1985 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry; *After the Lost War* received the Poets' Prize in 1989, and *The Never-Ending* was one of five finalists for the National Book Award in 1991. Hudgins' other awards and honors include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Ingram Merrill Foundation, the Hanes Prize for poetry from The Fellowship of Southern Writers, and the Witter Bynner Prize from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. He is the winner of the 2005 Harper Lee Award for Alabama's Distinguished Writer.



INMAN MAJORS holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Alabama. His poems have appeared in literary journals including *Antioch Review*, *The Connecticut Review*, *Texas Review*, *Crazyhorse*, and the *Laurel Review*. He is the author

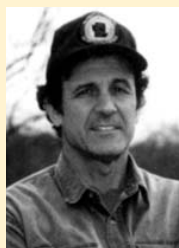
of two novels: *Swimming in Sky* and *Wonderdog* (September 2004). He teaches creative writing at Hollins University.

BARBARA ROBINETTE MOSS, winner of the 1996 Gold Medal for Personal Essay in the William Faulkner Creative Writing Contest, turned her winning essay into the widely acclaimed memoir *Change Me into Zeus's Daughter*. Her second book of creative non-fiction is *Fierce: A Memoir* (October 2004). Moss lives in New York City and Iowa City, Iowa.



Marion Etlinger

LINDA BUSBY PARKER earned a PhD from the University of Michigan and an MFA from Spalding University. While at Spalding, she was a student editor of *The Louisville Review*. She has taught at Eastern Michigan University, Iowa State University, and the University of South Alabama; has served as publisher and editor of *Mobile Bay Monthly*; and is a frequent book reviewer for the *Mobile Register*. Her fiction and non-fiction have appeared in literary journals including *Provincetown Arts*, *Big Muddy*, and *The Literary Trunk*, and in the anthology *Literary Mobile*. Her novel *Seven Laurels* (April 2004) won the James Jones First Novel Award. In the summer of 2004, she served as a Tennessee Williams Scholar in fiction at the Sewanee Writers Conference, the University of the South. She lives in Mobile with her husband and daughters.



DOUG PHILLIPS is Coordinator for Environmental Information and Education with the Alabama Museum of Natural History. He also produces the award-winning series *Discovering Alabama* for Alabama Public Television. He is the author of *Discovering*

Alabama Wetlands, which features photographs by Robert P. Falls Sr. and a foreword by Edward O. Wilson.



THE REVEREND FRED SHUTTLESWORTH graduated from Selma University and Alabama State College. A Baptist minister, he founded the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights in 1956 and served as its president until 1969. In 1958, with

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Ralph David Abernathy, he established the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. A tireless campaigner for racial and social justice, he participated in sit-ins, Freedom Rides, and mass protests. In 1988, he created the Shuttlesworth Housing Foundation to help low-income families buy their own homes. The Reverend Shuttlesworth is pastor of the Greater New Light Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio.

EDWARD O. WILSON, Honorary Curator in Entomology of the Museum of Comparative Zoology and Pellegrino University Research Professor Emeritus at Harvard University, is one of the world's most renowned living scientists. Twice awarded the Pulitzer Prize in General Non-fiction, for *On Human Nature* (1979) and *The Ants* (1991), Dr. Wilson has authored some twenty books and received over 100 awards in science and letters, including the National Medal of Science, the Crafoord Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the International Prize for Biology from the Government of Japan, and the AAAS Award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Wilson's latest book is *The Future of Life* (January 2002).



Jim Harrison

SUE WALKER, the Poet Laureate of Alabama, is Chair of the English Department at the University of South Alabama. She is the author of six books of poetry, including *Traveling My Shadow*, *Shorings*, *Blood Will Bear Your Name*, *The Appearance of Green*, and *It's Good Weather for Fudge: Conversations with Carson*

McCullers, and has authored and edited a number of scholarly works. She is currently at work on a book on the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. Since 1981, she has worked as editor/publisher for Negative Capability Press.



Featured Alabama Scholars

MIRIAM MARTY CLARK is an associate professor of English at Auburn University specializing in twentieth-century American literature, poetry, and the short story. Her publications include articles in *Narrative*, *Contemporary Literature*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Twentieth Century Literature*, *Mosaic*, and other journals and in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*; she served as guest editor for a special issue of *Narrative* devoted to the short story. Her current project, a study of Kenneth Burke's influence on American poets and poetry, was supported by a 1998 NEH Summer Stipend.

WAYNE GREENHAW

studied writing in San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, and at the University of Alabama under Hudson Strode. He has published sixteen books of fiction and non-fiction, worked on prize-winning television productions, worked as editor and publisher of the *Alabama* magazine, taught journalism and creative writing, and written two plays that were produced. Awarded a Nieman Fellowship from Harvard University, he has been honored by the Associated Press and Sigma Delta Chi, and serves as a director for the Alabama Humanities Foundation. Greenhaw was the first journalist to write about Lieutenant William Calley and the My Lai massacre, first in *The Alabama Journal* and later in his 1971 book *The Making of a Hero: The Story of Lieutenant William Calley Jr.* Greenhaw lives with his wife Sally in Montgomery, Alabama, and San Miguel. His latest book, a non-fiction account of the bus boycott of the mid-1950s, will be published by Lawrence Hill Books from Chicago Review Press later in 2005.



JENNIFER HORNE, a poet and editor, earned an MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Alabama. Her poems, essays, and reviews have appeared in journals including *Carolina Quarterly* and the *Birmingham Poetry Review*. She is the editor of *Working the Dirt* (2003), an anthology of poems about farming and gardening in the South.



HARVEY H. JACKSON III

is a professor and Chair of the Department of History and Foreign Languages at Jacksonville State University. A leading expert on Southern history and culture, he has written, co-authored, and co-edited eleven books, including *Putting "Loafing Streams" to Work: The Building of Lay, Mitchell, Martin & Jordan Dams, 1910-1929*; *Rivers of History: Life on the Coosa, Tallapoosa, Cahaba, and Alabama*; and *Inside Alabama: A Personal History of My State*. He is currently at work on a book to be called *The Rise and Decline of the Redneck Riviera*. Jackson serves on the editorial boards of *The Alabama Review* and *The Gulf Coast Historical Review*.



DERRYN MOTEN is a Humanities professor at Alabama State University, board member of the Alabama Writers' Forum, and history book review editor for *First Draft*. He has served as facilitator for audience discussions with the Alabama Shakespeare Festival's Theatre in the Mind workshops, and has presented programs on the civil rights movement with the Montgomery and the Tuscaloosa Public Libraries.

DON NOBLE is Professor of English, Emeritus, at the University of Alabama, recipient of the 2000 Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar, book reviewer for Alabama Public Radio, and host of Alabama Public Television's interview program, *Bookmark*. He won an Emmy for Outstanding Collaborative Achievement in Writing from the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences, with Brent Davis, for an hour-long documentary film on Alabama writer William Bradford Huie. He serves on the boards of the Alabama Writers' Forum and the Alabama Humanities Foundation.

JEANIE THOMPSON is Executive Director of the Alabama Writers' Forum, co-editor (with Jay Lamar) of *The Remembered Gate: Memoirs by Alabama Writers*, and author of three collections of poetry: *White for Harvest: New and Selected Poems*, *Witness*, and *How to Enter the River*. She serves on the faculty of the Spalding University MFA Brief Residency Program. In 2003, The University of Alabama College of Arts and Sciences Fine Arts Leadership Board recognized her with the Alumni Arts Award for her work as a writer and arts education advocate.

DAN WATERMAN, Acquisitions Editor for Humanities at the University of Alabama Press, holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Alabama. He lives in Tuscaloosa with his wife Jeanette.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Events will be held on the campus of Alabama Southern Community College, at the Monroeville Community House, and at the Monroe County Heritage Museum in downtown Monroeville. Registration will take place Thursday afternoon and Friday morning on the campus of Alabama Southern. In addition to the events listed below, the schedule will include art exhibits, music, and booksellers.

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2005

1 p.m.-6 p.m. Registration & Exhibit of Alabama Artists
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Reception for Dinner Guests
7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Opening Banquet
"An Evening With Edward O. Wilson"
introduced by Doug Phillips

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2005

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Literary Coffee House
& Exhibit of Alabama Artists & Music
8:30-9 a.m. Opening Convocation:
"Alabama Wild," Harvey H. Jackson III
9-11:20 a.m. Author Readings
9-9:30 a.m. Diann Blakely
with moderator Jennifer Horne
9:35-10:55 a.m. "The Wild Ride from
Manuscript to First Book," Loretta Cobb,
Linda Busby Parker, John Cottle, Kirk
Curnutt with moderator Dan Waterman

11-11:30 a.m. Charles Gaines
with moderator Jeanie Thompson
11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Book Signing
12:15-2 p.m. Awards Luncheon
Presentation of the Harper Lee Award for
Alabama's Distinguished Writer 2005 and
of the Eugene Current-Garcia Award for
Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar
2005
2:30-4:15 p.m. Afternoon Sessions
2:30-3:30 p.m. "Writing Vietnam"
Philip Beidler and Anthony Grooms
with moderator Wayne Greenhaw
3:45-4:45 p.m. Shirley Ann Grau
with moderator Don Noble
4:15-5:15 p.m. Book Signing
5:30-6:45 p.m. Picnic on the Monroeville
Courthouse Lawn
7-9 p.m. Live performance of *To Kill a
Mockingbird*
7:30-9 p.m. Reader's Theatre – *Verbatim:
Alabama Stories Dramatized*
8:30-11 p.m. "Light Jazz and Heavy
Conversation"

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2005

8:30-11:30 a.m. Author Readings
8:30-8:50 a.m. "State of the Literary Union,"
reading by Sue Walker
9-11:50 a.m. Book Signing
9-11 a.m. Refreshments on Old Courthouse
Lawn
9-9:45 a.m. Reading by Andrew Hudgins,
Harper Lee Award winner,
with moderator Jeanie Thompson
9:55-10:25 a.m. Barbara Robinette Moss
with moderator Miriam Marty Clark
10:30-11 a.m. Inman Majors
with moderator Miriam Marty Clark
11:10-11:40 a.m. Roy Hoffman
with moderator Derryn Moten
12:15-2 p.m. Luncheon with keynote speaker
The Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth
introduced by Anthony Grooms
2 p.m. Meet the Authors/ Book Signing

2005 Alabama Writers Symposium Registration Form

Registration Deadline Friday, April 15, 2005 • Mail completed registration form to:
Alabama Writers Symposium • Alabama Southern Community College • P. O. Box 2000 • Monroeville, AL 36461

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Admission to discussion sessions is free to all registered participants; however, there is a charge for other events. You will receive registration confirmation in the mail. The schedule of events is subject to change without notice. Registration fees are non-refundable.

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ Check enclosed payable to Alabama Writers Symposium OR ☐ Please bill my ☐ Visa or ☐ Mastercard

Card # _____ exp. date _____ Signature of card holder _____

For more information call Donna Reed, (251) 575-3156, ext. 223/ email: dreed@ascc.edu. or Jim Hilgartner, (251) 575-3156, ext. 226/ email: jhilgartner@ascc.edu

Visit our website at www.ascc.edu for symposium updates and registration information.

2005 REGISTRATION FEES

☐ Comprehensive Ticket • May 5-7\$150
Includes all meals and events except
To Kill A Mockingbird play on May 6

☐ Thursday Ticket • May 5\$50
Includes reception and
"An Evening with Edward O. Wilson"

☐ Friday Ticket • May 6\$60
Includes awards luncheon, picnic and jazz quartet

☐ Saturday Ticket • May 7\$50
Includes luncheon with The Reverend Fred
Shuttlesworth

☐ *To Kill A Mockingbird* ticket\$25
Friday, May 6 only

☐ Discussion sessions onlyFREE

PLEASE NOTE: *To Kill A Mockingbird* tickets are limited. First priority will be given to those who purchase comprehensive tickets. **Please register early!**

Total Registration.....\$ _____

Alabama Writers Symposium Sponsors

The Alabama Writers Symposium is a project of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts.

The Symposium is sponsored by

- Alabama Southern Community College
- George Landegger, Alabama River Pulp Company, Inc.
- Alabama Humanities Foundation
- Alabama State Council on the Arts
- Sybil H. Smith Charitable Trust
- BankTrust
- Alabama Power Foundation
- Vanity Fair, Inc.
- United Bank
- NDI's The Cracked Pot
- Radley's Fountain Grille

The Symposium is produced in cooperation with

- The Alabama Writers' Forum
- The Association of College English Teachers of Alabama
- The Auburn University Center for the Arts and Humanities
- Alabama Center for the Book
- Monroe County Heritage Museums
- Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce



Accommodations in Monroeville

Monroeville is easily accessible from Interstate 65 and Highway 84. The hotels listed below are conveniently located on Highway 21. Each hotel will hold a block of rooms for symposium participants until April 22. Please call the numbers listed below for reservations.

Best Value Inn

\$35.95 plus tax for double, queen, and king rooms
(251) 743-3154

Best Western

\$55 plus tax for double, queen, and king rooms
(251) 575-9999

Days Inn

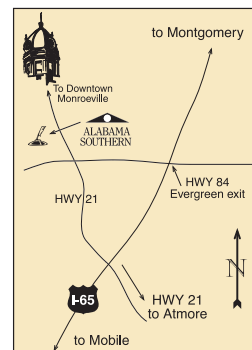
\$55 plus tax for single and double rooms
(251) 743-3297

Holiday Inn Express

\$55.95 plus tax for double, queen, and king rooms
(251) 743-3333

Monroeville Inn

\$30 for single; \$35 for king;
\$40 for double rooms (plus tax)
(251) 575-3312



ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM

A project of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts

Alabama Southern Community College
P.O. Box 2000 • Monroeville, AL 36461
(251) 575-3156, ext. 223