

FRIDAY:

The Stars We Know: Native American Astronomy *with* Dr. Janine Pease

FRIDAY NIGHT at 8:30 pm

In the 2007 WildPATHS opening presentation, Dr. Janine Pease, Crow Indian educator, will explore American Indian relationships with the sky.

Native American astronomy is uniquely woven into the daily, seasonal and annual existence of our continent's indigenous peoples. The "Stars We Know," the title for this presentation, is taken from the title of a recent astronomy text by Timothy McCleary (history professor at Little Big Horn College.) The text relates popular and common Crow Indian cosmology and examines the celestial bodies in the Crow cosmos.

Northern Plains tribal knowledge will be featured in this presentation, including special visits to the Crow, Pawnee, Lakota and Chippewa/Cree star knowledge practices and traditions. Dr. Pease will look into the Native American zodiac, the lunar and solar cycles, and concepts of time and space.

Plains Indian people dance with cosmic cycles, converse with planets and live intimately with the sky: Native American concepts of the human's place in the environment and cosmos will be considered in light of this close relationship. Dr. Pease will share first-person Crow Indian experience, her own perspectives as a student of American Indian cultures, and information from archaeoastronomers Timothy McCleary, Ray Williamson, Anthony Aveni and Julius Staal.

All of the world's cultures have looked to the sky. Their unique views of celestial patterns, their perception and study of cycles and their search for answers to their questions about the future have enlivened night skies since the dawn of humankind.

Dr. Janine Pease is Vice President for Planning & American Indian Affairs at Rocky Mountain College. Dr. Pease is the founding president of the Little Big Horn College in Crow Agency Montana, a past president of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, a director of the American Indian College Fund, and was appointed by President Clinton to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education.

Dr. Pease has won several prestigious awards: National Indian Educator of the Year (1990), The MacArthur Fellowship Award (better known as the "Genius Award") and the ACLU Jeanette Rankin Award. She has been named one of the One Hundred Montanans of the Century by the Missoulian Magazine, a Montanans To Remember by Montana Magazine, and one of the 14 most important American Indians leaders of the 20th century in New Warriors, by R. David Edmunds (University of Nebraska Press).

She is also the recipient of Honorary Doctorate degrees from six different colleges and universities. Janine is a Crow and Hidatsa Indian, enrolled as a Crow. She has two adult children and lives in Billings, Montana.

Friday at 7:30 pm:

Prior to Dr. Pease's talk, the musical duo EARTHSHINE (Kris and Scott Prinzing of Billings - and the founders and staff of MusEco) will warm up the floor and entertain with some of their acoustic music, Friday at 7:30 p.m. www.earthshinemontana.com

SATURDAY:

The Promise of the Wild:

Lessons from Nature About Living Well in the World

SATURDAY KEYNOTE TALK – 8 p.m.

Nationally known science and nature writer **Gary Ferguson** will give the WildPATHS 2007 keynote presentation on **Saturday, May 26 at 8 p.m.**

Gary will discuss how few aspects of our culture offer more striking clues about who we are as a people than our relationship with wild places. It was in America, after all, where pundits of the 18th Century predicted we would produce more writers, artists and musicians than anywhere in the world simply because we spent so much time rubbing elbows with the woods. It was here that preachers from Boston and New York roamed the outback of Maine, gathering inspiration for their Sunday sermons; here that in 1913 a middle-aged artist became a major celebrity, touring Vaudeville for two years with top billing, after having stripped down to his underwear to live for two months as a wild man in the North Woods.

A portion of this talk will chronicle the inspiring, humorous, and often passionate history of Americans coming to understand themselves through nature. This will not, however, be merely a trip down memory lane. Using a mix of research and nature mythology, Gary's presentation will also focus on the challenge of reawakening in the culture the value of wild places and in particular, the critical role outdoor professionals play in rekindling our sense of place.

Author Gary Ferguson first answered the call to adventure at age 12, loading up his purple sting-ray bike with camping gear and riding with his older brother through the central Midwest. By age 18, bicycles had given way to boxcars and backpacks, as he made his way across North America by rail and by thumb – as often than not heading west, and heading for mountains.

At 25, Ferguson plunged full-time into the freelance writing life. Soon thereafter his work found a home in the national media – both his personal profiles of American nature, as well as a wide range of social and environmental stories from Europe, Africa and North America.

Formerly an interpretive naturalist for the U.S. Forest Service, Gary is the author of 16 books on nature, science and history. His recent work, Hawks Rest (National Geographic), became the first book in history to win nonfiction Book of The Year from both the Pacific Northwest and Mountains and Plains booksellers associations. He was the 2002 Seigel Scholar at the School of Political Science at Washington University, St. Louis; in January 2007, he begins a five-month tenure as Distinguished Visiting Writer at the University of Montana. Gary's nature and science-based essays can be heard on National Public Radio affiliates throughout the country.

SUNDAY:

Grizzly Bears and Other Relatives: Coexistence, Resiliency and Respect

with Geral Blanchard, LPC

SUNDAY MORNING, 10:30 a.m.

Gerry will share actual accounts of bear encounters -- including bear attacks -- revealing the almost astonishing lessons that the "victims" have learned. They are stories of forbearance, humility, strength, and a deepened, more reverent attitude toward all of nature. After a bear encounter, nearly all of the survivors developed thriver personalities. Instead of experiencing a breakdown, breakthroughs were reported. Bears and wolves have much to teach us about coexistence, not just with the wilderness world, but with one another as we struggle to live in a violent world. If we can learn how to coexist with grizzlies and wolves, there is hope for the world.

Gerry is the director of the Center for Peace Research in Sheridan. He studies ancient and modern methods of relieving physical and emotional discomfort -- from ritual and ceremony to neurobiological interventions. He has worked with sexual perpetrators and their victims for 36 years, most recently calling upon the healing powers of the grizzly bear to help young children overcome trauma. Gerry is the author of several professional books, as well as Grizzly Lessons: Coexisting with Bears and Wolves, which addresses the amazing powers of human resilience and the lessons of co-existence that the bears teach us.

WORKSHOPS (Saturday and Sunday)

See SCHEDULE for details on when each workshop will be offered!

**THE POTENTIAL FOR LAST MINUTE CHANGES IN OFFERINGS EXISTS, BUT REGISTRANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IF CHANGES OCCUR*

LEGENDS—MYTHIC FIGURES IN NATURE activity for all ages with *Dr. Janine Pease*
A children's activity combining ancient stories and artistic expression. The "legends" are the centuries told stories depicting mythic figures in nature, including Plains Indian legends of "Old Man Coyote" and "Iktomi." This will be a children's listening and art time in which participants will make pictograph representations retelling the stories. Dr. Pease will bring the materials and stories for the activity.

YOGA with *Elizabeth* and *Dave Klarich*

WildPATHS is excited to be able to provide rejuvenating yoga sessions for a variety of ability levels with Elizabeth Klarich. The sessions will be held at various times during the retreat.

Elizabeth calls her teaching method "Intuitive Yoga", recognizing the role that intuition must play for both her and the student. Elizabeth emphasizes the empathetic interplay between teacher and student, and integrates the needs and requests of the students into her approach and the class structure.

Elizabeth Klarich, a yoga teacher for over 30 years, has an eclectic background that she displays weekly on her local TV program and uses to meet the various needs and requests of individual students. She currently teaches at MSU-B, Yellowstone Racquet & Health Club, Adult Education Nite Owls, Rimrock Foundation and privately. She is known for her creative, user-friendly, nurturing approach for enhancing well being in body, mind and spirit.

YOGA HIKE

A very special Yoga Hike will be led by Dave Klarich on Sunday afternoon. The yoga hike will integrate walking with yoga asanas, energization exercises developed by Paramahansa Yogananda, affirmation, singing/chanting, and quiet contemplation on Nature. Wear layers of loose-fitting comfortable clothes. Bring water and snacks. Expect to take relaxation and reflection breaks during the hike. Bodhi means "awaken". Bodhi, a golden retriever, will be along to enlighten and share the joy. This experience will unfold and flow organically.

David Klarich, Biology, Environmental Science and Mathematics teacher, and tennis coach for over 30 years, is also certified to teach yoga through Ananda Teacher Training Program. Married to Elizabeth Klarich for over 25 years, a common interest in yoga and outdoor activities bonded them. Dave enjoys "Yoga Walks" which integrate two of his favorite modes of exercise in a meditative fashion.

BACKCOUNTRY SAFETY and ETIQUETTE workshop

A staff member of the Beartooth District of Custer Forest will provide participants with basic information about preventing accidents and avoiding dangerous situations in the backcountry. Also covered will be the fundamentals of being a good citizen when in the backcountry. Expect to have fun and do a little role playing.

FLORA AND FAUNA IDENTIFICATION workshop with *Ralph Scott*

The morning sessions of this workshop will focus on the plants and insects (and other creatures that may pass our way) in the terrestrial habitats. The afternoon sessions will focus on the aquatic habitat, with an emphasis on aquatic insects and other invertebrates.

Participants should be prepared to wade in cold water. It is recommended that they bring jars (preferably plastic to avoid breakage), any type of nets they may have (regular insect net, window screen attached to two dowel rods, even large aquarium nets [the bigger, the better--available at pet stores], a magnifying glass or hand lens.

DIGITAL NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY workshop with *Ralph Scott*

This workshop will focus on using your digital camera for landscape and close-up or macro photography. We will explore composition, depth of field, white balance settings, accessories, lenses, media storage and much more. Time will be made for participants to take photos outdoors and later view them and have a critique. If you have only taken snapshots, family events, etc. and wish to expand your photography horizons and subject matter to the natural world, this workshop is designed to help you accomplish such a goal.

Participants should bring their own digital camera (regardless of how simple or sophisticated it is), and all associated software, wires, cords, connections and any accessory equipment they may have (lenses, filters, flash units, etc.). If any participants have a lap-top computer, it is highly recommended that you bring it with you for this workshop.

Ralph Scott is a photographer, scientific illustrator and entomologist (supposedly retired). He has worked for various conservation organizations, museums, and freelanced for

numerous clients. His most recent work has been the publication of "Field Guide to the Grasshoppers, Katydid and Crickets of the United States," published by Cornell University Press. He is currently working on a similar guide for Montana and a book of poetry-photography.

POETRY workshop with *Donna Davis*

In this workshop, designed for those who have some experience with writing and deep reading, we will write poems each day. Participants will have the opportunity to s-t-r-e-t-c-h themselves beyond their current complacencies and competencies. They will pet their inner dog—loyal and attentive, but sometimes loud and barky—and wordpaint their outer elephant—big and caring, but also menacing to those who would poke them. And have some fun, too.

Donna Davis is a ne'er-do-well, who is a pretty good poet and a really good teacher. In addition to writing, she has practiced law, taught philosophy and humanities, worked for a software development company, and (wo)manned fire lookout towers. She communes with dogs, having been one in a former life, and daily seeks to expand her horizons to elephantine proportions. And tries to have some fun along The Way. For those who are comforted by awards, you can rest assured she has won some (including the Montana Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship for Literature).

ART AND THE WILDERNESS WITHIN for ALL AGES and ability levels
with *Bob Rickels*

Participants will spend time outside looking at patterns, shapes and forms in nature and then translating that into artistic creations when indoors. Projects will include masks, weavings, stick drawings, poured paintings and nature collages. Expect lots of fun, laughter and unbounded creativity.

Bob Rickels is an artist and retired Art and Art History Professor. He taught art methods courses for many years and began his teaching career in elementary education. He is currently a docent at the Yellowstone Art Museum.

Bob regularly takes YAM "suitcase" presentations to schoolchildren in Billings, and frequently leads tour groups at the Museum. He is very involved in the art education programs at the Yellowstone Art Museum.

MUSIC AND THE EARTH workshop for YOUNG PEOPLE with *Scott Prinzing*

Scott will spend time with kids throughout the weekend listening to the music of the wild things, singing songs together, and creating new music together. Call and response, singalongs, and imitation of wild sounds will help us connect with the wild lands and wild critters that will surround us in this beautiful mountain setting.

Instruments invited but not required! (Acoustic only, please!)

Scott Prinzing is Director of Education and Coordinator of Music and Native American Programs for MusEco Media and Education Project. Scott earned a bachelors degree in American Indian studies and a Masters of Education degree with elementary teaching certification. He is a music journalist specializing in the music of Montana. Scott also produces radio programming about music. His current project is "Montana Muse" on Yellowstone Public Radio.

WORLDVIEWS AND WILD PLACES workshop with Dr. Walt Gulick

Check back for workshop description information – coming soon!

Dr. Walt Gulick is a retired professor of Philosophy, Humanities and Religious Studies at Montana State University-Billings. He has taught as a Fulbright Scholar in Hungary and Moldova, and taught in Turkey, Finland, and Netherlands as well. Walt started the Honors and International Studies programs at MSUB. Yes, he's a backpacker and environmentalist, but could it be that his observation of a great organization called MusEco (he's board president) would give him his deepest insight into what it is to be wild?

WILDERNESS POLICY AND THE FUTURE OF WILD PLACES

Workshop with *Dr. Teddy Roe*

Teddy will lead an examination of the significance of “big W” Wilderness to our nation, to our environment, to our communities and to each of us as individuals, and lead discussion about the future of these places and the role of public policy in this equation.

Dr. Teddy Roe is a retired Public Servant who began his career as a journalist and holds a PhD in International Relations. Teddy spent a decade working on the Senate Floor as Assistant to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, and five years as director of legislation for U.S. Senator Lee Metcalf, both from Montana, plus shorter assignments with the House Interior Committee and the Bureau of Land Management. Teddy was the sole Senate staffer with responsibility for the designation of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. He worked on a variety of other conservation and environmental concerns in Washington, DC and later upon retirement back to his home town of Billings. He also takes pride in having worked five years for the FIFA World Cup of soccer.