

Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary & School Calendar of Events 2010

- Ongoing *Weekly Writers' Group* Tuesdays, 5:00 - 7:00pm \$15
- May 1 *Creek Restoration* with holistic ecologist David Hunt 9:30am - 4:30pm
- May 8 *Bird Walk* with bird enthusiast Nat Parke 9:00am - Noon *Donation*
- May 16 *Union College Environmental Club* returns to help out on the Sanctuary
- June 21 *Summer Solstice Celebration* 6:00 - 9:00pm \$20
- July 17 & 18 *Writers' Retreat Weekend* 10:00am - 4:00pm *Phone for details*
- August 8 *Manchester Music Festival Young Artists Concert* in the Muse Room 3:00pm \$15
- September 18 *The Tree Tour* with DWS&S co-founder (and tree enthusiast) Geoffrey Ovington 1:00 - 3:00pm \$10

Would you like to offer a workshop?

The DWS&S calendar has room this year for others to offer workshops. If you have been looking for a place that is dedicated to Nature Studies and to the Healing & Expressive Arts, and to the free exchange of ideas, has a breath-giving view across the river valley and indoor facilities for small groups, please contact us at 518-854-7764 or dionondehowa@yahoo.com. *We'd love to hear your ideas!*

148 Stanton Road, Shushan, NY 12873 www.dionondehowa.org

Gratitude is Abundance

Ongoing Writers' Group

A Brief Interview with Writer Bill Belickis

Bill is a regular member of Dionondehowa's weekly Writers' Group which meets every Tuesday from 5 - 7 pm.

When asked what originally brought him to the group, Bill said, "I'd been stuck, wanting to get moving along, looking for structure and a group for feedback to help me through the blocks. I wanted the responsibility to produce something. I wanted to bounce my writing off others and share ideas, to help me think about how to put my project together."

Has it worked out that way for you? "Yes. I've been spot-on satisfied with what I've gained. I've gotten motivation, ideas - like rails to ride on, to move me along, to get me away from the convenience of not being productive. There's something about being on the rails rather than meandering along a trail. I like the rhythm of once a week having to get something done, presenting it and sharing feedback. I also like the discussion of problems which seem to be unique to the creative form of the written word."

We hope that Bill's experience with the Ongoing Writers' Group will encourage you to join us, too, if you've been wrangling with writing and want the support of others who are actively writing. You don't have to be writing a novel, either, as Bill is. You're welcome to join with a poem, a story, even a pesky fragment or a new form that is evolving as you write.

Sixth Annual Writers' Retreat July 17 & 18 10:00am - 4:00pm

Whether you are:

- new to the medium of words
- a technical writer longing to let loose the poet in you
- a confident and experienced writer
- or just yearning to doodle in the margins...

the Writers' Retreat weekend may just offer the time, the quiet, and the camaraderie you've been wishing for!

During the playful writing exercises of the 2009 Retreat, writer and teacher Irene Baldwin wrote: *Oh my. And to think I almost didn't come here today - something about feeling queasy, upset, unmotivated - having too much to do. Ahhhhh -- -all lies.*

Thank you, Irene, for that wonderful sentiment which expresses how many of us feel before we give ourselves the freedom to play.

We hope to receive a grant from Poets & Writers, Inc. to help underwrite the cost of the weekend.

