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The Fierce Green Fire: Vol 5 Issue 7

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

*Shelton Johnson
with students from
Professor Lane's
ENVS 326 class
while visiting the
Goodall Center*

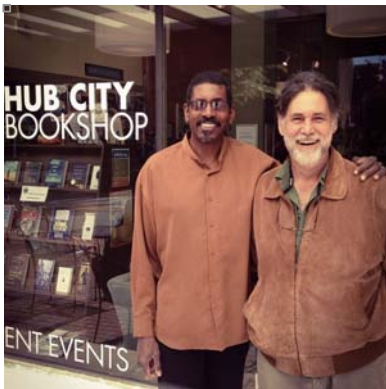


Volume 5, Issue 7

Park Ranger Shelton Johnson Visits Goodall



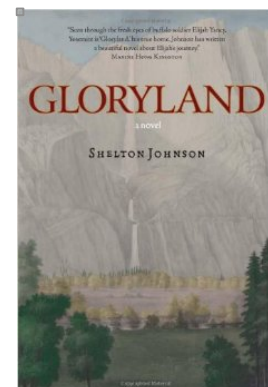
Johnson plays his eagle bone-style flute for students at the Glendale amphitheater.



Johnson and Professor Lane at the Hub City Bookshop during his stay in Spartanburg.

Yosemite park ranger, poet, novelist, and star of Ken Burns' PBS National Park series, Shelton Johnson was in Spartanburg on Thursday to speak at the library. That morning he toured sites associated with his family's history in 19th and 20th century Spartanburg—graves of his grandparents, great, and great-great grandparents, and the house where his father grew up—which he has fictionalized in *GLORYLAND*, his novel about Buffalo soldiers in Yosemite. Also while in Spartanburg Johnson visited with John Lane's environmental writing class at the Goodall Environmental Studies Center. He talked with our students about the importance of story, his experience of wildness, and his family's connections to Spartanburg (his novel begins in Spartanburg right after the Civil War). The highlight of his afternoon visit was when, down by the river, Johnson played the eagle bone-style flute hanging around his neck. We will always remember the

soothing sounds of the flute mixing with the cluck of the fish crows in the oak behind us. Later in the evening, Professor Lane participated in a staged conversation with Johnson at the main library, focused on writing and his professional path. "Shelton Johnson is a conservation hero," professor Lane adds. "His work on the history of Yosemite was legendary even before Ken Burns made him famous. He showed great generosity with our students in a day packed with emotion. We were lucky to have him visit us."



Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- October 26th** ***Stream Clean Up at Glendale Shoals:*** Join us 2:00-4:00pm this Sunday. Contact Haley (brielhe@wofford.edu) if you would like to help so she can plan the pizza order!
- October 27th** ***Fierce Green Fire Student Group:*** Next meeting at 8:30pm in BSA 1.
- October 28th** ***Halloween at Goodall:*** Bring the kids for some tricks and treats at the Goodall Center, 7:00-9:00pm! Snakes, spiders, bones, and more! Contact Haley if you would like to help with activities for the kids. We especially need a face-painter! – brielhe@wofford.edu.
- October 30th** ***Halloween Carnival:*** 4:30-6:30pm on the lawn in front of Old Main. FGF will participate with a recycling corn hole game and prizes for the kids. Contact Lena Williams, williamsla@email.wofford.edu, if you would like to volunteer for this event.
- October 30th** ***Santee Cooper Lecture Series:*** 7:00pm, Olin Teaching Theater, *Sustainability and the Post-Pastoral* with speaker Terry Gifford, British poet and eco-scholar.
- October 31st** ***Deadline to apply for South Carolina Wildlife Federation educational grants:*** Any full time student pursuing environmental education at South Carolina schools of higher education is eligible to apply. See Dr. Savage if you are interested in applying.
- November 16th** ***Appalachian Soul: The Music & History of the Southern Mountains:*** 4:00-6:00pm at the Goodall Environmental Studies Center. *Featured speakers:* **TIM SILVER**, a professor of history at ASU and author of *Mount Mitchell and the Black Mountains: An Environmental History of the Highest Peaks in Eastern America*. **PHIL JAMISON**, the coordinator of Warren Wilson College's Appalachian Music Program - also a nationally known dance caller and flatfoot dancer, performing and teaching at music festivals and events around the world. **DOT JACKSON** is a journalist and the author of *Refuge*. She is also a co-founder of the developing Birchwood Center for Arts and Folklife. *Music by YAM (Young Appalachian Musicians).*

Visit our www.thinkinglikeariver.com website!

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

University of Oregon – Leadership in Sustainability Program

Oregon Leadership in Sustainability (OLIS) is a graduate certificate program offered by the University of Oregon that trains students in the concepts and skills of sustainability.

“This year-long program will equip you to play a key role in addressing the key sustainability issues of climate change, green economy, ecosystem services, green infrastructure, and social justice. This program provides leadership and sustainable systems knowledge that will enable participating students to play a transformative role in creating

just, prosperous, and ecologically sound city environments.”

An introduction to the program is held the week prior to the beginning of fall semester and includes seminars, skills-building activities, and sessions with local sustainability practitioners.

The University of Oregon is nationally recognized as a leader in sustainability education and research with award-winning programs such as green building design and sustainable communities. Visit <http://olis.uoregon.edu/> for more information.