"Mystery is not much in favor these days," writes Scott Russell Sanders in *Staying Put*. "The notion that there are limits to what we can do, what we can know, limits to our dominion, does not set well with kings and queens of the hill. Humility and reverence, we hear, are attitudes of cowards. Why worship a face we cannot measure on a meter? Why tell stories about a power we cannot photograph?"

As an essayist, novelist, and children’s book author, this year’s keynote speaker has made an eloquent case for the power of stories and the force of spirit. Scott Russell Sanders’s many publications include novels (*The Invisible Company*, *Bad Man Ballad*, *Terrarium*, *The Engineer of Beasts*), collections of short stories (*Wilderness Plots*, *Fetching the Dead*), works of creative nonfiction (*Writing from the Center*, *Staying Put*, *The Paradise of Bombs*, *Secrets of the Universe*, *In Limestone Country*), as well as books for children (*The Floating House*, *Here Comes the Mystery Man*, *Warm as Wool*, *Aurora Means Dawn*, *Hear the Wind Blow*). His essay, "The Force of Spirit," appeared in *The Best American Essays 2000*, the fourth time his work has appeared in this annual collection of outstanding nonfiction. Sanders’ most recent books are *Hunting for Hope*, *The Country of Language*, and *The Force of Spirit*.

Here Comes the Mystery Man, Warm as Wool, Aurora Means Dawn, Hear the Wind Blow. His essay, "The Force of Spirit," appeared in The Best American Essays 2000, the fourth time his work has appeared in this annual collection of outstanding nonfiction. Sanders’ most recent books are Hunting for Hope, The Country of Language, and The Force of Spirit.

Haven Kimmel and Pat Schneider will be joining Scott Russell Sanders as featured speakers at this year’s colloquium. Haven Kimmel, an ESR alum, made her literary debut with *A Girl Named Zippy*, a critically acclaimed memoir, and followed it up with an equally successful novel, *The Sacred cows of Leaving Early*. Pat Schneider is a writer, playwright, poet, and teacher whose creative writing workshops for low-income populations were the subject of a documentary featured on national public television.
WORKSHOPS
The workshops listed below will be repeated for the afternoon session.

Please choose one to attend in the morning and a different one for the afternoon session.

Making Essays
led by Scott Russell Sanders (afternoon only)
Scott will discuss his writing process, drawing on materials used in composing several of his essays. He will also follow up on earlier remarks, suggesting how writing essays can serve as a way of discovering meaning and depth in experience. Participants are invited to bring questions or test that arise in their own work as writers.

Scott Russell Sanders is the author of eighteen books, including Staying Put, Hunting for Hope, and The Force of Spirit. For his work in nonfiction, he has won the Lannan Literary Award and the John Burroughs Essay Award. He is Distinguished Professor of English at Indiana University.

On Writing Fiction
led by Haven Kimmel
Drawing from her own experiences as a novelist, Haven will offer participants suggestions, observations on the joys and challenges of writing fiction.

Haven Kimmel’s first book A Girl Named Zippy, is a comic memoir. She is also the author of two novels, The Selace of Leaving Early, and Something Banging Light & Soft. She’s a full-time writer, and lives in Durham, North Carolina.

“The Silence Is All We Dread”
led by Pat Schneider
“Silence is all we dread. There’s sunshine once.” —Emily Dickinson
The intention of this workshop is to encourage and empower the poetic voice. Pat writes, “I will offer two exercises, one for the creation of a poem in five verses, one for the creation of a poem in an established form. We will talk about poetry and the writing of it, with an emphasis on my belief that writing is a universal art form, belonging to everyone.

Author of eight books including four volumes of poems, Writing Alone & With Others, Empowerments: Observations on the joys and challenges of writing fiction,

In this workshop we’ll explore various approaches to spiritual writing (memoir, meditation, journal-based writing, etc.), as well as look at ways that writers within those genres—Thomas Merton, John N. Neustem, Thomas Kelly, Kathleen Norris, Ann Lannon—might inform our own approaches to spiritual writing. With a view to spurring the groundwork for a book proposal, listing ideas and writing samples—of you have them.

Lil Copan is acquisitions editor with Paraclete Press. Previously, she worked as literary series editor with Shaw Publishers, followed by a short stint with the small literary pressown David R. Godine.

The Basics of Screenwriting
led by Nina Shelson
This workshop will cover the sources for screen projects, namely the memoir or what of premises. What makes a good story before Hollywood? What makes a good story before God? Our discussion will be guided by the basic structure of the most common three-act formats, and the applicability to the spiritual writing we will be discussing.

Nina Shelson is an Emmy-nominated television producer and writer. She is currently Children’s Programming Producer for the WKBU-PBS Station in Indiana. Previously she spent several years at HBO as a producer/writer where she earned her Emmy Award Nomination.

With Imagination and Spirit:
Writing as Public Ministry
led by Brent Bill
Do you believe, like Flannery O’Connor, that “writing is primarily anunciatory activity” and that the main reason you write is “to speak, without apology, of Christ even when Christ is not recognized”? If so, you’ll want to attend this workshop that looks at what it means to write as ministry. We’ll look at the reasons for using the miraculous power of language in telling good news—not the least of which is the ability to help us in discovering who we are, as writers and people of faith, feel, think, and believe.

Brent Bill is the author of thirteen books (the latest being Imagination and Spirit: A Contem- porary Quaker Reader), contributor to five others (including QuakerLife 2 & 5 and Keeping The Faith: The First Indiana Sermon), and more than 100 magazine articles. Brent is also a writing instructor and coach.

Daily Bread: Writing In and About Everyday Life
led by Mary Lacey
All the best books and teachers say, “Write what you know,” and this is good advice, meant to free us to acknowledge our own expertise in, theme, style, and voice. But writing what we know—the material of daily lived experience, memory, and the stories we have inherited—is also a way to discover what we don’t know. This workshop will invite you to write what you know, in search of openings into other, deeper experience of knowledge.

Mary Lacey is associate professor of English at Earlham College, where she teaches modern literature, poetry and creative writing. She received her BA from Earlham (1983) and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan (1990).

Writing on the Threshold
led by Nan Phifer
We’ll write about the moments when somehow we come into, or left, our lives. Such times often brim with spiritual direction. Nan will guide participants in retrieving memories of births, deaths, and other kinds of union or parting, and she’ll provide ques- tions for reflection on our writings that may heighten our awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Nan Phifer is Associate Director of the Oregon Writing Project at the University of Oregon, and teaches workshops in writing spiritual memoirs. Her most recent book is Memoirs of the Soul: Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography, a Writer’s Digest Book.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Friday, October 24
7:00 p.m. Registration
7:30 p.m. Reading: Scott Russell Sanders and Haven Kimmel
Saturday, October 25
8:15 a.m. Registration
9:00 a.m. Workshop Session One (choose one)
9:30 a.m. Scott Russell Sanders: Telling True Stories
10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break
10:45 a.m. Workshop Session One (choose one)

Fiction-Haven Kimmel
(Sale forthcoming)
Spirituality in Writing—Lil Copan
“Silence Is All We Dread”—Pat Schneider
The Basics of Screenwriting—Nina Shelson
Imagination and Spirit: Writing as Public Ministry—Brent Bill
Writing on the Threshold—Nan Phifer

Daily Bread: Writing In and About Everyday Life—Mary Lacey
12:15 p.m. Lunch
1:30 p.m. Haven Kimmel: Healing Fictions
2:00 p.m. Workshop Session Two (choose one)
Making Essays—Scott Russell Sanders
Fiction—Haven Kimmel
Spirituality in Writing—Lil Copan
“Silence Is All We Dread”—Pat Schneider
The Basics of Screenwriting—Nina Shelson
Imagination and Spirit: Writing as Public Ministry—Brent Bill
Writing on the Threshold—Nan Phifer

Daily Bread: Writing In and About Everyday Life—Mary Lacey
3:30 p.m. Refreshment/Artwork Party
4:00 p.m. Pat Schneider: “There’s Reason in a Voice:” Creative Writing Art as Art and Movement
7:30–9:30 Readings and Open Mic

The colloquium will be held in the ESR Community Building at the northeast corner of the Earlham Campus. A finalized schedule and list room assignments for workshops and other gatherings will be distributed at registration.

Previous keynote speakers for the Colloquium have been:
1992—William Zinsser
1993—Sam Keen
1994—Keith Miller
1995—Walter Wangerin
1996—Madeleine L’Engle
1997—James M. Wall
1998—Neil Paul Steekey
1999—Will D. Campbell
2000—Dominic Miller
2001—Elizabeth Cox
2002—Phil Gully

The Ministry of Writing” colloquium was endowed by individuals in honor of Tom Mullen at the time of his retirement as Dean of Earlham School of Religion in 1999. Endowment from ESR in 1997. The “Writing for the Religious Market” course first offered over 20 years ago, was turned into an annual response to questions of ESR students and other practicing writers. This colloquium is one way the school demonstrates its commitment to the written word as an important form of ministry.

WORKSHOPS
Reg.

Friday, October 23
7:00 p.m. Registration
7:30 p.m. Reading: Scott Russell Sanders and Haven Kimmel
Saturday, October 24
8:15 a.m. Registration
9:00 a.m. Workshop Session One (choose one)
9:30 a.m. Scott Russell Sanders: Telling True Stories
10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break
10:45 a.m. Workshop Session One (choose one)

Fiction-Haven Kimmel (title forthcoming)
Spirituality in Writing—Lil Copan
“Silence Is All We Dread”—Pat Schneider
The Basics of Screenwriting—Nina Shelson
Imagination and Spirit: Writing as Public Ministry—Brent Bill
Writing on the Threshold—Nan Phifer
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REGISTRATION FORM
Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
Phone ____________________________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________

Colloquium prior to Oct. 1: $65
Colloquium after Oct. 1: $70
Colloquium: undergraduate grad student: $25 Total enclosed $ ______________________

Workshop One preference (number first and second choice)
—— Fiction—Haven Kimmel (title forthcoming)
—— Spirituality in Writing—Lil Copan
—— “Silence Is All We Dread”—Pat Schneider
—— The Basics of Screenwriting—Nina Shelson
—— Imagination and Spirit: Writing as Public Ministry—Brent Bill
—— Writing on the Threshold—Nan Phifer
—— Daily Bread: Writing In and About Everyday Life—Mary Lacey

Workshop Two preference (number first and second choice)
—— Making Essays—Scott Russell Sanders
—— Fiction—Haven Kimmel (title forthcoming)
—— Spirituality in Writing—Lil Copan
—— “Silence Is All We Dread”—Pat Schneider
—— The Basics of Screenwriting—Nina Shelson
—— Imagination and Spirit: Writing as Public Ministry—Brent Bill
—— Writing on the Threshold—Nan Phifer
—— Daily Bread: Writing In and About Everyday Life—Mary Lacey

A 565 registration for all colloquium events, including Friday night readings, all plenary sessions and workshops, Saturday lunch and refreshments, and the reading/open mic session Saturday night. This should be paid no later than October 1. After that date, the cost increases to $25 per person. We will have a limited number of openings for undergraduates and graduate students available for $25 each if registered before October 1.

Send to: Writing Colloquium 2003, Rita Compton, Earlham School of Religion, 228 College Avenue, Richmond, IN 47374. E-mail: cummiri@earlham.edu

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