



PHILOSOPHY  
DEPARTMENT  
NEWSLETTER

May 2008

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Well, we had ourselves some nice weather over the past weekend, and Charlie, as you can see on the front page, loved being back in the water! So what happened, you ask? Where's all that sun now? These are good questions, and as you philosophy students know, good questions rarely have less than a million answers, so in respect for the limited space at hand, let's talk about something else, shall we? Like—Charlie! Today I took her outside to catch some balls before coming into work, and I think she must be one of the happiest beings upon this earth. Everything she does, she does with all of her attention, all of her energy. Catching balls, investigating the neighbor's yard, surveying the sky for birds. Her tail never stops wagging—she is SO happy to be doing exactly what she is doing when she is doing it. Never does she wish to be somewhere else doing something else. And this is her *modus operandi* every single day: joy, commitment, satisfaction. She makes me happy when I watch her. So, what brings you this kind of free-for-all happiness? Hikes in the woods, naps, cooking for others, an unexpected but totally amazing conversation with a stranger? Kittens? Balloons? Music? Chocolate? Parents? Partners? Children, grandchildren? All of these or some of these above?

Whatever it is, give it plenty of room in your life. Your life is big enough to accommodate your flights of fancy, your digressions from the routine, your moments of unadulterated absurdity.

In other words, "It's Friday—yee haw!!!!"

Leonora



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## Department Calendar

**May 7, 2008**

9:00 am—9:50 am

104 Hovland

- Faculty Meeting

**May 16, 2008**

- Last day to change to or from S/U grading
- Last day to withdraw from a course

**May 21, 2008**

9:00 am—9:50 am

104 Hovland

- Faculty Meeting

**May 23, 2008**

- Essay contest submissions due by 5:00 pm

**May 26, 2008**

Memorial Day holiday!!



*Ginger Kaplan-Clough*

***I'm happy too!***

## 2ND ANNUAL STUDENT AWARDS SOIREE

Last year we had a great time at our Annual Student Awards Soiree. So, don't miss it this year! It will be held on June 5, 2008 @ 5:30 pm. Details will be forthcoming towards the end of May. Stay turned!

# **ATTENTION!**

# **All OSU Students!**

## **Outstanding Undergraduate Essay in Philosophy!**



**\$100  
prize**

*Who is eligible?*

All undergraduate students are eligible for the prize. You do not have to be a philosophy major or a student in a philosophy class.

*How to apply.*

Submit one copy of your best philosophical essay to the Department of Philosophy (208 Hovland Hall) no later than Friday, May 23, 2008 @ 5:00 pm. The essay may be a paper you have written for a class assignment.



**\$100  
Prize**



**\$100  
Prize**

*Criteria for selection.*

The outstanding essay will be chosen by vote of the Philosophy Department faculty. The paper will be judged for its quality; its clarity, cogency, and significance.

For more information, please call the Philosophy Department (373-2955) or talk to your philosophy professor.

**ATTENTION!!!**

# **ALL OSU GRAD STUDENTS!**

## **Outstanding Graduate Essay in Philosophy**



### ***Who is eligible?***

All graduate students are eligible for the prize. You do not have to be a philosophy major or a student in a philosophy class.

### ***How to apply.***

Submit one copy of your best philosophical essay to the Department of Philosophy (208 Hovland Hall) no later than **Friday, May 23, 2008 @ 5:00 pm.**

*The essay may be a paper you have written for a class assignment.*

### ***Criteria for selection.***

The outstanding essay will be chosen by vote of the Philosophy Department faculty. The paper will be judged for its quality; its clarity, cogency, and significance.

For more information, please call the Philosophy Department (737-2955) or talk to your philosophy professor.

# FACULTY NEWS

**Sharyn Clough** is previewing her new research on "Gender, Germs and Dirt" at the U of Oregon conference "Between Nature and Culture" May 1-2.

The 2nd edition of John Perry's anthology *Personal Identity* has just been published by the University of California Press and two of the new sections are from **Bill Uzgalis'** work: "Selections from the Clarke Collins correspondence" on personal identity and essay "Locke and Collins, Clarke and Butler on Successive Persons."

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## The Spring Creek Project News

*In the Blast Zone: Catastrophe and Renewal on Mount St. Helens*, edited by **Charles Goodrich, Kathleen Dean Moore**, and Frederick J. Swanson, has just been released by OSU Press. Everyone is invited to a reading and celebration to launch the book, Friday, May 16, 7:30 pm, OSU Valley Library Rotunda.

*In the Blast Zone* grew out of a field symposium sponsored by the Spring Creek Project. It is the first book to present a cross-pollination of literary and scientific perspectives on Mount St. Helens' history of cataclysm and renewal. Most of the contributors to this volume camped together on the mountain for four days in 2005, the 25th anniversary of the eruption, hiking, learning the ecology, and sharing ideas. They asked the question: What can this radically altered landscape tell us about nature and how to live our lives? *In the Blast Zone* collects some of their answers. While introducing fascinating ecological and geological insights, it also tells compelling stories about how science informs our lives and our relationship to nature. Contributors include **Tony Vogt**, Ursula LeGuin, Gary Snyder, Jerry Franklin, and many other notable writers and scientists.

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The Spring Creek Project announces the call for proposals for the 2008-09 Spring Creek Fellow. Funding is available to support faculty research and teaching that furthers the mission of the Project, to "nourish new ways of thinking about the place of humans in nature . . . and to further the public awareness and appreciation of our physical, emotional, and spiritual connections to the natural world." Proposals are due May 15th. For more information, please contact Charles or Kathy.

We're pleased to announce the publication of "Leaves on the River," a book of poems by Spring Creek co-founder and benefactor **Franz Dolp**. All are invited to the book launch party, to be held on Friday, May 30, 2008 at 7 pm at the Corvallis Arts Center. There will be readings by local authors (including Tony, Kathy, and Charles), musical performance of Franz' poems set to music by Ron Jeffers, and an exhibit of art inspired by the poetry.

**Kathy Moore** will present a paper at the upcoming UO conference, "Thinking Through Nature: Philosophy for an Endangered World," as part of a panel that includes Craig Delancey (professor, philosophy, SUNY Oswego) and Erin E. Moore (assistant professor, architecture, U of Oregon).