

Our Sense of Place Introduction

In August 2009 we began a new, year long program learning about our place in respect to the Arkansas River bioregion. This program is designed to explore the natural world of the Upper Arkansas River Valley through seminars, outdoor adventures and activities to acquaint and promote a 'rootedness' in the place we call home. Understanding the local bioregion enables participants to experience the inter-connectedness of our Valley while developing a sense of community through shared journeys and exploration.

Program Structure

On a monthly basis there will be an evening program and a fieldtrip. The evening program is an enriching seminar addressing a specific topic of our rich and diverse environment. The evening programs will be open to the public. For registered participants, the monthly seminars will be followed by an exploration fieldtrip to examine first-hand the natural wonders of our area. The Sense of Place program is designed to cover an entire year focusing on the many different segments that make up the whole of our ecosystem from the River to Alpine and Subalpine Flowers, from Geology to Astronomy, from Indigenous Peoples to the History and Future of Agriculture in our Valley. For scheduling reasons, we have divided the program into three seasonal sessions. We truly hope that you will be able to join us for this local exploration.

Season Two Cost

Cost for three-month study program includes all evening lectures and fieldtrips.

\$45 GARNA members

\$55 non-members

Pre-registration required by January 11, 2010

Maximum 25 participants

Please bring a notebook and writing utensil for journaling and dress appropriately. We will discuss items such as food, ridesharing, etc. for the fieldtrips prior to each event.

Season Two Topics and Dates

Evening programs open to the public; fieldtrips for paid participants only.

January

The "Polka Dot" Forest

Saturday January 16, 2010

Presenter: Susan J. Tweit

It's easy to pick out the piñon pine-juniper woodland on the lower hills around the Upper Arkansas River Valley by the polka-dot pattern of the trees. This regular pattern is due mainly to drought, and drought tolerance makes for very creative adaptations on the part of the inhabitants. Join Tweit, renowned author and naturalist, to discover the secrets and stories of the woodland referred to as "p-j".

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Salida Community Center

Cost: Free to GARNA members and paid Sense of Place Season 2 participants, \$5 for non-members

Sunday, January 17 fieldtrip: Sense of Place participants will join Tweit for a close-up look at the lives that make up the piñon pine-juniper woodland during a hike in the Arkansas Hills. We'll identify plants, look for tracks, and talk about the relationships that make up this fascinating ecosystem that is so characteristic of our valley. Time and meeting place to be announced.

February

Clouds and Weather in our Valley

Monday, February 8, 2010

Presenter: Dr. Stanley L. Barnes

Dr. Barnes will discuss what it takes for clouds in the Upper Arkansas Valley to form, delve into the role of water vapor and its source, and consider why some clouds move with the winds and others do not. Learn about why some clouds do nothing but come and go, while others produce weather events and precipitation. Larger scale atmospheric systems that produce our storms here in the Valley will be discussed as well as how we should interpret forecasts by the National Weather Service.

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Salida Community Center

Cost: Free to GARNA members and paid Sense of Place Season 2 participants, \$5 for non-members

Friday, February 12 evening potluck and stargazing fieldtrip: Following a potluck and general discussion of astronomy, Sense of Place participants will be treated to a visual tour of the night sky over the Arkansas Valley by local astronomer Jim Konowitz. Jim leads stargazing sessions with local residents, and for youth camps and local schools and is the President of the Arkansas Valley Astronomical Society (www.fourteenetnet.com/avas). Time and meeting place to be announced.

March

The Geothermal Phenomenon from a Geological Point of View

Monday, March 8, 2010

Presenter: Dr. Fred Henderson

Dr. Henderson will delve into the geological explanation and history of the multiple Arkansas Valley hot springs. He will talk about what 'geothermal' means, where the sources are located, and how they have been used. Fred will also talk about the potential uses of geothermal energy in the future as well as Federal and State regulations and land owner rights protection.

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: To be determined

Cost: Free to GARNA members and paid Sense of Place Season 2 participants, \$5 for non-members

Sunday, March 14 fieldtrip: Mark Krivanek, geologist, gemologist, and master faceter will lead our group on a hike in the Ruby Mountain area to forage for garnets and apache tears. Mark has extensive knowledge and years of experience with the various gems and minerals found in the Arkansas Valley. Mark has been in the jewelry business for 25 years and currently owns and operates Krivanek Jewelers in downtown Salida. Time and meeting place to be announced.

"You can't know who you are until you know where you are."

Wendell Berry, author of
'The Unsettling in America'

Season Three dates will be announced in Spring 2010.



**Sense of Place
Season Two
Registration Form**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel _____

Email _____

Course	Cost	# Attending	Total
Our Sense of Place – Season Two	\$45 GARNA members; \$55 non members		\$

Registration deadline is January 11, 2010.

Many programs are quite popular and have a limited capacity. Therefore, a place for you can only be secured upon receipt of payment.

Mail or drop off to:
GARNA
PO Box 1522
332 1/2 West Sackett
(next to Absolute Bikes)
Salida, CO 81201

Save on Seminars ~ Become a GARNA Member Today!
www.garna.org

Evening Presenters

Susan J. Tweit trained as a field ecologist and spent years mapping grizzly bear habitat, wildfire patterns and sagebrush communities. Eventually, she realized that she enjoyed telling the stories behind the data more than she loved collecting the data! She is the author of 12 books (so far), and her work has also appeared in a wide variety of magazines and newspapers. She has taught numerous workshops, is an inspiring speaker, and also coaches individual writers and reviews manuscripts for university presses. Always, the theme that flows through her work is the interrelationships that form what Aldo Leopold called “the community of the land.”

Dr. Stanley L. Barnes spent four years as a weather observer in the U. S. Navy and went on to obtain a PhD in Meteorology. Soon thereafter he joined the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, OK. His research at NSSL included field projects to obtain relevant data in and near thunderstorms. He then moved to Boulder, CO where he studied severe thunderstorms, researched improved computer analysis of meteorological observations, and developed diagnostic routines currently being used in operational weather forecasting. Dr. Barnes has lived in Chaffee County for 10 years where, as an “amateur” observer, he is attempting to understand the influence of the Arkansas Valley mountain ranges on clouds and weather systems.

Dr. F. B. Henderson, III has a PhD in Economic Geology and Geochemistry from Harvard. He was a mining and exploration geologist in North and South America for seven years and later worked on geothermal geochemistry at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories. Henderson co-founded and was President of the Geosat Committee, Inc. which voiced the needs of the petroleum, mining and engineering industries and demonstrated capabilities for improved satellite sensing for geological and oceanographic applications. Since 1993, Dr. Henderson has been a full time partner with HENDCO SERVICES providing exploration, remote sensing, and mining environmental and geothermal services. He is currently working as Chief Scientist for Mt. Princeton Geothermal, LLC developing a geothermal energy program in Chaffee County.

**Greater Arkansas River
Nature Association**

**“Our Sense of Place”
Season Two
A Seasonal & Year
Long Study Program**



It’s easy to register!

Simply fill out the registration form or go online, print and mail/deliver to:

GARNA
PO Box 1522
332 1/2 W Sackett (next to Absolute Bikes)
Salida, CO 81201
info@garna.org
www.garna.org
719.539.5106