

Henry D. Thoreau

Simplify, simplify:

Thoreau's Timeless Message

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Annual Gathering 2007

July 12-15

Concord, MA

Thursday, July 12

**Locations listed by event

TIME	ACTIVITY & LEADER	PLACE
8:30-10 a.m.	Walden Pond Activities Explore Walden Pond's Natural Features Led by Reservation Staff	House Replica
9:00-12 noon	Brister's Hill Walk Led by Ed Schofield & Matt Burne	(See Program note # 9)
10:30-12 noon	Walden Pond Activities A. Explore the Pond Led by Walter Brain B. Pine Hill Walk & Henley Library Tour Led by Walden Pond Reservation Staff & Jeff Cramer	House Replica The Shop
noon	Lunch (On Your Own)	
1-5:00 p.m.	Registration	Masonic Temple (Main Floor)
12:30-2 p.m.	Henry David Thoreau, Surveyor of the Soul A preview of a new film in the works by Huey	(Main Floor)
2:30-4 p.m.	Workshop Session I A. <i>Simplicity and Thoreau's Sense of Place</i> Led by Dick Schneider B. <i>Henry's 'Simple' Survey: Eagleswood in Perth Amboy (1856)—or— Why is it Nothing is Easy in New Jersey?</i> Led by Wayne Dilts	Masonic Temple (Main floor) (Down Stairs)
4:30-6 p.m.	Workshop Session II A. <i>Visibility Beyond the Visible: The Artistic Discourse of American Transcendentalism</i> Led by Albena Bakratcheva	Masonic Temple (Main Floor)
6-7:30 p.m.	Thoreau Farm Trust Picnic Bring your own picnic supper. Dessert and cold drinks provided. (See program note # 10)	Birth House, Virginia Road
6:00 p.m.	Dinner (On Your Own)	
8-9:30 p.m.	Thoreau's Spartan-like Simplicity Speaker: Mike Frederick, Executive Director, Thoreau Society	Masonic Temple

Friday July 13

7:00-9 a.m.	Nature Walk at Great Meadows Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Masonic Temple Parking Lot to Car Pool.	Led by Peter Alden
9-10:15	Discussion of the Annual Gathering Theme <i>Simplify, simplify: Thoreau's Timeless Message</i> Led by Kevin Van Anglen	Masonic Temple (Main Floor)

- 10:30-12 noon **Workshop Session III** Masonic Temple
 A. *Thoreau 101: Henry Thoreau and His Friends*. All are welcome, but this program is geared mainly to the new devotee! Led by Bob Habich. (Main Floor)
 B. *Transcendentalism and The Grand Unified Theory: Thoreau, Eisley, Freynman, and Hawking*. (Downstairs)
 Led by Tom Potter
 C. *Walking to Simplicity* Walden Pond
 Led by Jen Walker Meet at the House Replica
- 11- 5:00 p.m. **Registration** Masonic Temple (Main Floor)
- 12 noon* **Boxed Lunch Pickup** Masonic Temple (Downstairs)
- 12:15-12:45 p.m. **New Members & First Timers Orientation** Masonic Temple
 Introduced by Dave Ganoe (Down Stairs)
 Led by: Tom Potter, Mike Frederick, and Wayne Dilts, Chair
- 1-2:30 p.m. **Workshop Session IV**
 A. *Web Projects to Simplify Access to the CFPL Collections* Seating limited to 25. Pre-registration required. Meet CFPL at the Concord Free Public Library, Special Collections.
 B. *Changes in Flora & Fauna from Thoreau's Time to Today*
 Led by Peter Alden Masonic Temple (Main Floor)
 C. *Teaching "Life with Principle" in South Carolina*
 Panel Led by Pam Mack Masonic Temple (Downstairs)
- 3-4:30 p.m. **Workshop Session V** Masonic Temple
 A. *Building Walden in My Basement, or Living within the Ambit of One's Own Horizon* (Main Floor)
 Led by Jim Hatley
 B. *Keeping Thoreau's Message Alive* (Downstairs)
The Modern Voluntary Simplicity Movement
 Led by Carmen D. Siering
 C. *Walking Tour of Sleepy Hollow Cemetery* Masonic Temple
 Led by Jayne Gordon (Meet at the Front Door)
- 5:30 p.m. * **Dinner** First Parish Church
- 7:30 p.m. **Emerson, Simplicity, and the Quotidian Life** Masonic Temple
 Sponsored by the Emerson Society
 Panel: Elizabeth Addison, Susan Dunston, Sarah Wider, and Joseph Thomas
- 8:00 p.m. **A Birthday Party for Henry** Masonic Temple (Downstairs)
 Sponsored by Walden University
 Ice Cream & Cake and Transcendental Trivia Game organized by Corinne H. Smith and Laryssa Duncan
 Hosted by Paula Peinovich, Walden University President
- 9:30 p.m. **Young Thoreauvians** Masonic Temple (Downstairs)
 Organized by Laryssa Duncan

Saturday, July 14

- 7 a.m. **Memorial Walk at Walden Pond—A Silent Meditation**
 Led by Corinne H. Smith Meet at the House Replic
- www.shopatwaldenpond.org * = Prepaid or added fee Page 3

8-9:00 a.m.	Refreshments and Registration	First Parish Church Hall
9-10:30 a.m.	Annual Business Meeting	First Parish Church
10:45-11:30 a.m.	THE DANA S. BRIGHAM MEMORIAL KEYNOTE ADDRESS <i>Simplicity and Sanity</i> Professor Scott Russell Sanders, Indiana University Refer to Program Note # 13 for a biography of Professor Sanders and an abstract of his presentation.	First Parish Church
12 noon*	Boxed Lunch Pickup	First Parish Church
12-1:00 p.m.	Registration	Masonic Temple
12:30-1:30 p.m.	Henry David Thoreau Speaking for Nature Film screening	Masonic Hall (Down Stairs)
1:45-3:15 p.m.	Workshop Session VI A. <i>Emergence, Simplicity, Evolution, Simplicity, Transcendentalism, Simplicity</i> Led by John Wawrzonek B. <i>The Birds and Animals of Thoreau</i> Led by Peter Loewer	Masonic Temple (Main Floor) (Down Stairs)
3:30-5 p.m.	Workshop Session VII A. <i>Zoro's Field: My Life in the Appalachian Woods—A Walden for Today</i> Led by Thomas Rain Crowe B. <i>The Simple Life: Thoreau's First Year at Walden in Fact and Fiction</i> Led by Richard Smith	Masonic Temple (Main Floor) (Down Stairs)
5-6:00 p.m.*	Reception for the Keynote Speaker in Memory of John D. Mack	(Private Home)
6:00 p.m.*	Dinner	First Parish Church
7:30 p.m.	Book Signing and Wine & Cheese Social	Masonic Temple (Down Stairs)
9:00 p.m.	Spirits, Legends, and Lore of Concord Led by John Chateaufneuf	Masonic Temple Meet at the Front Door

Sunday, July 15

7:30-10 a.m.	Nature Walk: Birds, Plants and History Led by Peter Alden Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the Concord Municipal Parking Lot to Carpool. See the map in your Registration Packet.
7:30-10 a.m.	Estabrook Woods Walk Led by Ed Schofield Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Concord Municipal Parking Lot to carpool. See the map in your Registration Packet.

- 7:30-10 a.m. **Exploring the Pencil Factory Dam Site**
Meet at 7:00 am in the Concord Municipal Parking Lot
to Carpool. See the map in your Registration Packet.
Led by Randall Conrad and Richard Lenat
- 10:30-12 noon **Workshop Session VIII** Masonic Temple
A. Thoreau's Simplicity from Ethics to Aesthetics (Main Floor)
Led by Francois Specq
- 11:00 a.m. **Zoro's Field: A Reading,
Discussion and Book Signing** Shop at Walden Pond
Led by Thomas Rain Crowe
- 12-1 p.m. **Lunch (On Your Own)**
- 1-3 p.m. **4th Annual Open House & Reception** Thoreau Society
All Members and Guests Welcome!!! 55 Old Bedford Road
- 2-4:00 p.m. **Thoreau Farm Trust Open House** Thoreau Birth House
All Members and Guests Welcome !!! Virginia Road

IMPORTANT PROGRAM NOTES:

*Asterisk indicates events NOT included in your Registration Fee.

1. Walden Pond State Reservation charges \$5.00 for Parking. They can no longer waive parking fees. Parking is limited, so please carpool when going to the Pond.
2. Thursday Morning Only: Free van service is available to/from the Pond courtesy of the Society. Please see Page 7 in the Program for the schedule, route, and pick up/drop locations.
3. Please avoid using the parking lot behind the Masonic Temple on Sunday morning. The lot is actually owned by the church next door, and they'll need it for parking for Sunday services. Your cooperation will be appreciated. There is a municipal parking lot with sufficient parking linked to the parking lot behind the Temple by a short path.
4. Extra copies of the map directing you to municipal parking lots for Sunday morning, and other event times will be included in your Registration Packet and will be available at the Registration Desk.
5. Please note!!! There will not be a second, or "final copy," of the Program Booklet published. Changes will be published on the Thoreau Society Website (www.thoreausociety.org) and in an Addendum Sheet, which will be included in your Registration Packet. Extra copies of both the Program Booklet and Addendum Sheet will be available at the Registration Desk.
6. Please use the Message Board located in the main entry of the Masonic Temple for Ride Sharing, Meal Ticket Exchange, messages to other participants, etc. The Message Board is provided as a service to Gathering participants. Postings are the sole responsibility of the individual.
7. For your comfort and safety bring a hat, sun screen, water, and good walking shoes for all outdoor activities.
9. MEET AT THE TRAIL HEAD AT 9:00 am. This nature walk will be on the new Brister Hill Trail designed by the Walden Woods Project. The Trail is located on Walden Street. Parking is available at Walden Pond State Reservation and Concord's Town Forest, opposite the Concord-Carlisle High School.

The entrance gate to the 1-mile path is located on Walden Street. **PARKING IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE TRAIL HEAD.** Bring field guides, field glasses, notebooks and dress for the weather. See #7 above.

10. Refer to the map and directions in your Registration Packet for directions to the Thoreau Birth House.

11. Abstract of the Keynote talk: "Simplify, simplify," Thoreau exhorts us. But what might this instruction mean in our time and circumstances? What should we aspire to simplify? And how might we achieve greater simplicity in the face of technological, economic, and institutional forces that confront us with ever-greater complexity? My talk will ponder these questions, considering how the goal of simplicity might affect the way we feed and house and clothe and entertain ourselves, how it might redefine our relationship to place and to nature, and how it might bear on many of the social and ecological challenges we face.

Professor Sanders is the author of nineteen books, including *Staying Put*, *Hunting for Hope*, and *The Force of Spirit*. His latest book is *A Private History of Awe*, a memoir, published in 2006 by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. For his work in nonfiction, he has won the Lannan Literary Award and the John Burroughs Essay Award. In all of his books he is concerned with our place in nature, the pursuit of social justice, the character of community, and the search for a spiritual path. He is Distinguished Professor of English at Indiana University. He and his wife, Ruth, a biochemist, have reared two children in their home town of Bloomington, in the hardwood hill country of the White River Valley.

REQUIRED BASIC REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- All workshops, outdoor events, lectures, readings, panels, and discussion sessions.
- Socials: Ice Cream Social, Book Signing Wine & Cheese, and Office Open House on Sunday.
- Sunshine Van Service on stated routes/schedule.

Note: Registration is not required to attend the Annual Business Meeting.

REGISTRATION POLICIES:

The policies listed below are in an effort to clarify issues that have arisen at past Annual Gatherings. The Annual Gathering Committee thanks you for your understanding and cooperation.

- All requests for refunds must be received prior to the close of business on Friday, June 29, 2007.
- Only pre-paid registration fees, food, and activity fees are refundable less a \$25 processing fee.
- Meal tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded after the Friday, June 29th deadline.
- A Shipping Charge will be deducted from any refund if applicable.
- Registrations will not be accepted for individual programs. Note Registration fees do not apply to attending the Business Meeting.

No One Left Behind

The Thoreau Society will provide van service on Thursday morning for those who have no means of rapid transportation. Those with cars are requested to carpool to save money and space.

Masonic Temple Stop: in the parking lot behind the building, which is diagonally opposite the Colonial Inn

Walden Pond Stop: beside the Shop at Walden Pond

Van Schedule—Thursday morning only

Depart Masonic	Arrive Walden	Depart Walden	Arrive Masonic
8:15 a.m.	8:30	8:45	9:00
10:15	10:30	10:45	11:00
11:45	12:00 noon	12:15	12:30

Accommodations

The Thoreau Society has negotiated special rates for the following:

Colonial Inn 11 rooms available: res. by 6/1	(800) 370-9200 www.concordcolonialinn.com	Concord center
North Bridge Inn 4 rooms: res. by 6/10	(888) 530-0007 www.northbridgeinn.com	Concord center
Hawthorne Inn*	(978) 369-5610 www.concordmass.com	1 mi to Concord center
Best Western (Concord) 12 rooms: res. by 6/10, \$90/nt	(978) 369-6100 www.bestwestern.com	2 mi to Concord center
Best Western (Bedford) 20 rooms: res by 6/11, \$88	(781) 275-6700 www.bestwesternbedford.com	6 mi to Concord center
Friendly Crossways Hostel* (Located in Harvard, Ma)	978-456-9386 www.friendlycrossroads.com	13 mi to Concord center

*Check for cancelations/Special rate may not apply.

The **Colonial Inn** is located directly across from the Masonic Temple. The special room rate is \$159.00 and \$139 per night (plus occupancy tax).

Best Wester (Bedford) includes a complimentary breakfast, indoor pool, and free wireless internet access.

For reservations, please call these establishments directly. Indicate that you're a Thoreau Society member and attending the Annual Gathering. They have agreed to give special rates as indicated to AG participants.

For information about public transportation, visit www.mbta.com

With the help of the Young Thoreauvians, we have compiled additional information on inexpensive lodging, directions, car rentals, and public transportation to Concord. Contact: info@thoreausociety.org.

For information about ride-sharing during the AG, please use the **Message Board** located at the entrance of the Masonic Temple.

Call for Volunteers

The annual Gathering Committee needs volunteers to assist with registration, setting up meeting rooms, hospitality, and a variety of other tasks associated with the Annual Gathering. See contact information at the bottom of this page for how to volunteer.

The Shop at Walden Pond

For your convenience, there will be a satellite Shop at Walden Pond located near the Registration Table during the Gathering on the following schedule:

Thursday	1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. & 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Saturday	1:30 to 5:30p.m.

Look for specials and members discounts.

The main Shop located at Walden Pond will be open as follows: Daily 9 a.m.-6 p.m. except Thursday, July 12th, when the Shop will open at 8:00 a.m. to accommodate those who are attending early events at Walden Pond.

Contact Information: 915 Walden Street, Concord, MA 01742;
tel. 978-287-5477; email, info@shopatwaldenpond.org;
eStore, www.shopatwaldenpond.org.

Members receive 10% off all purchases. Restrictions may apply.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The theme for the 2008 Annual Gathering is

“The Individual and the State: The Politics of Thoreau In Our Time”

Please send your suggestions for presenters, programs, and activities for the 2007 Annual Gathering to be held July 10-13, 2008 in Concord MA. The deadline for program proposals is Friday, December 7, 2007

Program descriptions should be sent to:

The Thoreau Society

Annual Gathering Committee

Attention Mike Frederick, Executive Director:

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Concord, MA 01742
www.thoreausociety.org

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