

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gathering of the Thoreau Society

## Thoreau & Resilience

July 10-14, 2024

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The Thoreau Society does not exclude anyone because of the inability to pay.

Please contact [rebecca@thoreausociety.org](mailto:rebecca@thoreausociety.org) to request reduced rates.

**AG Registration includes all events except where otherwise noted.**

Saturday's events are free to the public and will be livestreamed by Minuteman Media Network at: [youtube.com/@MinutemanMediaNetwork](https://youtube.com/@MinutemanMediaNetwork)

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

### Pre-Conference Volunteer Opportunity (limited to 12)

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thoreau Farm

Tour & Volunteering at Gaining Ground at Thoreau Farm

Join us for a two-hour volunteer stint at Gaining Ground Farm, right next to the Thoreau Birthplace. We will help with whatever tasks need attention on the farm, under the guidance of professional farmers. Gaining Ground donates all the food it grows to local food programs.

### PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

(Pre-registration, \$25 fee; limited to 12 registrants each.)

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

#### What Can You Do With *Digital Thoreau*?

Led by *Paul Schacht & Beth Witherell*

*Digital Thoreau* is a multi-project initiative that offers users different ways to engage with Thoreau's work. This workshop will introduce participants to three of those projects: *The Readers' Thoreau*, a platform for reading Thoreau collaboratively through online annotation, conversation, and document sharing; *Walden: A Fluid-Text Edition*, a site for comparing Thoreau's multiple drafts of *Walden* with each other and the published work; and the *Walden Manuscript Project*, a tool for exploring, understanding, and using the digitized manuscript of *Walden*. Participants will get the most out of this workshop if they bring a laptop computer.

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Thoreau Farm

#### The Woods in You—A Greenprint of Resilience: Transformational Writing Prompted by Thoreau

Led by *Barbara Mossberg*

Woods are settings for heroic journeys in “this our life,” perhaps none more famous than those Thoreau went to—and left—in his effort to find and save his life. This workshop provides a “greenprint” to access your own woods, in company of fellow AG journeyers. Barbara Mossberg builds on her national workshop memoir model (first developed for Thoreau Farm) to provide a structure and system for understanding your life in terms of resilience, leadership, and legacy. Following Barbara's own talk about Thoreau's transformational prompts, participants engage with life-changing “fan fiction” from Homer, Cervantes, Dante, Shakespeare, Emerson, Dickinson, Whitman, Rilke, and contemporaries including Bayo Akomolafe, Cameron Awkward-Rich, Mary Oliver, and James Wright.

**1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Chapel

**A Walking Exploration of Resilience**

Led by *Marc Martorana & Ryan Smedberg*

Walk and Talk Learning workshops draw on the power of dialogue, movement, and outdoor spaces to foster meaningful learning experiences. In this workshop, we will explore the theme of resilience as it relates to our personal and collective projects. Participants will have the chance to respond to a series of journaling and conversation prompts drawn from the writings of Thoreau and other Transcendentalists. Our format will consist of small groups and one on one conversations as we walk through the Emerson and Thoreau Amble.

**CONFERENCE WELCOME**

**Registration 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

**Wednesday, 3:45 pm - 4:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Conference Welcome and Announcements**

**OPENING PLENARY SESSIONS**

**Wednesday, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Resilience and the Fruits of Connection**

**(Panel format; 15-17 mins. each)**

*Rochelle L. Johnson*, Moderator

- Reading Native Resilience: What Thoreau Missed in David Cusick's *Sketches of Ancient History of the Six Nations*, *Mark Sturges*
- The Huckleberry at the End of the World, *John Kucich*
- Fiery Spirit: Thoreau, Climate, and Resilience, *Steve Shoemaker*
- Wild Foods and Resilience in Thoreau and Erdrich, *KC Dolan*

**Wednesday, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

Dinner on your own

**Registration 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

**Wednesday, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Thoreau's Resilient Resistance**

**(Roundtable format; 12-14 mins. each)**

*Beverly Pittman*, Moderator

- The Resilience of Thoreau's "Next Experiment of This Kind," *Robert Thorson*
- Resound and Revive: Thinking with Thoreau's Telegraph Harp, *Dominic Mastroianni*
- Simplexify!, *Michael Jonik*
- Thoreau and the Resilience of the Scandinavian and Nordic Stories from an Early Age, *Elizabeth Scofield*
- Resisting Inertia—and Paying the Price for It, *Michael Stoneham*

[End of Wednesday's schedule]

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## THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024

### FIELD EXCURSIONS

**Thursday, 6:30 am - 8:30 am**

Meet at Keyes Rd. Parking Lot

**Guided Tour around Walden Pond**

*Robert Thorson*, Guide

**Thursday, 6:30 am - 8:30 am**

Meet at Keyes Rd. Parking Lot

**Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge on the East Bank of Concord River**

*Peter Alden*, Guide

### PLENARY ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

**Registration 8:30 am - 11:00 am**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

**Thursday, 9:00 am - 9:15 am**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

Conference Welcome, Reprise

**Thursday, 9:15 am - 10:30 am**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Resilience through Spirituality & Physicality**

**(Roundtable format: 10-12 mins. each)**

*KC Dolan*, Moderator

- “Life in the green state”: How Henry's Spiritual Activities Brought Him Resilience, *Kathy Fedorko*
- Thoreau and Spiritual Resilience in a World of Religion, *Scott Holland*
- Thoreau the Athlete: A Life Lived in Motion, *Charles Groves*
- Spiritual Resilience Through the Lens of Thoreau's Bhagavad Gita, his Woodchucks, and Birdsong, *Don Jewler*
- Thoreau and the Art of Life, *Barry Andrews*

**Thursday, 10:30 am - 10:45 am**

Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

**Thursday, 10:45 am - 12:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Thoreauvian Flourishing through Fish, Bud, and Bird**

**Sponsored by The Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE)**

**(Roundtable format: 12-14 Minutes Each)**

*Cristi Ellis*, Moderator

- Going with the Flow(ers), *Gary MacDonald*
- The Resilient Life of Birds, *Geoff Wisner*
- “Earth Does Not Understand Her Child”: Henry David Thoreau’s and Edna St. Vincent Millay’s Resilience and Regeneration, *Matensz Kucab*

From the ASLE website (<https://www.asle.org/discover-asle/vision-history/>):

*The Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE) seeks to inspire and promote intellectual work in the environmental humanities and arts. Our vision is an inclusive community whose members are committed to environmental research, education, literature, art and service, environmental justice, and ecological sustainability. ASLE was founded in 1992 by a group of scholars and writers interested in exploring the meanings of the natural environment and the complexities of human relationships with each other, and with the more-than-human world, and to deepening the impact of these explorations both within and beyond the classroom.*

**Thursday, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

Lunch on your own.

**Registration 1:00 – 5:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

### CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

**Thursday, 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Thoreau's Politics & Resilience**

**(Roundtable format: 10-12 mins. each)**

*Catherine Staples*, Moderator

- Spoiled Walks: Thoreau and the Slavery Crisis, *Richard Smith*
- Resilience-Bred Resistance: Nature-Sourced Civil Disobedience, *Philip Scharper*
- Thoreau and Civic Engagement, *Russ Wood*
- Thoreau and the Natural Resilience of National Parks and Other Wildlands, *Jym St. Pierre*

**Thursday, 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Chapel

**Thoreau among His Contemporaries**

**(Roundtable format: 10-12 mins. each)**

*Richard Higgins*, Moderator

- When Walking Turned into Travel: Thoreau and his Choice of Long-Distance Companions, *Corinne Smith*
- “Minott says”: George P. Minott, Thoreau's Living Model of Resilience, *Richard Piccarreto*
- Channeling Channing, *Ted David*
- “His Soul Is Marching On”: Thoreau's and Brown's Impact On Civil Rights, *Catherine Magi*
- Thoreau's Weak Ties, *Charles Weld*

**Thursday, 2:45 pm - 3:00 pm**

Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

**Thursday, 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

**Concord Free Public Library-Special Collections Tour**

(Pre-registration required; limited to 15)

### PLENARY ROUNDTABLE SESSION

**Thursday, 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Margaret Fuller, Women in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, & Resilience**

**Sponsored by the Margaret Fuller Society**

**(Roundtable format, 10-12 minutes)**

*Christina Katopodis*, Moderator

- The Body Resilient: Margaret Fuller’s Materialist Transcendentalism, *Johanna Pitetti-Heil*
- “What is Meant by *Strong Enough*”: Margaret Fuller’s Conversations Series and the Resilient Network of Nineteenth-Century Women, *Jennifer Daly*
- Women Transcendentalists in the Publishing World: Margaret Fuller and Caroline Healey Dall’s Stories of Resilience, *Alice deGalzain*
- Resilience in Fuller’s Friendships with Arconati and Belgiojoso, *Patricia Richards*

**At the close of this session, we will award the Thoreau Society Medal, the Thoreau Society’s highest honor, to Phyllis Cole.**

**Thursday, 4:30 pm - 4:45 pm**  
Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

### PLENARY ROUNDTABLE SESSION

**Thursday, 4:45 pm - 6:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**A Conversation: Varieties of Thoreauvian Resilience**  
(Roundtable format: 10 mins. each)

*Rochelle L. Johnson & John Kucich*, Moderators

- Living Deliberately: COVID, “Constructive Solitude”, and The Great Replacement Theory?, *Beverly Pittman*
- “God in Concord”: The Resilience of Thoreau’s Message in the Novels of Jane Langton, *Amity Wilczek*
- Re-examining Thoreau’s Natural Borders to Cross the Boundaries between Victims and Victimiziers, *Shinji Iwamasa*
- *Walden* and Resilient Post-Pandemic Microcultures, *Eric Lehman*
- The Authentic Self Drives Resilience, *Katrina Byrd*
- Henry David Thoreau and Resilience in Reading, *Chelsea Payraudeau*
- The Positive Effect of Henry in My Life 110 years after His Death, *Donna Marie Przybojewski*

**Thursday, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
Dinner on your own.

### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

**Thursday, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

The Munroe Gallery, Concord Free Public Library

**“Following Thoreau” Exhibit Opening Reception & Gallery Talk with Artist Amy Ragus**

*Ragus shares her visual series that weaves Thoreau’s Cape encounters with her own. The exhibit runs from July 2-July 30. Closed Sundays. Check library website for more information.*

### EVENING PROGRAM

**Thursday, 8:00 pm - 9:15 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**A Celebration of Resilience through Poetry, Humor, and Painting (20 mins. each)**

*Rochelle Johnson*, Moderator

- Chasing a Bay Horse: A Poetry Reading, *Catherine Staples*

- The Leaven of Humor in Thoreau's Prose, *Richard Higgins*
- “The Inward Morning”: An Artist's Personal Journey from Blindness to Light, *Kara Snyder*

[End of Thursday's schedule]

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## FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2024

### FIELD EXCURSION

**Friday, 6:30 am - 8:30 am** Meet at Keyes Rd. Parking Lot  
**Walden Woods from Fairhaven Bay to the far side of Walden Pond State Reservation**  
*Peter Alden*, Guide

**Registration 8:30 am - 11:00 am** Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

### EXCURSIONS IN THOREAU COUNTRY

(Pre-registration required)

#### Friday Morning Excursions in Thoreau Country

*By popular demand, we are providing time to explore Thoreau's landscape and the contemporary Concord community. Pre-register for a morning field trip to one of Concord's many cultural/historic sites. Enjoy! Pre-registration required for all but the Picnic and a Reading of Thoreau's "Slavery in Massachusetts" at Robbins House.*

#### Friday, 8:30 am - 11:00 am

- Canoe the Concord River with Jake McGinnis Meet at the South Bridge Boathouse

#### Friday, 9:00 am - 10:00 am

- Tour & Introduction to the Thoreau Society Archives with Jeffrey Cramer Meet at the Walden Woods Project  
44 Baker Farm, Lincoln

#### Friday, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

- Walk to Sleepy Hollow with Concord Guide Beth Van Duzer Meet at Colonial Inn

#### Friday, 9:00 - 10:30 am

- Robbins House Tours (\$5) Meet at the Robbins House

#### Friday, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

**Picnic and a Reading of Thoreau's "Slavery in Massachusetts"** Meet at the Robbins House  
 Bring your own picnic lunch. Open to all (no pre-registration required)

**Registration 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm** Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**Friday, 1:15 pm - 2:30 pm** Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall  
**Resilience through Travel & Poetics**

**(Panel format; 15-17 mins. each)***Katrina Byrd*, Moderator

- Notes of the Actual: A Reading of Thoreau's Journal of 1854 as a Sourcebook of Resilience Poetics, *Greg Darms*
- Feeling Our Way Through the Climate Crisis: Reading Dark Affects in Thoreau's *Cape Cod*, *Justine Sullivan*
- Disturbance Ecologies: Resilience and Adaptation in Thoreau's Travel Writing, *Jake McGinnis*

**Friday, 1:15 pm - 2:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Chapel

**Resilience through Philosophy****(Panel format; 15-17 mins. each)***Kathy Fedorko*, Moderator

- Thoreau and the Resilience of the Transparent "I," *Marc Jolley*
- The Resilience of Resistance: Thoreau's "Resistance to Civil Government" and Contemporary "Resistance Studies," *Stephen Hahn*
- On the Road to Authenticity: *Walden* as a Clearing to Contemplate Being, *David Gordon*

**Friday, 2:30 pm - 2:45 pm**

Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

**Friday, 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**The Simplicity & Sustainability of Resilience****(Panel format; 15-17 mins. each)***Ted David*, Moderator

- Sustainable Agriculture in Colonial Concord II: the East Quarter Farm Model and the Town-Wide Model of 1749 Concord, Massachusetts, *John (Jack) Nevison*
- The Far Side of Complexity: Thoreau, Simple Riches, and Resilience, *William Homestead*
- Templates of Resilience: Thoreau and Trees, *Ron Balthazor*

**Friday, 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Chapel

**Resilient Pedagogies****(Panel format; 15-17 mins. each)***Mark Sturges*, Moderator

- Building Resilience Through Walking and Writing: Following Thoreau's Model, *Marlowe Miller*
- Teaching Transcendentalism to Tackle Environmental Treachery, *Elyse Zucker*
- The Great Marsh and Climate Change: Building Resilience in the Salt Marsh using Science, Art and Education, *Susan Quateman*

**Friday, 4:00 pm - 4:15 pm**

Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

**PLENARY SESSION****Friday, 4:15 pm - 5:30 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Louisa May Alcott's (Resilient) Communities****Sponsored by the Alcott Society****(Panel format; 15-17 mins. each)**

*Phyllis Cole*, Moderator

- The Kids are Alright: Resilience and Community Among the Emerson, Alcott, and Hawthorne Siblings, *Kate Culkin*
- Heiresses in Louisa May Alcott and Henry James, *Max Chapnick*
- “A Nobler Courage than Resignation”: Alcott’s 1882 Revision of *Moods*, *Karyn Valerius*

**Friday, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

Dinner on your own.

## EVENING EVENTS

## PLENARY SESSION

**Friday, 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Sponsored by the Emerson Society**

**(Panel format; 15 mins. each)**

*Austin Bailey*, Moderator

- “Emerson and the Classical Consolatio Tradition,” *Gary Ricketts*
- “Emerson’s Scholar, Truth & Cultural Resilience,” *Christopher A. Ulloa Chaves*
- “Railways and Resilience: Emerson, Thoreau, and the Politics of Change,” *Kristina West*
- “Rethinking Emerson’s Liberalism as a Strategy of Political Resilience,” *Austin Bailey*

**Friday, 9:00 pm**

Location TBD.

Informal No-host Reception

*Come and greet old friends while meeting new ones!*

**Friday, 9:00 pm - 10:15 pm**

Meet at Keyes Rd. Parking Lot

**Night Warbler (Ovenbird) Walk: To Fairhaven Hill or Brewster's Woods (TBD)**

*Peter Alden*, Guide weather dependent

[End of Friday’s schedule]

## SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2024

### FIELD EXCURSION

**Saturday, 7:00 am - 8:30 am**

Meet at Thoreau Cabin replica at Walden Pond

**Memorial Walk at Walden Pond**

*Corinne Smith*, Guide

*Begun in 1996 as a tribute to both Henry Thoreau and Walter Harding, this silent early morning saunter along the pond’s shoreline offers a chance for individual contemplation. Witness the special atmosphere that the hour brings as we practice Pradakshina, an Eastern routine of honoring our mentors.*

**Registration 8:30 am - 10:30 am**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE THOREAU SOCIETY

*(Please join us! Information, Awards, Opportunities!)*



**Saturday, 9:00 am - 10:15 am**  
**Annual Membership Meeting**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

*Please plan to attend this annual business meeting, during which we discuss current and future initiatives, hear from partner organizations, hear election results, and honor individuals. We will grant the Walter Harding Distinguished Achievement Award to Ray Angelo and Richard Schneider and the Thoreau Society Distinguished Service Award to Jayne Gordon.*

**Saturday, 10:15 am - 10:30 am**  
 Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**PLENARY KEYNOTE SESSION**

**DANA S. BRIGHAM MEMORIAL KEYNOTE LECTURE**

**Saturday, 10:30 am - 11:30 am**  
*John Kucich*, Introduction

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

*Kristen Case*

**Thoreau's Threshold: Temporal Imagination as Public Good**

*Kristen Case lives and teaches in Farmington Maine. She is the author of American Poetry and Poetic Practice: Crosscurrents from Emerson to Susan Howe (Camden House, 2011). She is co-editor of the forthcoming Oxford Handbook of Henry David Thoreau (with James Finley), as well as William James and Literary Studies (forthcoming, Cambridge UP, with Kate Stanley), Thoreau in an Age of Crisis (Fink, 2021, with Henrik Otterberg and Rochelle Johnson), 21 | 19: Contemporary Poets in the 19th Century Archive (Milkweed Editions, 2019, with Alex Manglis), and Thoreau at 200: Essays and Reassessments (Cambridge UP, 2016, with Kevin Van Anglen). Her third poetry collection, Daphne, is forthcoming with Tupelo Press in 2025. She is the recipient of the Gatewood Prize for Poetry, the Maine Literary Award in Poetry (2016 and 2020), a MacDowell Fellowship, and the University of Maine Farmington Trustee Professorship. Her book Keeping Time: Henry David Thoreau's Kalendar is forthcoming from Milkweed Editions in 2025. In 2022, she co-founded the Monson Seminar, a residential course for Pell-eligible and first-generation college students, with Aaron Wyanski.*

**Saturday, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm**  
 Lunch on your own.

**Saturday 11:30 – 1:00pm**  
**Stewardship Lunch**

Join us for lunch and a discussion of the future of the Thoreau Society and strengthening its impact. Sign up at the registration table or email your interest to: [info@thoreausociety.org](mailto:info@thoreausociety.org).

**Registration 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Entryway

**PLENARY SESSION**

**Saturday, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**  
**The Durable Text: Editing Thoreau**  
**(18 mins. each)**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

*Kathleen Coyne Kelly*, Moderator

- Thoreau's Post-Anthropocene Concord, *Bill Rossi*

- Reading T Leaves, *Paul Schacht* and *Beth Witherell*
- Eight Months in Thoreau's Journal: The Evolution of a Political Radical, *Sandra Harbert Petruionis*
- Editing Thoreau —A Partial History, *Robert Sattelmeyer*

*These esteemed Thoreau scholars will describe their experiences editing Thoreau's works. They will share anecdotes and histories; discussions of cruxes, problems, breakthroughs, joys; the arc of textual studies, social texts, fluid texts, genetic texts; a close reading of a manuscript page or two; and demonstrations of technique and/or theory. Our aim is to shift attention from reading this or that text by HDT to looking at it, and explore the pleasures of the material text—whether in manuscript, printed book, and/or on a screen.*

**At the close of this session, we will award the Thoreau Society Medal, the Thoreau Society's highest honor, to Bill Rossi.**

**Saturday, 2:30 pm - 2:45 pm**  
Water/Coffee/Stretch Break

Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Hall

**Saturday, 2:45 pm - 4:15 pm**

**A Conversation: Personal Stories of Thoreauvian Resilience**

**(7 mins. each)**

*Rebecca Gould & John Kucich*, Moderators

- There is More to Day than Dawn, *Laura Garza*
- Ghosts of Gardens Past: How Thoreau Taught Me How Not to Garden, *Karla Hailer*
- Thoreau on the Secret of the Universe: Remembering Rob Ruehl (1974-2023), *Tim Madigan*
- conTENTment: My Thoreauvian Adventure Living in a Tent for a Year, *Eric Malsbury*
- Walden is not a Place, but a Form of Resilience: Simplicity in the Urban Chaos, *Ximo Palau Marzà*
- Paddlin' with Thoreau: Reflections from the Red Kayak, *Mary Anne Smrz*

## EVENING SOCIAL EVENTS

**Saturday, 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**  
Conference Social (No-host)

Colonial Inn, Merchant's Row

**Saturday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
Conference Dinner  
(Pre-registration required.)

Colonial Inn, Merchant's Row

**Saturday, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**  
Book Signing, Dessert & Celebration

Trinity Episcopal Church, Lower Level

*Members and friends sell and sign their books while socializing and circulating. Enjoy a dessert and coffee buffet and cash bar. This is a great way to meet fellow conference attendees and catch up on recent titles relevant to Thoreau studies. This program will be open to the public.*

**Saturday, 9:00 pm - whenever**  
Musical Gathering

Trinity Episcopal Church, Lower Level

*Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and penny whistles! Banjos, harmonicas, voices!*

[End of Saturday's schedule]

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**SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2024**

**FIELD EXCURSION**

**Sunday, 6:30 am - 8:30 am**

Meet at Keyes Rd. Parking Lot

**Interpretive Walk of Heywood's Meadow and Emerson's Cliff**

*Richard Smith and Amity Wilczek, Guides*

*Join us on this early morning interpretive walk as we explore Heywood's Meadow and Emerson's Cliff with historian Richard Smith and biologist Amity Wilczek. On the walk we will discuss the history of Walden Woods, what it was like when Thoreau was there, and how it's changed. We'll explore the plants and animals that Thoreau would and would not be familiar with, including invasives.*

**COFFEE AND DONUTS FOR EDUCATORS**

(Calling all teachers: join us for community and conversation!)

**Sunday, 8:30 am - 10:00 am**

The School of Philosophy at Orchard House

**The Resilience of Thoreau's Legacy: A Conversation for Educators**

*Jayne Gordon, Chair of the Thoreau Society Education Committee, Convener*

*In keeping with the AG theme of resilience, we will examine together these questions: How has your teaching of Thoreau been shaped by the context of our world today? How have you adapted your teaching to changing times? What are the most effective and engaging connections right now between Thoreau and your students? How does Thoreau matter? What specific ideas from Annual Gathering presentations this year have you found to be most valuable and applicable to your work as an educator? This, the third Annual Gathering conversation for educators, is for teachers of all levels and disciplines.*

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Sunday, 10:00 am - 11:00 am**

First Parish Church

**Sermon: Spiritual Resilience**

Presented by the Transcendentalism Council of First Parish in Concord

*Rev. Dr. Jim Sherblom, Preacher*

*First Parish, a Unitarian Universalist congregation, welcomes AG attendees each year.*

**Sunday, 11:00 am - 11:50 pm**

Thoreau Farm, 341 Virginia Road

**The Jewish Thoreau: An Imagined Model of Resilience**

**(12 mins. each)**

*Richard Higgins, Moderator*

- Roots of Resilience in Thoreau & in Jewish Practice, *Rebecca Migdal*
- Thoreau's Shabbat Consciousness: A Radical Path of Resilience, *Rebecca Kneale Gould*
- Five Jews, Six Opinions: Thoreau's Skepticism, *Michael Schleifer*

**CLOSING EVENTS**

**Sunday, 12:05 pm - 2:00 pm**

Thoreau Farm, 341 Virginia Road

## Thoreau Farm Picnic

*Bring your lunch, meet the awardees, and enjoy conversation among conference attendees while exploring the grounds of Thoreau Farm, Gaining Ground, and the home of the Thoreau Society.*

**Awarding of the Thoreau Society Medal, the Thoreau Society's highest recognition, to Paul Schacht.**

## Remembrances of Joe Wheeler

**Thoreau Farm will feature an exhibition of original illustrations by Barry van Dusen from *A Year of Birds*, edited by Geoff Wisner.**

**Sunday, 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm**

The School of Philosophy at Orchard House

The Alcotts and Resilience: A Conversation, Daniel Shealy

**Sponsored by Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House**

[End of Sunday's schedule]

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**JULY 18, 2024**

## POST-CONFERENCE AUTHOR TALK & WEBINAR

**Thursday, July 18**

**7:00 pm**

Jennifer Jewell presents a Write Connection talk on her book *What We Sow: On the Personal, Ecological, and Cultural Significance of Seeds* in conversation with Native Plant Trust's CEO Tim Johnson and Director of Horticulture Uli Lorimer at Thoreau Farm and online. See the Thoreau Farm website for registration details.

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This marks the conclusion of the conference program.



**Mass  
Cultural  
Council**

The Thoreau Society received a Mass Humanities Staffing Recovery Grant (2023-25) in support of our Membership and Program Coordinator. Funding from Mass Humanities has been provided through the Massachusetts Cultural Council.