

Registration Form

**Between Two Streams:
How Can We Become Native
To This Place?
November 5 – 6, 2004**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

My check for \$80. (\$75 registration and \$5 Saturday lunch) is enclosed.

(Those for whom this amount is too challenging are encouraged to ask about scholarship assistance.)

Donation for Scholarship enclosed.

Food allergies or restrictions _____

Please contact me about availability of local overnight hospitality.

Please send me local hotel and B&B info.

Weekend Cost includes meals & registration (reasonable accommodations ten-minute walk: B&Bs, 1919 hotel, motels)

Co-Directors:

**Beth and Mel Keiser
Professors Emerita, Guilford College,
of Medieval & Modern Literature,
Religious and Interdisciplinary Studies**



COMMON LIGHT
804 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711



**invites you to its Meetingplace
137 Center Avenue
Black Mountain, NC**

to learn from two outstanding Cherokee educators about the contemporary relevance of American Indian history and culture in a two-day workshop designed to give us experiential knowledge in response to this query:

**“Between two Streams:
How can we become native
to this place?”**

Make inquiries
COMMON LIGHT OFFICE
804 North Fork Road
Black Mountain,
North Carolina 28711
ph: 828-669-3616
email: commonlightm@aol.com

Peace whirled through and settled in this place:
the common fire burned, to make this light.
(Pablo Neruda, *100 Love Sonnets, LIII*)



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This two-day workshop begins 4 pm Friday, November 5, with a blessing ceremony inaugurating Common Light Meetingplace and an after-dinner session ending at 9:30 pm. Saturday's events run from 9 am to 5 pm, concluding with a fire ceremony beside the Swannanoa River which flows through this serene setting. Enjoy talks and storytelling by Freeman and Laura, times of listening and looking in nature, and times of sharing with others who seek wisdom from the earth and from the Cherokees, the people who were first native to this beautiful Katuah region. Friday evening we'll focus on "The Cherokee Way of Life and its Value Today," Saturday morning on "Caretaking and Dwelling," and Saturday afternoon on "Telling the Stories of this Place in the Cosmos." \$75. fee includes registration, a packet of selected readings entitled "Poetry of Earth," and materials for those who would like to carve along with Freeman. Friday supper is potluck; lunch Saturday is \$5. On display and available for purchase will be stone sculptures by Freeman and publications by both leaders as well as others. As participants are limited to twenty-five, early registration is encouraged.



FREEMAN OWLE's love of people and educational background have enabled him to realize his life's ambition, to be a Cherokee Historian and Storyteller. He lives in Cherokee, NC where he was born on the Qualla Indian Boundary. After earning his B.S. in social work from Western Carolina University, he directed the Cherokee Children's Home. Returning to WCU to earn his masters in Education, he then taught third and sixth grades for twelve years in the school system at Cherokee in which he was educated and in 1990 was Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Lecturing throughout the eastern U.S. on the history, culture, and stories of the Cherokee, in 1991 he received the Outstanding Folklorist of the Year award. He has worked successfully to preserve ancient burial grounds; for his collaboration in the *Cherokee Heritage Trail Guidebook*, he received the Preserve America Presidential Award in 2004. Teaching from a Native perspective, Freeman feels it is important to learn about the Cherokee from a Cherokee who has lived on the Cherokee Reservation at a time when life was hard and when all things were valued as part of creation.



LAURA DONALDSON is Associate Professor of English and American Indian Studies as well as Director of Graduate Studies for American Indian Studies/the American Indian Program at Cornell University. Although currently located in Ithaca, NY, she returns to Tahlequah (the Western Cherokee Nation) as often as possible. NC and GA are also familiar territory for her; her B.A. is from Guilford College and her Ph.D. is from Emory University.

Laura teaches courses on American Indian literature, American Indian women's literature, religion and literature, and the Bible as literature. Publishing extensively on American Indian issues, her studies of the Bible from indigenous and postcolonial perspectives have been influential as well.

The book Laura is completing, *American Samson: Haunting the Native-Christian Encounter*, revises scholarly assumptions about Native Christians based on struggles she faced in terms of her own Cherokee identity—whose genealogy includes ancestors from the militant, nationalist "Chickamauga" movement and others who embraced Methodism.