Greetings! We hope the return to school finds you refreshed and ready for the challenges of a new year. Many of you spent the summer attending or leading our various professional development institutes while others took advantage of the break to spend time with family and friends and recharge your batteries. NWPNH had a very busy summer, including a record number of summer writing camps. And we have several events ahead, most immediately the Annual Conference Oct. 24 at the PSU campus in Concord. Join us and keep the writing & conversation flowing. NWPNH had a very busy summer.

Summer institutes and camps for teachers

In addition to the 5-week Invitational Institute held on the PSU campus, we offered a range of courses and institutes for teachers. We again ran 4-day intensive institutes on Writing our Communities (Lois Juris), New Literacies (Anna Consalvo) in Plymouth, and a Writing Across the Curriculum Intensive (Gretchen Draper and Jill Lawler) on the PSU Concord campus, which also hosted our 6-credit Open Institute for Teachers of Writing (Jen Pellerin). New this year was a graduate course in Reading and Writing Books for Children taught in Concord by Kari Allen.
Summer writing camps for students

We also ran a record number of writing camps for young authors with our highest attendance yet. Camps took place in Laconia, Concord, Peterborough, Plymouth, Meredith, and Hampstead. Due to popular demand, our residential high school camp at PSU added a second week. Through the Office of Rural Partnerships, a middle/high school camp that focused on hiking and writing ran in the White Mountains (picture left) and was featured on NHPR. Each camp ended with a celebration of the work the writers had produced that week for family and friends.

If you think your area could support a writing camp and you are interested in starting one please contact Kari Allen. (Kari.diederich.allen@gmail.com), our summer camp coordinator.

Tech/Writing Study Group

A study group has been meeting to discuss the role of technology and writing. It is looking for ways to support good writing practice using digital tools. We have a Facebook group and welcome new members and ideas. If you would like to get involved, please contact Joanne Davis (jdavis101855@gmail.com).

Annual Conference Oct. 24

Don’t forget our annual conference. This year it will be held on October 24, 2014 at the PSU Graduate Center in Concord. We have nearly a dozen sessions to choose from. Invite a friend. Registration information is available on our website.

Memory & Memoir Writing series

Meg Petersen and Jill Lawler will again be offering a course over several Saturdays in Peterborough at the Monadnock Center for History and Culture. The focus is on “Memoir and Memory.” We will be reading a number of memoirs with connections to the Monadnock Region and New Hampshire as well as crafting our own stories. For information visit our website or contact Jill at jilllawler@gmail.com or Meg at megjoanna@gmail.com.

Meet our new Graduate Assistants

The Writing Project is happy to be working with two new graduate assistants. Annmarie Timmins, a former reporter for the Concord Monitor, will be working on getting our message out across the state. She is a graduate student in school counseling. She may be contacting you for your thoughts on your writing project experience. Also Rigil Ballester, who runs a non-profit and does cross-cultural programming, has worked with the writing project in Santo Domingo. He is a graduate student in the Teaching of Writing this year.