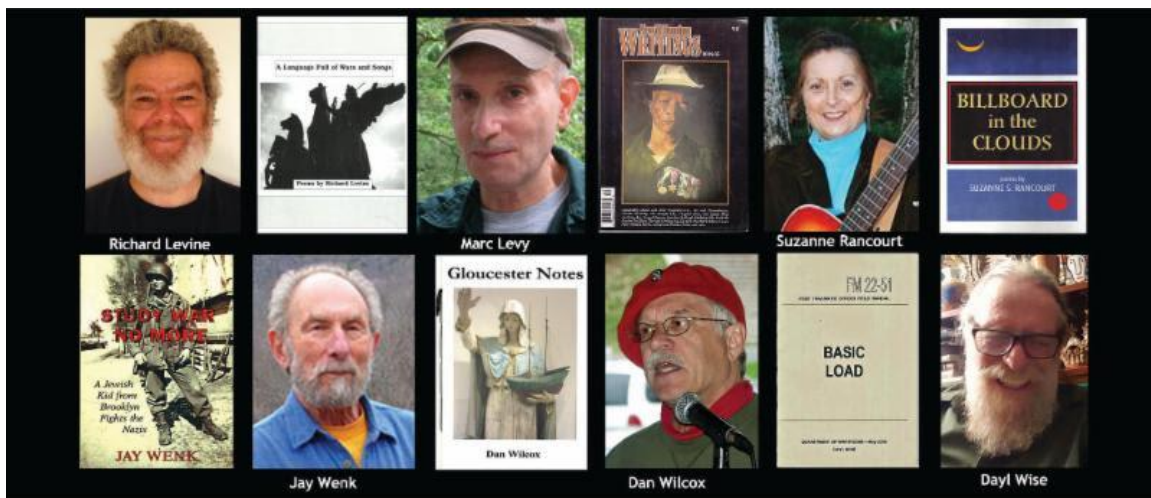


Bright Hill Literary Center of the Catskills First Annual Veterans & Communities Day

Saturday, November 12, 11:30 - 5:30 pm
Featuring Poets & Writers Who Have Served in the Armed
Forces

For immediate Release
Contact [607-829-5055](tel:607-829-5055) or
wordthur@stny.rr.com



On Saturday, November 12, Bright Hill Literary Center of the Catskills will present its first Annual Veterans and Communities Day in recognition and celebration of those who have served the United States of America armed forces. The event will begin at 11:30 am with a free buffet lunch and conclude, after readings, workshops, and discussions of war, peace, and country, at 5:30 pm. Readers and workshop and discussion leaders are poet- and writer-veterans Richard Levine, Schoharie and Brooklyn; Marc Levy, Salem, MA; Suzanne Rancourt, Saratoga; Jay Wenk, Woodstock; Dan Wilcox, Albany; and Dayl Wise, Woodstock and The Bronx. Michael Hammerslag, BHLC's President, and Bertha Rogers, Executive Director, will welcome audience and writers. Light refreshments will be offered in the afternoon. This event, which takes place at Bright Hill Literary Center, 94 Church Street, Treadwell, is free and open to the public, but donations are welcome.

Richard Levine (USMC 1966-68/Vietnam Sept 67-Aug 68) is a retired NYC teacher, a Working Families Party activist, and author of the chapbooks *The Cadence of Mercy*, *A Tide of a Hundred Mountains*, *That Country's Soul*, *A Language Full of Wars and Songs*, and *Snapshots from a Battle*, and the Youtube videos: *Judge Roberts*, *One Man, One Woman One Vote* and *The Talkin' Frackin' Blues*.

Marc Levy was an infantry medic with Delta 1/7 First Cavalry in Vietnam and Cambodia in 1970. Decorations: CMB, Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, Air Medal, ArCom. He has backpacked Central America, Southeast Asia and Indonesia, and lived in Guatemala and New Zealand. He won the 2016 Syracuse University Institute for Veterans and Military Families Writing Prize, judged by Brian Turner. His work has appeared in Slant, Peregrine,throat, New Millennium Writing, War the Arts and Literature, CounterPunch, Off the Cuffs: Poetry by and About the Police, BigCityLit, Best American Erotica 2000, Mudfish, and Stone Canoe.

Suzanne S. Rancourt, MS, MFA, CASAC-T, has served as Editor of Bluestreak: Journal of Military Poetry. She is a multi modal Expressive Arts Therapist, an Armed Services Veteran (USMC and US Army) and a recipient of the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas First Book Award. Her work has appeared in Slipstream, The Muddy River Review, Ginosko Journal, The Journal of Military Experience vol 2 and vol 3, Chiron Review, and Four Winds Literary Magazine. She has creative non-fiction in the February 2016 American Institute of Stress (quarterly) Combat Stress magazine. Ms. Rancourt is Abenaki/Huron decent, born and raised in the mountains of West Central Maine.

Jay Wenk, a US Army veteran of World War II and 53-year member of Veterans for Peace, a councilman in Woodstock, New York, a cabinet-maker, a grandfather. and a poet. He is author of the memoir, Study War No More: A Jewish Kid from Brooklyn Fights the Nazis, about his combat experience as he fought his way across Germany to Czechoslovakia. Jay loves to schmooze and to laugh

Dan Wilcox was drafted into the US Army in 1969 & was in the lucky half of his training class, spending the rest of term of service moving tanks at Ft. Knox, KY; he is an active member of Veterans for Peace. Wilcox is the host of the ThirdThursday Poetry Night at the Social Justice Center in Albany, N.Y. and is a member of the poetry performance group "3 Guys from Albany". As a photographer, he claims to have the world's largest collection of photos of unknown poets. He has been a featured reader at all the important poetry venues in the Capital District & throughout the Hudson Valley.

Dayl Wise was drafted into the US Army in 1969 with service in Viet Nam and Cambodia, 1970. He returned in 93', 95' and 97' in the form of reconciliation delivering medical supplies. He is a member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Veterans For Peace and a honorary member of the China Beach Surf Club. He is the author of Poems and other stuff (PTP, 2004) and Basic Load (PTP, 2009). He lives in Woodstock and the Bronx with his wife, the poet Alison Koffler, their dog, Cole and Maurice the cat and is co-founder of (PTP) Post Traumatic Press.

Bright Hill's 2016, 24-year programs are made possible by grants from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Otis A. Thomson; A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor; A. C. Molinari; Dewar, and Tianaderrah Foundations; Stewart's Shops; the Abraham Kellogg Education Fund; the Delaware Youth Bureau, through the auspices of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services; the Delaware County Office of Economic Opportunity; the Delaware National Bank of Delhi, and with the support of Bright Hill's members and friends.

Bright Hill's facilities include the Bright Hill Community Library, home to more than 12,000 books and literary and art periodicals that may be borrowed by local residents; the complete catalog is online at <http://bhc.scoolaid.net/bin/hom>. The library is a member of the South Central Regional Library Council of New York. The organization and library are located at 94 Church Street, Treadwell, NY 13846. Contact [607-829-5055](tel:607-829-5055) or wordthur@stny.rr.com for more information.