

## Book & Leaf

10 Park Street

Brandon, Vermont

**Writers' Read: Greg Bernhardt: *When Everything Was Possible***

**Ron Krupp: *The Woodchuck Returns to Gardening***

Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 6:30PM

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The Book & Leaf Bookstore continues its 2017 **Writers' Read** series on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> with a presentation by two authors, whose interests are gardening, farming and writing. **Greg Bernhardt of Blue Ledge Farm** will read from his just published novel, ***When Everything Was Possible***, and **Ron Krupp** will read from ***The Woodchuck Returns to Gardening***, the third of his popular books on gardening. Come and enjoy this celebration of gardening, farm life and dreams, along with great conversation, and of course, complimentary tea, coffee and sweets!

**Greg Bernhardt** is an artisanal cheesemaker and farmer at **Blue Ledge Farm**, which he and his wife, Hannah Sessions, established in Addison County, Vermont in 2000. ***When Everything Was Possible***, Greg's first novel, includes ruminations on farm life, artisanal and farmstead cheese, love and life search. It is out of the life that Greg and Hannah have created for themselves at Blue Ledge Farm, that both their paintings and Greg's novel ***When Everything Was Possible*** have come about. Whether images of animals, cheese or the landscape, stories about a fictional young woman apprenticing on a goat farm, it is their daily life and perspective that Greg aims to record. These grounding endeavors have been his greatest influence. But buried underneath this intention to represent and record the place and things he knows best, is the hope that others will enjoy his images and novel as much as they do visiting their animals and cheese caves. ***When Everything Was Possible*** is a very accomplished first novel, filled with philosophical queries and creative questioning. The evolution of the organic search, discovery, and eventual choice of direction, or acceptance of a path, which is so much a part of reflective living, is beautifully captured and expressed.

**Ron Krupp**, is presenting his new Vermont garden book, ***The Woodchuck Returns to Gardening***. This is a sister-companion to his first book, ***The Woodchuck's Guide to Gardening***, often called a "go to" garden book that is now in its ninth printing with over 18,000 copies sold. Ron's second **Woodchuck** book is also rooted in organic methods, and began as his Garden Journal from 2012 and 2013, a recounting of two dynamic years in his home gardens and in the Tommy Thompson Community Garden in the Intervale, in Burlington, Vermont. Ron is accompanied by a jester called the Chuckster who follows him around making fun of his gardening adventures and asking questions that allow him to offer helpful insights. David Fried writes, "Get Excited! Ron Krupp's new book, ***The Woodchuck Returns to Gardening*** is out. This isn't any book. This is for people like us, who live to grow food and love to share our stories, successes and dramas in the garden. You'll find tasty morsels on every page. . . If you're hungry for new inspirations, check it out. When the "Woodchuck" returns, we return." Ron is also the author of ***Lifting the Yoke, local solutions to America's Farm and Food Crisis***, where he explores the critical link between food and community. Ron has been doing farm and garden commentaries on Vermont Public Radio for twelve years. He loves to tell stories and weave anecdotes about his favorite passion, gardening.

Please join us for this very special evening at the Book & Leaf. Support your local talent and keep expanding our community of lovers of music and the written word.

## Bios and Book Blurbs

**Greg Bernhardt** and his wife, Hannah Sessions, founded Blue Ledge Farm in Addison County in 2000. They have become premier artisanal cheesemakers, one of a growing movement of artisanal producers in Vermont. Greg graduated from Bates College in Maine with a double major in Studio Art, concentrating in Painting, and in English with a concentration in Creative Writing. Ever since then, he has sought to have a creative, yet hands-on, life. ***When Everything Was Possible*** is the result of years of ruminations on farm work, cheesemaking, and life.

**Ron Krupp** has been involved with local farm and food issues in Vermont for 39 years. He started one of the first farmers' markets in the early 70's in Brattleboro and published the Green Mountain Farmer, a monthly Vermont newspaper dedicated to farm and food issues. He was a commercial organic/biodynamic vegetable grower for ten years and co-ordinated the 3-acre 165 plot Tommy Thompson Community Garden in the Intervale for fifteen years. He has published two *Woodchuck's Guides to Gardening* as well as *Lifting the Yoke – Local Solutions to America's Farm and Food Crisis*.