

Joe Wolek: *Native Kentuckian who left for a quarter of a century, returning a few years ago just because it seemed like the right thing to do. Over the years as an artist, photographer and location scout he has traversed all points throughout the United States and most corners of the globe. He has created projects with the Smithsonian Institute, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archeology and Anthropology, and exhibited his works internationally in museums, galleries and other cultural institutions. Now, along with his native Siberian wife, Lena, a couple of crazy dogs—Sunshine and Shadow—and a wacky cat, Billie Jo Granite, he now mostly hangs out in Kentucky using his artistic talents to rediscover home turf. As a documentarian here he has participated in creating visual projects for the Ohio River Way, an organization that connects people and communities to opportunities for adventure on and along a nearly 300-mile route to celebrate the unique beauty and culture of the Ohio River. He shall continue these services for PHOTO, Payne Hollow on the Ohio, as it develops into a world class historical site.*