

Local Color

After packing more from the studio into the car,
portobello lasagna dinner at Roka's:
a few words with Scott (there with the trio
playing jazz standards off the sheet);
Rod (of Gumper's death though he seemed so young);
Gretchen (about the board application
process at the Project); Fred
(on among other things dissolving
the corporation). Then at one of the tables
outside at the High Desert deli arranging
with Barry to bring him out to look over
some books then drive him back into town.

Then across the street for a glass of wine
at the new slice of life pizza bar:
Todd and David (current work and plans);
a moment with Margie and Carl saying hello;
then Matt and Suzanne just in from Puget Sound
(dolphins, seals and sailboats, snow
capping Mt Baker, westerners engaged
in trying in their own words to link
mindset and practice); Veronica
(about the flowers and wine and cryptic note).

Then back home to find one too smart
for his own good Australian Shepherd
outside the orchard fence instead of in
where I'd left him before I headed to town.
A very light rain just beginning.
A lot of small bugs under the reading lamp.