



JULY 27-29, 2007

UP NORTH WITH THE HEMINGWAYS

NEWSLETTER

FALL, 2005

MHS weekend stars EHS board member-scholars

Thanks to the distinguished scholars and critics of the Ernest Hemingway Foundation board, whose knowledge fueled the programs of MHS's annual Hemingway weekend conference.

The Foundation, a.k.a. the Ernest Hemingway Society, undertakes such initiatives as the annual award of the PEN/Hemingway Award for the year's best first book length work of fiction; publication of *The Hemingway Review*, a twice-a-year scholarly journal, and *The Hemingway Newsletter* that provides information on Hemingway-related events and information of interest to general readers; sponsorship of biennial conferences; and support for scholarly publication, including the ongoing Hemingway Letters Project, which will produce a complete, multivolume edition of letters by the famous author.

Foundation president Jim Meredith, emeritus professor of English at the U.S. Air Force Academy, summed up the visit: "It was great to be here, to get to meet you all, and to find new ways to cooperate in Hemingway studies. We hope to be back."

Crooked Tree to exhibit Hemingway family archives and artifacts

New summer date and conference headquarters for 2007 Petoskey Hemingway Weekend

The Michigan Hemingway Society invites you to attend its 2007 conference held July 27-29 and based at Petoskey's Victories Hotel.

The summer date makes possible a special MHS members only grand opening reception for "Up North with the Hemingways," an exhibit at the Crooked Tree Arts Center.

The exhibit features artifacts from Hemingway family archives and tells the story of the family's summers in northern Michigan between 1900 and 1920. Additional activities and speakers will be announced as soon as the schedule is finalized.

We have reserved nine suites, 25 two double-bed rooms and five king bed rooms all non smoking. They will hold these at our cost of \$99 for rooms and \$119 for suites until one month prior to June 25th.

Ink these dates on your calendar and plan to join us for another wonderful weekend with the Michigan Hemingway Society. Watch our website for developments: www.northquest.com/hemingway

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**Thanks to Art and Maddy Wagner, Cecil and Char Ponder for the photographs*

“Lovely Walloona” was lovely, indeed

By Nancy Nicholson

It was on a September day 85 years ago that Ernest Hemingway said to his bride Hadley, ‘Talk about the beauty of the Bay of Naples! I’ve seen them both, and no place is more beautiful than Little Traverse in its autumn colors.’”

Those who attended the fall weekend at Michigania certainly identified with Hemingway as they surveyed Walloon Lake and the surrounding environs. Attendees tramped the woods, sunned themselves on pontoon boat rides, or simply lazed on the deck soaking up the beauty of nature all around them. Cameras were everywhere as people tried to capture the glorious views.

It was the 17th annual gathering of The Michigan Hemingway Society and the largest ever.

There were 101 attendees, 36 for the first time, representing 19 states and one other country. Members filled the main meeting room to hear the presentations, praised the Michigania staff for the plentiful meals and delicious appetizers, and enjoyed chatting with the “big names” of the International Hemingway Board members.

Attendees visited Horton Creek on the bus tour, viewed Hemingway boyhood locales from boats, had the opportunity to purchase fascinating book titles, and even enjoyed late night campfires and camaraderie on the shores of Walloon Lake. These comments are representative of those heard all weekend:

“...After all, Hemingway is all about place. In all aspects the conference was wonderful. This includes the programs offered. I really learned so much from all of

the speakers; each had unique information & insights to impart. Thank you for fun & inspiration!...”

“...I found the sessions excellent. The speakers were all engaging and informative. As to location, I found this resort perfect. Hem would have approved of this site...”

“...Perfect blend of location and programming - indoors & out...”



Bookseller Steve Ruebelman
Guitarist Dennis Thompson
Boaters return to dock
(Photos courtesy Art & Maddy Wagner)



Two pontoon boats toured Walloon Lake enabling 64 conference attendees to view Hemingway haunts - Windermere, Longfield Farm, Sumner Road, the site of the Olds Saw Mill, Eagle Island, the area of the Bacon Farm, and Illinois Point. Some of the boaters had the opportunity to see the Village of Walloon Lake while others toured the west arm. The day was perfect for being on the lake. Captains Drew and Jim seemed to enjoy the tours as much as the guests.

HEMINGWAY AND NATURE: *UP CLOSE & PERSONAL*

On Saturday, September 16, approximately 60 conference participants took part in one of two tours to some of the sites that inspired Hemingway's writing about the natural world. MHS Board members Ken Marek and Chris Struble conducted the two-hour tours in weather that could not have been more perfect for the occasion.

Before the morning tour began, Ken Marek spoke about the various ways Hemingway used nature in his writing and why he placed so much importance on nature. Drawing on two essays by keynoter Susan Beegel (International Hemingway Society Board member and editor of the *Hemingway Review*) and two by Fred Svoboda (International and MHS Board member), Ken described how Hemingway's mother and father encouraged Ernest's study of nature in Oak Park from the time he was a toddler, and how that love of nature flowered and matured during Hemingway's twenty summers in northern Michigan.

Ken also discussed how Hemingway used nature as a theme in *The Nick Adams Stories* and in much of his later writing, and how the clear-cutting of Michigan forests made the loss of wilderness a particularly

important theme throughout his work.

Then it was time to see some of the natural beauty that inspired Hemingway in writing *The Nick Adams Stories*. A drive down Summer Road to Walloon Lake revealed the country that appears in the story "Wedding Day" and may have inspired a scene in "Fathers and Sons" as well as one in "Three Shots." The next stop was Horton Creek, a favorite fishing spot of Hemingway's which is referred to in



Ken Marek



"On Writing" and "The Indians Moved Away," and was remembered with great fondness in *True at First Light*.

The tour turned up Pincherry Road to the former farm property that was the site for crucial scenes in "The Three Day Blow" and "Summer People." On Church Road, we stopped for a look at the upper waters of Horton Creek, where Chris Struble described his explorations of that area.

After driving north on US-31, the tour followed Resort Pike Road to Indian Garden Road. The former road was described beautifully in "The Indians Moved Away," and inspired scenes in "Ten Indians" and "Fathers and Sons." At Indian Garden Road, the tour group took a walk through the woods to see the probable location of the story "Indian Camp." Ken concluded the outing by reading a passage from that story.

Ken's "self-guided" tour is available at our website: www.northquest.com/hemingway

EHS board leads events for annual Hemingway weekend

Members of the board of the Ernest Hemingway Foundation joined us at Camp Michigania this year, and provided much of the Hemingway Weekend program. Some of the world's most distinguished Hemingway scholars and critics serve on the board of the foundation, which is also known as the Ernest Hemingway Society.

Those board members were involved in all the weekend's activities, including much casual and not-so-casual conversation with conference attendees between events. They also gave three formal presentations. The first came after lunch on Saturday, as Fred Svoboda moderated a panel discussion of "The Current State of Hemingway Studies" by foundation president Jim Meredith, past president Scott Donaldson, Jerry Kennedy (Vice President), Rena Sanderson (Foundation Secretary), Linda Miller (Publications Chair), Kirk Curnutt (Library Liason Chair), Al Defazio (Communication Chair) and Sandra Spanier (Director of the Letters Project).

Susan Beegel, editor of *The Hemingway Review*, gave the keynote address after dinner on Saturday evening, focusing on "Hemingway and the Natural World." Ranging over Hemingway's life experiences, Beegel suggested that the contrasts Hemingway saw in his early life-between congested, polluted Chicago and suburban Oak Park, between civilized Oak Park and the prairies, and between the Chicago area and northern Michigan - helped to set the direction for the

environmental consciousness he developed over his lifetime. She made the point that it is important not to try to make Hemingway into a 21st century environmentalist, but to understand him as interested and knowledgeable in the context of conservation concerns of his time.

On Sunday morning, Linda Miller, Rena Sanderson and Sandy Spanier took up their topic of "Why Women Study Hemingway," suggesting that it was important to recast

the statement more globally-"Why People Study Hemingway". They discussed what led each of them to value the insights and experiences expressed in Hemingway's writing.

(Below, Fred Svoboda introduces the EHS panel)



Silent Auction Nets Endowment Funds

Avid bidding near the close of this year's silent auction boosted the total dollar amount of sales to the vicinity of \$1400. Setting a new record for a Michigan Hemingway Society Silent Auction, the funds raised will support the Society archives and Hemingway collection at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Items drawing the most attention were the weekend getaway in the "Taj Garage" apartment donated by Jim and Marian Sanford; the Hemingway gift basket assembled by Susan Lightcap and Dianne Fox; and Jim Byrne's handcarved "Nick Adams" walking stick. Other items included Big Two Hearted River fishing flies with grasshoppers; a Luke Buck print of the Horton Bay Store; a J. Peterman fishing hat similar to the one Ernest wore in Cuba; several Hemingway related books, DVDs, and CDS; and an "In Love and War" movie poster.

Clarke Library curator Frank Boles was delighted with the results. "You are to be congratulated," he told auction chairperson Janice Byrne. Jan in turn expressed thanks go everyone who participated in the silent auction; including the Sanfords, the Byrnes, Art Wagner, Diane Fox and Susan Lightcap, Mike Federspiel, Sharon Taylor, Nancy Nicholson, Gil and Lillian Boeske, and Northern Art of Petoskey; as well as to enthusiastic buyers Virginia Cassin, Christine Ney, Diane Fox, Bob Sawyers, Mike Biggs, Lynne Graft, Rena Sanderson, Al DeFazio, Curt Curnutt, and Sharon Taylor.

A letter from the Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park

Greetings from the Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park, Illinois. As editor of our newsletter, the *Despatch*, I value the opportunity to be in touch with the Michigan Hemingway Society. We have good reason to be in conversation with each other: our organizations' mutual emphasis on Hemingway's early formative years, respectively in Oak Park and Michigan, and how these experiences influenced his contribution to world literature. And so, some news from Oak Park:

The Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park will hold a centennial summit meeting on November 16 to discuss the future of the Hemingway Boyhood Home, built 100 years ago in 1906. The home located at 600 North Kenilworth Avenue in Oak Park, was designed by Ernest's mother, Grace Hall Hemingway. It was his home until 19 years of age when he left Oak Park to go to Italy as an ambulance driver in World War I. The home is of major literary significance in terms of Hemingway's development during this formative period. Though the house is currently rented, many of us have had the opportunity to walk through it and to climb to

the upper floor to look out the dormer of Ernest's room and experience his boyhood view of the world.

You can read more about the Oak Park organization, and find a link to our latest *Despatch*, on www.EHFOP.org where you also can join our organization. We look forward to this continued relationship and collaboration with MHS.

Maryanne Rusinak, *Despatch* Editor
Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park

Detroit photographer captures, and is captured by, Hemingway's Michigan

Roy Feldman, a professional photographer from Detroit, has put together a multi-media slide show on EH and Michigan. He was very concerned about accuracy, and solicited information from MHS's stores of knowledge to assist in creating the project. Roy has now completed the slide show and it can be viewed via his homepage (<http://www.digitalrailroad.net:80/royfel/Default.aspx>)

Membership

The membership year for MHS is the calendar year, from January through December. If you attended the 2006 weekend, your dues for 2007 were included in your registration fee. If you did not attend, this is the time to renew. Dues are still \$10 for annual membership or \$100 for a life membership. Clip this form and send with your check payable to the Michigan Hemingway Society

Your support is appreciated. Please send checks to:

Michigan Hemingway Society

**c/o Nancy Nicholson - 3480 Lakeside Dr. N. #41 - Petoskey,
Michigan 49770**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Annual Membership \$10 _____

Lifetime Membership \$100 _____



Clockwise from left: Jim and Marian Sanford, Ginny Cassin, Nancy Nicholson, Dan Rupp, Mike Federspiel and keynoter Susan Beegle.



First-time attendees were uniformly enthusiastic about northern Michigan. “Seeing the actual places that influenced Hemingway was wonderful,” said one. “I really didn’t know what to expect, but the places and the people were all as pleasant as I had hoped they would be.”



Lovely Walloona: MHS Hemingway Weekend 2006

Michigan Hemingway Society
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