



MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY

WINTER 2010-11 NEWSLETTER

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2010 CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Seventy-four people attended the 21st annual Hemingway weekend "Dining at Hemingway's Table", eleven of them first-time participants. It was a glorious weekend in Petoskey from October 15 through 17, with the last of the fall colors as background to the presentations, tours, and excellent food (and drink.)

Conference headquarters again was the Odawa Hotel, and conferees reported all A's on very generous meals, comfortable conference facilities, helpful staff, convenient parking, and shuttle service to downtown Petoskey.

President Mike Federspiel greeted attendees and introduced guests and the two scholarship students for this year, Janet Chimples, a grad assistant from John Carroll University in Cleveland and Andrew Bushor, a recent graduate of Central Michigan University.

FOCUS ON FOOD



Chef/Caterer Nancy Kelly serves an Italian pasta

It was almost too much. We dined and wined...and dined...and dined! Two meals were based on menus from Craig Boreth's *The Hemingway Cookbook*, and the

chefs at The Odawa were fantastic in following these recipes and others we requested in serving our group. Friday night featured a beef stew that Gregorio Fuentes often prepared for Hemingway aboard the *Pilar*. Dessert was Mary's Lime Pie, a recipe that Valerie Hemingway had received years ago from Mary Hemingway. Saturday evening we enjoyed the Roast Chicken dinner, a menu from the *Rendezvous-des-Mariniers* Restaurant in Paris where Jake Barnes and Bill Gorton dine in *The Sun Also Rises*, also described in Boreth's book. Saturday's lunch at the Crooked Tree Arts Center was a delightful tasting of several cuisines from countries where EH had lived or travelled. From Cuban sandwiches to Italian pasta to Spanish gazpacho to French paté and even spaghetti with pork and beans, which Nick Adams apparently enjoyed - we tried it all. It was a time to sip wines too as we perused the art exhibit there. Sunday morning for our breakfast we enjoyed Grace Hemingway's teacakes and apricot preserves. You'll find the recipes for the Teacakes and Miss Mary's Lime Pie in this issue.

A FUN QUIZ

Seldom do MHS members find themselves answering a quiz at the annual Petoskey meeting, but that was the case on Friday, October 15, as board members Jan Byrne and Jack Jobst offered "Dining with Nick Adams" to see who could recognize the most Nick Adams Hemingway stories from pictures of food and drink that appeared in the stories.

Byrne and Jobst showed sixteen numbered slides and asked the conference attendees to identify the appropriate story. Some were easy, such as the beach blanket with sandwiches ("End of Something") while others were more challenging (creamed peas from "The Killers"). Audience members worked in groups, and the winners (and losers) were awarded small boxes of dried fruit. All was in fun, of course, and most left the Odawa's Huron Room with a fruit box and a smile.



Pinehurst with Shangri-La in background



SHANGRI-LA AND PINEHURST

Every year The Michigan Hemingway Society loves to include tours as part of our yearly conference. Walking tours of Petoskey's *Torrents of Spring* locales, Horton Bay and Grace Cottage have all been some of the favorites in the past. This year we were very fortunate to be able to visit another now private residence immortalized in Ernest's writings. Pinehurst and Shangri-La located on Lake Street in Horton Bay are the settings for such stories as *Up In Michigan* and *Wedding Day*, and are also the real life location a young Hemingway chose for his wedding reception when he married his first wife Hadley. Now owned by Bob and Sue Metzger, Pinehurst is their private year-round residence and Shangri-La is a rental cottage that still retains all the charm and historical relevance for those seeking a true "Up North Hemingway" experience. The cottage has been remodeled to comfortably accommodate up to seventeen people with seven rooms, three baths and a new kitchen. The upstairs bedrooms and front porch are very much the way they would have been during Hemingway's time and still retain all the charm. After over ten years of slowly driving by and sneaking a look, it was a very special event to be able to enter and enjoy these landmarks. The Michigan Hemingway Society wishes to thank Bob and Sue and to let others know they too can enjoy - and rent Shangri-La. Check out their website at www.shangrilahouse.com. You can contact the Metzgers at 231-582-7567 or by emailing sue@shangrilahouse.com.

VALERIE HEMINGWAY SPEAKS OF ERNEST'S DELIGHT IN FOOD AND DRINK

Valerie Hemingway addressed a crowded auditorium at the Crooked Tree Arts Center on Saturday afternoon. She spoke of how she learned the joy of eating from her former employer Ernest Hemingway.

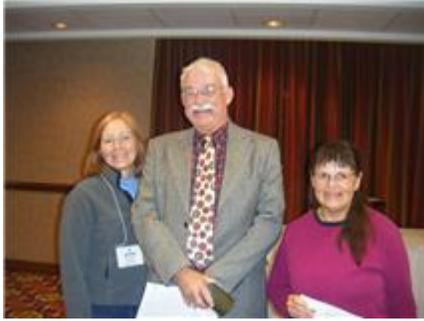
Valerie began by describing the rather sparse fare she experienced as a child growing up in an Irish convent school following World War II. It consisted of potatoes, breads, occasional bits of pork or lamb and fish. Such treats as cookies and fruit cake were only for the holidays. She described her first taste of Guinness as a girl—a sticky black substance which she spat out immediately. Little did she know that years later she would work for that famous Irish brewery.

It was in the summer of 1959 in Pamplona, Spain, that Valerie first met Ernest Hemingway. At his invitation she joined his group for drinks and dinner at the local cafes. There she discovered that there was more to dining than simply eating: selecting the best of local gastronomy, sipping local wines, and enjoying the camaraderie of those at the table. At the end of the Fiesta, Ernest invited Valerie to join him and Mary at the home of Bill and Ann Davis, near Malaga. There an elaborate birthday party Mary planned for Ernest brought guests from around the world. She served a myriad of exotic foods, red wine, champagne, and birthday cake. Mary also provided a shooting gallery, and later, fireworks that started a small fire. The firemen who responded then joined the party. For Ernest, she said, the more people enjoying the food, drink and each others' company the better.

At the end of the summer, Valerie joined Ernest and Mary in Cuba where she worked as Ernest's secretary while living with them at the Finca. Until then Valerie knew little or nothing about cooking. Since Sunday was the cook's day off, Mary prepared meals herself on that day. One Sunday, Mary invited Valerie into the kitchen and offered to teach her how to cook a few basic foods. At first it proved difficult to follow Mary's memorized recipes. Eventually, however, Valerie mastered several of Ernest and Mary's favorites, including the lime pie that conference participants had enjoyed the night before.

MHS 2011 CONFERENCE

Our theme next year is "Hemingway's Waters: Exploring the Depths." The conference will be October 14 - 16 at the Odawa Hotel in Petoskey. Put these dates on your calendar and watch for more details later.



Writing contest winners, Jerri Gillette, Joe Meany and Elizabeth Sugas

ECHOES OF HEMINGWAY

The writing competition at the annual Michigan Hemingway Society conference once again highlighted the talents and creativity of our members. Judges Diane Fox and Susan Lightcap were pleased with the entries and impressed by the clever application of the weekend theme, *Dining at Hemingway's Table*. The broad scope of the topic and the seemingly unlimited approaches made for a challenging contest. Top honors went to Jerri Gillette for her story. And congratulations also go out to our second and third place winners, respectively Joe Meany and Elizabeth Sugas. Ironically, our first and second place winners both used a flashback to a military setting. All three stories, of course, focused on food; however, our third place winner chose activities near and dear to Hemingway: camping, fishing, and eating fresh trout. Winners received gift certificates to McLean & Eakin Booksellers in Petoskey.

We thank all who submitted writings, and we eagerly await next year's contest submissions! Check online for this year's winning entries.

"UP IN MICHIGAN" IN 2012

The international Hemingway Society conference will be in Petoskey June 17 – 22, 2012, and the Michigan Hemingway Society has been busy making local arrangements. The conference sessions will be held at historic Bay View and with rooms set aside at the Terrace Inn, Bay View Inn, and Perry Hotel. Activities will include tours of Windemere Cottage and regional sites associated with Hemingway and the Nick Adams stories, and a sunset boat cruise at the Straits of Mackinac. The opening reception will be at the Perry Hotel (where Hemingway stayed) with the closing banquet at the beautiful Bay Harbor Yacht Club. As the date get closer, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities will be announced.



Mike signing his book *Picturing Hemingway's Michigan*

THE HEMINGWAYS' SUMMER VACATIONS

Saturday evening President Mike Federspiel kept our membership spellbound as he showed slides from his book. He focused on the Hemingways being a "typical" family of the time who built a cottage in northern Michigan and enjoyed escaping from the city to this area for their summer days while their children were growing up. Many pictures shown were those that Mike had which were not in the final cut for the book. Earlier that afternoon he and Valerie Hemingway both were at our local bookseller McLean & Eakin signing their books for MHS members and others.

MHS LIST-SERVE

From time to time we offer news or announcements via e-mail on our MHS list-serve, hosted by Michigan Tech and Board Member **Jack Jobst**. The list-serve may also be used by any member to offer questions, make announcements, or to initiate discussions. If you are not a member of the list and would like to sign up, send an e-mail to sympa@mtu.edu. In the subject line write subscribe mihemsoc-L

MHS MEMBERSHIP

It's time to renew. Our membership year runs from January through December each year. Please take time **today** to complete and mail the enclosed form to join the Michigan Hemingway Society for 2011. You may also find the renewal form on our website. **To help save in the ever-increasing costs of postage, we also encourage you to check the box to decline the mailed copy and instead read it online at our website: www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org**



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