

# Michigan Hemingway SOCIETY Newsletter



P.O. Box 953 • Petoskey, MI 49770

Dear Members and Friends,

Here is your long-awaited newsletter—well, Memorial Day is a holiday, right? The time since our last conference has gone rapidly and that time has been filled with things about which to tell you!

Let me begin with the good news about our next conference. Thanks to our on-site director Marian Sanford's negotiations with Stafford's Perry Hotel, we are able to move our conference up a week next year at the same discounted rates for our rooms. We will be meeting October 18-20, 2002, instead of on the last weekend of the month. We hope this will give us better weather chances, more leaf color, and better attendance. We had a fine attendance last year, but several folks had conflicts at the end of the month, so we will try to avoid those this time.

Now, here's the great surprise: Hilary Hemingway, author of several well-known books and daughter of Leicester Hemingway, has agreed to come to our conference to help us celebrate Hemingway and Fishing. She and her husband Jeff Lindsay have written such works as *Dreamland, a Novel of the UFO Cover-up*, *Dreamchild*, *Hunting with Hemingway*, and most recently, *Fishing with Hemingway*, as well as publishing many articles and being in constant demand as speakers and teachers.

Our weekend will open with a reception featuring an exhibit by the renowned Japanese photographer Satoru Wada. Mr. Wada has done the photography for many important projects around the world and has published many articles and books. His specialty is traveling around the world fishing and taking photographs of fishing folk and fishing places. There is a wonderful essay about his visit to Petoskey by our own board member Audrey McMullen at this website:

<http://my.freeway.net/~mcmullen/satoru>. The photographs he took on that trip were featured in an article for the Japanese magazine *Streamside* and in his book *In a Hemingway State of Mind*. We are in for a rare treat in having Mr. Wada and his photographs at our conference.

Prominent outdoor writers will be featured guests for a panel on Hemingway and Fishing and Michigan waters. So far we have definite acceptances from Tom Carney, a well-known Michigan journalist; from Redd Griffin, a

## Spring Number/Holiday Edition

noted Hemingway scholar and writer from Oak Park, IL; and Mike Delp, an outstanding poet and outdoor writer from Michigan. We have invited a couple of other writers who are unable to respond definitely just yet, but we will have a panel of at least four very insightful and entertaining speakers for your enjoyment.

Other events and activities are in the planning stages, and we expect to offer you a wonderful weekend of enjoyable learning experiences, good food, and the best of fellowship. Please mark your calendars now (Oct. 18-20, 2002) for what promises to be another memorable weekend in Petoskey. Watch our website at [www.northquest.com/hemingway](http://www.northquest.com/hemingway) for future developments and your mailbox for updates as plans and prices are finalized.

Please take the time to read the fine articles by your board members in the rest of the newsletter; they will summarize our last October's conference activities. That weekend too was a big success, and those of you who could not join us were badly missed and you missed some outstanding events. There are other articles herein which explain some upcoming activities and some past history which are all very important and need your attention.

Thank you all for your membership and your support.

Best regards always,

Charlotte Ponder, president

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If fishing is religion, fly-fishing is high church.

Tom Brokaw

~~~~~  
**Please sign on to our membership listserv.**

We use this forum to make announcements concerning Society business and happenings in the world of Hemingway interests. It can also be used to ask questions, open discussions, etc. Send the message `subscribe mihemsoc-L` to [majordomo@mtu.edu](mailto:majordomo@mtu.edu) if you have not received any messages from this list. Thanks.

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### "The Waaganakising Odawa People"

Joe Mitchell, Odawa elder, opened the autumn conference with an engaging and heartfelt presentation enjoyed by all in attendance. The Odawa are the people who lived "In the Last Good Country," many of whom likely knew Ernest or had possibly been cared for by Dr. Hemingway.

Joe opened the evening introducing himself to the audience and to "Grandfather" (God) using his native language. As one of the original people in this area of Michigan, he began by defining a warrior as being "one who accepts responsibility for himself, his family, and his community. "He also emphasized that they are a very peaceful people and fought to defend what they believed was right.

Joe continued by giving many of the traditional names for cities located in this area of Michigan, many with which Hemingway would have been familiar. He also spoke of the work of the missionaries, in particular efforts regarding education and religious conversion. It was easy to see the role Dr. Hemingway might possibly have had in helping the people of "this country." Moreover, as a result of Joe's stories and explanations, it was easy to develop a greater understanding of many of the characters in Hemingway's stories, especially a relationship like Nick Adams and Bill Tabeshaw.

The attempt of reformation by the missionaries was a challenging and difficult transition for the Odawa people. They had lived their lives on a belief system thousands of years old, and missionaries came to change them. They were taught not to speak their native language and were punished when they did so. As a result, most Odawa people in the 1900s absorbed into the English culture.

Today, however, the native language is being retaught and revered by the Odawa. The most fluent are teaching it to others who want to learn. When referring to the Caucasian and Native Americans who now inhabit this area, Joe commented that "we're still here, the way it was meant to be ... living together."

Joe followed up by speaking of the duality created by Grandfather. Everything has two sides - balance: happy / sad, cold / warm, man / woman, night / day. Joe's speech reflected the same duality tempering the sadness and 'raw' truths with humor, much to everyone's delight. "I speak a truth and some people do not agree with me. Truth hurts."

One of the truths Joe shared with the audience was a great source of pride for his people. The Odawa People honor their ancestors and, especially, their veterans. Native Americans constitute the smallest percentage of the U. S. population yet the greatest percentage serving in the military.

Joe Mitchell ended his speech and "the serious" with humor. He shared his observation that Christopher Columbus "discovered" an inhabited world; had Columbus set sail for Turkey rather than India, "we would be turkeys and not Indians. Children would play cowboys and turkeys, and we would all revel in a beautiful turkey summer!"

As *Mskomhiingin* (Joe) left for the evening, he circulated among the members and guests of the Hemingway Society "sharing spiritual strength with one another" by shaking hands. Joe had explained that "life is about sharing," and all of us were grateful for the anecdotes and history *Mskomhiingin* shared with us.

*Diane Fox and Susan Lightfoot*

### VISITING THE NATIVE AMERICAN MUSEUM AT HARBOR SPRINGS

The first stop on Saturday's tour was the Andrew J. Blackbird Museum in Harbor Springs. The museum had been the Blackbird family home and post office. The city owns the museum and houses the chamber of commerce office in the building so that the museum is open to visitors during regular business hours. Joyce Shagonaby, the museum curator, hosted the visit. We viewed the museum displays in the large addition, which had been added by Blackbird to his house to serve as a post office. Elaborate Native American quillwork was the major exhibit. Other cases held artifacts from Chief Blackbird and his family. His sister's dress was also on exhibit, ornamented with small pieces of metal in diamond patterns.

Joyce Shagonaby described the Native American history of the area, the lives of the Blackbird family and the history of the museum. Volunteers from the tribe had established and cared for Blackbird's birth home from the 1940s until it was placed in the custody of the city. Many of the museum artifacts had been in storage during the building's restoration but have been cleaned and cataloged.

We learned that Blackbird's life ended tragically in a home for the destitute in Brutus, Michigan, after he had devoted himself to his tribe and to the U.S. as interpreter, postmaster, and historian.

*Art Wagner*

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Nick looked down into the clear, brown water, colored from the pebbly bottom, and watched the trout keeping themselves steady in the current with wavering fins. As he watched them they changed their positions by quick angles, only to hold steady in the fast water again. Nick watched them for a long time.

~~~~~  
"Big Two-Hearted River, Part I" Ernest Hemingway  
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### MIDDLE VILLAGE

After leaving the Blackbird Museum, we meandered up beautiful M-119 until we reached Good Hart, turning toward Lake Michigan and following the dirt road for a little over a mile until we reached the Middle Village cemetery and St. Ignatius Catholic Church. Father Al Langheim, who retired some years ago from St. Cross parish in Cross Village, a parish which includes this little congregation, spoke to us all about the history of the church, the cemetery, local Native American burial practices, and a little about the history of this whole area along the shore of Lake Michigan as it was in Hemingway's day, and also earlier. Until around the 1850's, it was wholly populated by the Native Americans, a twenty-some-mile "village" (from what is now Harbor Springs to Cross Village) that was home to up to 20,000 tribe members. Missionaries first established a church here in the Middle Village area in 1741, and there have been at least three buildings situated here or a mile or so south. The cemetery is maintained by the tribe, and probably has several layers of graves under the ones that presently are visible. We all soaked up the history (AND the frigid temperature!) in both the church and the surrounding cemetery. Father Al gave us a fascinating handout that included the following poem.

#### *Ottawa Burial Mound at Good Hart*

Silent cross crowned place,  
Where a vanishing race  
Doth increase the toll  
Of thy wooded knoll,  
By Good Hart's shore,  
Was it to over-cloud  
The sorrow of a shroud  
Such a beauteous spot  
Consecrates those not  
Among you more?

Though each cross doth bear  
Emblems which disappear,  
With the sun and shower  
And the mourning hour  
Of tribal grief,  
Yet each cedar cross  
Long bespeaks the loss  
To the Ottawa band  
Who with priest does stand  
In one belief.

Here though cross shall rot  
None will be forgot  
Where by centuries  
Oaks keep memories  
Of Indian dead.  
And through all the years  
For their very tears-  
Human like almost-  
At the time of frost  
Their leaves they shed.

*Chas A. Heath*

*(Archives at Holy Childhood, Harbor Springs)*

After we had all warmed up and enjoyed our delicious lunch at The Crow's Nest, most of the group went up to the Holy Cross Museum that Father Langheim has established at the parish hall of that church in Cross Village. He has some four rooms just filled with artifacts of the Native American history in this area, the story of the priests and missionaries who arrived and established churches, and also the history of that particular congregation's 300 years. We were all pleasurablely saturated, and very grateful to Father Langheim's wisdom about the history of this beautiful Michigan area.

*Nancy Nicholson*

### CONFERENCE MEALS

Does one expect memorable meals at a conference? Well, we do, and this weekend there was one special meal that stands out in my mind. The Friday evening reception at the Historic Museum and the Sunday morning breakfast at the Perry were pretty much the excellent fare that we've all experienced in Petoskey. Saturday evening at the Perry included our choice of a pretzel-encrusted walleye entrée or a breast of chicken with a creamy morel mushroom sauce – and both were delicious, according to most of the comments I overheard.

But the prize of the weekend goes to the fascinating lunch that we were served Saturday at the Crow's Nest, a little restaurant a few miles outside Cross Village. In keeping with our theme, we had a soup with Anasaza beans served in a bread bowl, along with cranberries, corn relish, and Indian fry bread, ending with apple pie à la mode – a Native American/native Michigan meal that was scrumptious in taste, and served with warm smiles by owner Ann Vala and staff. It certainly convinced me to visit that restaurant again in future trips North!

*Nancy Nicholson*

#### "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?"

And it's not Sidney Poitier! Our second Native American speaker's topic, in part, regarded a highly anticipated and well-attended event that takes place annually in October: the Ghost Supper. Also included were insights into the Native American spirituality. Native American traditions author Simon Otto complemented Friday evening's speaker, Joe Mitchell, by being quite entertaining and informative himself.

Simon shared with the Hemingway members and guests that he has "the gift of story telling," and he credits Grandfather as his teacher as well as his brothers and sisters who are all of Nature. Simon explained that everything comes from the earth, and everything has spirit. He, too, spoke of the missionaries coming to convert the "pagans." He continued by speaking of the Native American spiritual beliefs. "Mother Earth is The Church, so one is always in church."

Simon's talk then turned to the explanation of the Ghost Supper, which is a celebration of life. Hundreds can be in

attendance, and it is a feast that all are welcome to attend. Otherwise known as the Harvest or Spirit Supper, corn soup and fry bread (delicious!) are the two essential foods. Today, Northern Michigan is about the only place one may find the Ghost Supper. People come "home" from cities in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, known as the "moccasin telegraph," to eat and to pray. An empty seat remains at the table for those who have passed through the Western door (the next life). Thus, it is called a "Ghost Supper." Although this is a festive occasion, it is a solemn time of year to think of loved ones who have passed on. It is customary to take a dish home for the spirit, and some take the food to the cemetery.

Simon Otto, son of an Ojibway father and Odawa mother, has shared his rich heritage in a series of books. Many attendees and guests took advantage of the opportunity to purchase these books to develop a greater understanding of and appreciation for the Native American culture as well as to continue to enjoy the wonderful, insightful view that is Simon Otto's. Sharing that he's been *Walking in Peace* (which also happens to be one of his book titles) for thirty years, Simon concluded by wishing the same for all of us.

*Susan Lightfoot and Diane Fox*

**CONFERENCE KEYNOTE ADDRESS GIVEN BY  
JAMES NAGEL**

After a fine Saturday dinner in the Reycraft Room of the Perry Hotel, MHS Conference members and guests had the opportunity to hear leading Hemingway scholar James Nagel discuss Hemingway "In Love and War" and the importance of Native Americans in Hemingway's life and work. Dr. Nagel is Professor of American Literature at the University of Georgia and Past President of the International Hemingway Society. The author of over 80 articles in scholarly journals, Nagel has lectured on Hemingway in seventeen countries and written or edited several books on Hemingway.

Dr. Nagel began his presentation by responding to numerous questions he had received throughout the day regarding the feature film adaptation of his book (with Henry Villard) *HEMINGWAY IN LOVE AND WAR*. He explained the nine-year journey involved in the making of the film, a journey that began when he wrote three "treatments" for a possible film, including one from EH's point of view, one from Agnes Von Kurowsky's point of view, and another from the viewpoint of Henry Villard, who had been in the hospital in Milan with Hemingway and had befriended both EH and Agnes. Nagel explained that Julia Roberts and Brendan Fraser had originally been selected for the roles of Agnes and EH, but Roberts backed out when she discovered that her ten million dollar offer for the film was two million less than Demi Moore was to receive for "Striptease." Tom Cruise was then considered for the role of EH, and suggested that Nicole Kidman take the role of Agnes, to which director Richard Attenborough responded, "If she walks on the set, I walk off the set." Exit Cruise and Kidman, with Chris O'Donnell and Sandra

Bullock eventually signing for the main roles. Dr. Nagel said that the original goal of the film was to tell the true story of Hemingway's experiences in Italy and his relationship with Agnes Von Kurowsky, but that over the nine-year period there were eight different scripts by eight different screenwriters, none of whom had read *HEMINGWAY IN LOVE AND WAR*. These writers simply created things out of Hemingway mythology.

As examples of the screenwriters' "creative abilities," Nagel cited one script that began with EH and Agnes on a picnic in a hot air balloon over Milan. They are making love when they are attacked by Austrian fighter planes. Ernest just happens to have brought a machine gun on the picnic, and proceeds to shoot down six of the planes. Then he looks down and opens fire on the Austrians who are in the process of taking Mount Grappa, driving them back and enabling the Italians to seize the mountain. The Italian troops then pause to salute the nude Hemingway. Another relevant example of myth making vs. historical accuracy was the fictional Walloon Lake "break up" scene at the end of the film. The director insisted on an action scene to close the film, and had planned to have Chris O'Donnell on the dock of the family cottage (the scene was actually shot on a lake near Montreal) shooting Canadian geese (in July) with a shotgun as Agnes arrives. Nagel convinced Richard Attenborough to have EH fishing (for bass) in this scene, but the director insisted on bringing in the expert who taught Brad Pitt to fly cast for *A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT* to school O'Donnell in fly fishing—for bass. Dr. Nagel was able to find some consolation in the fact that two of the six scenes he wrote for the film did survive as written.

Foreshadowing some of his comments on Hemingway and Native Americans, Nagel ended the first part of his talk by saying, "there are no happy romances in the work of Hemingway; no relationships turn out successfully.... Somebody dies or is unfaithful or something tragic happens." Dr. Nagel's comments on the importance of Native Americans in Hemingway's life and work focused on three stories: the high school stories "Judgement of Manitou" and "Sepi Jingan," and "Indian Camp," which Nagel described as "the first story in Hemingway's first important book." He called "Judgement of Manitou" "a sophisticated story for a high school student," and noted that the suicide of Pierre in the story reflects EH's lifelong association of Indians with suicide. "Sepi Jingan" he also saw as sophisticated for a young writer, describing the theme of this story as "retributed justice." He also stressed that this story shows the struggle of Native Americans to adjust to the white man's world and "to live in two worlds" when necessary. Billy Tabeshaw, he said, can move easily between the Native American society and the increasingly industrialized world of the white man, but Paul Black Bird cannot. Nagel sees the end of Billy's story, when Paul Black Bird's "remains" are obliterated by the Pere Marquette train, as a further example of how the industrial world of the white man was intruding on the natural world of the Indian.

Foreshadowing his comments on "Indian Camp," Dr. Nagel contended that Hemingway did not write about macho characters, but instead dealt with "people who have been hurt, who are emotionally vulnerable, and who are trying to find something they can hang onto and give some meaning and some substance to life." The great theme of EH's work, he said, is romantic loss (which can be seen in the story "Ten Indians"). "Indian Camp" deals with people who are emotionally vulnerable, and the story shows that birth and death are always associated in some way in Hemingway's work. Nagel said that Clarence Hemingway, Ernest's father, saw the practice of medicine as a calling from God, and, like other members of the Hemingway family, believed that "nature is sacred and it is ennobling to get into it and to live as simply as possible in it." Looking at the structure of this story, Dr. Nagel saw the rowboat that arrives to pick up Dr. Adams as an artifact of the white world--another indication of the Indians' ongoing transition into the white man's society. In fact, he said, the very act of the Indians coming to get the doctor shows their implicit recognition of the superiority of the white man's medicine. He then explored the possible interpretations of the doctor's comment that the Indian mother's screams "are not important," noting that this comment could reflect anything from the doctor's total focus on saving his patient to a callous disregard for the mother because she is Native American (a view that Nagel does agree with). When the painful birth and the Indian husband's suicide take place, Nick, like so many other Hemingway characters, has "seen more than he needed to see or should have seen." This, Nagel said, makes Nick the most important child in the story. He also views the Indian who committed suicide as the protagonist of this story because he is the one with the deepest internal conflict, and is unable to bear his wife's suffering, and/or the possibility that he may not be the father of the child, and/or the humiliation of having a white doctor care for his wife.

In closing, Dr. Nagel said that the Native American world and the values that surround it are at the center of Nick's world. "Nick is the key figure in Hemingway's work, and his central issues all begin up here in Michigan in his relationship with the Native Americans." In northern Michigan, he said, Nick learned about birth, death, suicide, psychological domination, romantic loss, and psychic wounding. At that point Dr. Nagel took some time to answer questions, leaving his rapt audience wishing there had been even more time for him to discuss his views on Hemingway's work.

#### Sunday Morning Program Features Cuban Conference

Breakfast guests at the Michigan Hemingway Society Conference held at Stafford's Perry Hotel, Petoskey, Michigan, October 28, learned about the current status of Hemingway scholarship in Cuba from a panel report presented by Mike Federspiel, Janice Byrne, and Carole Underwood, all of whom had attended the Hemingway Colloquium at the Ambos Mundos Hotel in Havana in May, 2001.

Mike Federspiel began with a short slide show of Old Havana. As he explained, "When you visit Old Havana today, what you see is still Ernest Hemingway's Havana--in a time warp." Mike developed his thesis with photos of Havana sites still largely unchanged since the Triumph of the Revolution. The Malecón, the main highway paralleling Havana Harbor remains packed with traffic, albeit largely bicycle and vintage 1950's automobiles. The Prado, the tree-lined boulevard spanning Old Havana, is still the place to take a leisurely morning stroll, or to visit the booksellers whose open air stalls line the sidewalks. The Capitol still looms over the city, its domed cupola reminiscent of more cordial times between American neighbors. And the pink façade of the Ambos Mundos, where Ernest Hemingway stayed for months at a time, sparkles in the tropical sun. Mike pointed out the window on the corner of the fourth floor (Ernest's room, now a mini-museum.) Finally, the photos took the audience on a quick tour of Cojimar, the fortress in the harbor, the Hemingway Memorial, and the Terrace Restaurant where Hemingway aficionados can stop for a "Papa Doble" or a bottle of Hatuey, as did Santiago and Manolin in *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Next Janice Byrne summarized four papers from the Havana Conference. The first two concerned research currently underway at the Museo Ernest Hemingway (Finca Vigía) San Francisco de Paula, Cuba. Francisco Echevaría Valdez, head librarian and educator at the Museo, presented a paper on his research with the marginalia in Ernest Hemingway's personal books. The books contain numerous inscriptions by famous writers, including Ezra Pound, James Joyce, Carl Sandburg. Echevaría indicated that about twenty percent of the volumes have marginalia in red, black, or white [?] ink in Ernest's hand. Some are reminders; others are notes for documents yet to be written; still others are comments on Hemingway's own activities. Secondly, Maria Valdez Fernandez delivered a status report on the record collection at the Museo. Her work focuses on the 78-rpm recordings in the collection, some of which record Hemingway's own voice, some of which are direct cuts, and some of which are dedicated to Ernest by the recording artist. Many reveal the heavy Afro-Cuban influence on Hemingway.

The third paper concerned a history of the home once belonging to Jane Mason and now serving as the residence of the Canadian Ambassador and his wife, Grant and Denise Jacques. Mrs. Jacques, who delivered the paper, has documented that this is the house depicted in Hemingway's short story "Nobody Ever Dies." The fourth paper, delivered by Jeffrey Lindsay and Hillary Hemingway, traced their writing process for their new book *Hunting with Hemingway* and touched upon Hillary's father, Leicester, in his hunt for German U-boats early in World War II. According to family records and to photographs housed at the Ambos Mundos, Leicester and British Intelligence Officer Tony Jenkins found firm evidence of Nazi presence in Cuban waters months before Ernest began his Crook Factory operations. According to Hillary Hemingway, it was her father's rejection by US

Intelligence officials that spurred her Uncle Ernest into action.

Old Havana and colloquium papers were not the only aspects of the trip to Cuba, however. As Carole Underwood explained, free time at the Hemingway Marina, Havana Club, a visit to the Hotel National, and dining at private restaurants reflected a very up-scale side to Cuban tourism. Facilities such as these are generally only available to the affluent worldwide tourists (like those who dock their private yachts at the Hemingway Marina) or to top officials in the government. Nevertheless, these were among the places she visited, as were a childcare facility, a dance school, a boy's baseball practice, and the open-air market. She described the hectic pace of an itinerary that included walking tours, museum visits, and late night parties—all at temperatures in the upper 90's in Havana.

Carole Underwood and Janice Byrne also flew to Santiago de Cuba where they visited some of the most historic places in the country, including the Cepedes House, one of the oldest in the Americas, and the Moncado Barracks where the first shots of the Revolution were fired. They journeyed from Santiago to Cobre to see the Cathedral with its famous statue of the Virgin of Cobre to whom Hemingway gave his Nobel Prize medal. There Carole noted both common people praying for medical and *spiritual miracles*, and unemployed miners seeking more immediate financial assistance.

At the end of the panel, Federspiel, Byrne and Underwood answered questions about how to go to Cuba legally. The easiest way is to go with a group since the travel agents will take care of licensing and reservations. Another way to go is by applying personally for a license through the Treasury Department and booking your own flights through a third country such as Canada or Mexico. People qualifying for Treasury licenses must belong to one of these categories: scholars or researchers (like Hemingway researchers), journalists, humanitarians (including doctors and religious leaders), artists (including musicians, dancers, and painters), or members of families living in Cuba. All three attending the Colloquium this summer qualified as Hemingway scholars.

*Jan Byrne*

### *The "Hemingway" Caboose at Hayo-Went-Ha*

The Michigan Hemingway Society is embarking this spring upon an exciting new partnership with Hayo-Went-Ha YMCA Camps. The main camp has acquired a Grand Trunk Railroad caboose, and the plan is to convert it into a Hemingway study center.

Here is some background information on the camp from our liaison, Chris Hasbrook:

"The Hayo-Went-Ha YMCA Camp for Boys has been in existence for nearly 100 years serving the youth of our country, and most recently the world, by providing

summer outdoor camping opportunities to build social and leadership skills through outdoor activities and respect of nature, self, others, and God. Campers come initially for two week sessions as early as 10 years old, and then four week sessions from ages 11 through 17, and all are assigned to "living groups" (groups of 6-12 or more boys -- or girls -- per group). Outdoor, short term (2-3 days) and long term (2-3 week) destinations are part of each living group's charter for hiking, sailing and canoeing trips, ranging from as near as Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes (for the youngest kids) to Alaska, the Mediterranean, Canada, Europe, and the Caribbean (for the oldest kids).

Originally founded as a boy's summer camp, the camps have expanded to include a Girls Camp (Girls Camp is in a different location some 30 miles away but some facilities are shared) and a day camp for very young children, and now collectively serve nearly 1000 campers (both well off and poor) each summer from all over North America. The camp is also a major destination for youth groups and public school trips from around Michigan throughout the fall, winter, and spring seasons to learn about nature and outdoor adventure. The boys camp has more than 600 acres and 1.5 miles of shoreline on Torch Lake, including hundreds of acres of undeveloped woodlands and meadows.

There are many Hemingway tie-ins to be made with Hayo-Went-Ha, the physical aspects of the place being the most obvious. Dr. Hemingway's love of nature and his teaching of that love to his family are well documented. His own mother, of course, had been a botanist. The history of the camp also correlates well to the Hemingway family's history in the area. The camp's founders came from downstate Michigan by train to Alden nearly 100 years ago and walked the rest of the way around the shore of Torch Lake. The railroad connections are numerous as well, since the Hemingways made part of their journey to Petoskey by train nearly each summer. As a young man, Ernest rode the rails with his friends to make adventurous fishing trips. Later, he would use the railroad and railway stations as featured elements in several of his Michigan stories."

Because this YMCA Summer Camp has an educational focus, including reading aloud to living groups as well as individually, on top of developing outdoor skills, nearly 1000 kids a summer (not including year round school groups) are in a position to benefit from learning about writing, reading, creativity, and literature with a specific Hemingway theme. We of the Michigan Hemingway Society are very eager to participate in such a worthwhile educational endeavor.

Preliminary plans for the caboose include having campers and counselors spend time inside or outside of the old caboose. It will be cleaned, made safe, and sparsely furnished with some laminated historic maps of Michigan, including old rail maps, a table, lamp, and Hemingway paperbacks that can be "checked out" by older kids and read from by counselors to younger campers. Afternoons

or evenings will be spent there individually or as living groups (kids are free at certain points each day to roam the main camp areas; waterfront is the exception). Living groups may perhaps pitch tents provided by the camp, have overnights (part of the normal camping activities), and even have bonfires by which leaders or kids can read Michigan related Hemingway stories aloud. It will be a destination on camp property that ties relevant area literature to relevant area history for kids who attend camp - all year round.

Your board members have added some ideas to these, including going as a group to do some readers' theater or individually to read or to speak about Hemingway biography or particular works. We also have several volunteers already who are eager to help with the cleanup and preparation of the caboose. If you have extra paperback Hemingway books, old railway map copies, or relevant posters you would like to donate, please forward them to Kay Smith, 501 E Deerfield Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI, 48858. Her E-mail is [KaySmith@journey.com](mailto:KaySmith@journey.com) should you need to contact her. If you are interested in helping out with other aspects of the project, such as cleanup, reading or speaking to campers, please contact Kay for that as well. Remember to sign up for our member listserv if you have not done so. The instructions are on page one of this issue.

### March Reading in Wyoming, MI

By declaration of the governor, March was reading month in Michigan. Some very dynamic parents affiliated with West Elementary School in Wyoming, MI, lead by Christy and Jim Borgeld, devised an agenda of stimulating and fun activities for their pupils which are bound to leave them with a deeper love of reading. The activities were also designed to stimulate creative thinking in the students.

The showpiece of the month's activities will be a memory scrapbook composed of letters and photographs from authors who were contacted by the school and asked to contribute a letter to the students on the importance of reading. The Michigan Hemingway Society received this letter of request via our website at [www.northquest.com/hemingway](http://www.northquest.com/hemingway), and your president was so impressed with the idea that she volunteered her help and that of your board members. What more worthwhile project is there than to encourage reading in young people? A love of and ability in reading can build the foundation for success in any field.

Because we have had so many fine writers come to speak at our conferences, and because some of us attend many other literary and writing conferences where authors gather, we have the privilege of knowing many writers. We used these contacts to solicit letters and photos for West Elementary's project, and at last report the results were outstanding. Some of the authors we contacted had even donated books to the school as well as sending a letter for the scrapbook. We do not have a final numeric tally from the school yet on results, but your board

members wrote some ninety letters to other authors and for the scrapbook itself. Remember that you have a few published authors serving on your board!

### Hemingway Theater Opportunity

*Salao – the worst kind of unlucky*, being produced in the theater Upstairs at Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier in Chicago by Redmoon Theater, opened April 17 and will run through June 8, 2002. *Salao* is inspired by Ernest Hemingway's Pulitzer Prize-winning novella, *The Old Man and the Sea*.

From Redmoon's mailing, "With *Salao*, Redmoon presents a dynamic new vision of Hemingway's themes of isolation, survival and hope. A Cuban fisherman alone at sea, his primal struggle with the elements and the memories that keep him driving forward are all vividly brought to life through Redmoon's innovative use of visual effects, physical performance and the folk music of sea shanties. Six shanty men propel the images through song and labor, revealing the extraordinary nature of humanity and our relationship with the world."

For more information call Mary Ryan at 773-388-9031 or E-mail her a [mryan@redmoon.org](mailto:mryan@redmoon.org) or visit [www.redmoon.org](http://www.redmoon.org).

If we get a group together for a particular evening or evenings, there are group discounts available. Use the listserv ([mihemsoc-1@mtu.edu](mailto:mihemsoc-1@mtu.edu)) to organize or phone Charlotte at 256-350-7745 or 256-580-0483. If a group or groups organize, we will try to notify you by postcard.

### I'll Have My People Get With Your People.....

Every time the newsletter seems complete, some new and exciting project pops into our mailbox! It also diverts us from our mailing schedule, so please forgive us. You know how easily I am distracted by something shiny.

Award-winning documentary filmmaker DeWitt Sage, who did last October's PBS American Masters Series piece on Fitzgerald, is beginning a work on Hemingway for the same series. His producer, Catherine Collins, contacted us for assistance via our website, and we will be loaning experts from your board of directors to serve as guides and consultants. The focus of the film will be the great master's works for a change, and not the propagation of the myths and the persona.

I will be hanging out and schmoozing. Hey, we all have our areas of expertise! We will keep you abreast of breaking details as the saga unfolds. Watch this space, and watch for messages on the member listserv. (See Page 1 for signup instructions.)

We'll take a meeting. We'll do lunch. I have to find my beret. Do I have to learn to like martinis? Oh, OK. I can probably do that, for the cause. Cheers!

*Charlotte Ponder*

## SCHEDULE

### **"HEMINGWAY AND FISHING"**

October 18-20, 2002

#### FRIDAY

- 4:00-6:00 pm. . . . . Registration at the Perry Hotel Lobby.
- 6:00-9:00 pm. . . . . Welcoming Reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres at the Shadetree Stained Glass Studio at 417 Howard Street. View Satoru Wada's exhibit of stunning photographs showing places where Hemingway fished. During the evening enjoy readers' theatre as various individuals read and share personal reflections on the topic of Hemingway and fishing.
- 9:00-10:00 pm. . . . . Try an Awesome back at the Perry!

#### SATURDAY

- 9:30-11:00 am. . . . . First session of the cooking class at Walloon Lake Inn. Car pool leaves the Perry at 9 am. *(Limited to those already signed up.)*
- 10:00-11:00 am. . . . . A fun option - fly-casting demonstration by Russ Maddin, Adam Tsaloff, and Jim Bogan at the Festival Park behind the fire station and City Hall on Lake Street. *(Assemble at the Perry at 9:45 am and walk or drive there.)*
- 11:00-12:00 noon. . . . . Second session of the cooking class at Walloon Lake Inn. Car pool leaves the Perry at 10:30 am. *(Limited to those already signed up.)*
- 11:00-1:00 pm. . . . . Hilary Hemingway and her husband Jeffrey P. Lindsay will be at McLean and Eakin Booksellers to autograph their book "Hunting with Hemingway."
- 1:00-2:00 pm. . . . . Buffet Lunch at the Perry. Also take the opportunity to view a very special exhibit of period fishing equipment during lunch and the panel discussion.
- 2:00-4:00 pm. . . . . Panel discussion about the impact of fishing on a writer's view of the world, with presenters Tom Carney, Michael Delp, Redd Griffin, and Adam Tsaloff. *(Panel members will have some of their books for sale and autographing afterwards.)*



6:00 pm. . . . . Dinner at the Walloon Lake Inn. Leave from the Perry in carpools or convoy at 5:30. Following the dinner Hilary Hemingway, daughter of Leicester Hemingway, will show authentic footage of Hemingway fishing off the coast of Bimini. (*Hilary's keynote presentation will be following the Sunday breakfast.*)

6:00 pm. . . . . Dinner at the Perry for additional members not able to be at the Walloon Lake Inn because of its limited seating capacity. (*These individuals have already been informed.*) Afterwards drive to the Inn for the 8 pm showing of video.

9:00-10:00 pm. . . . . Another opportunity for Awesomes at the Perry!

### SUNDAY

8:30 am. . . . . Buffet Breakfast at the Perry.

9:30 am. . . . . Keynote speaker Hilary Hemingway, with her husband Jeffrey P. Lindsay, talk about her uncle Ernest and fishing in the tropical waters of Cuba and the Florida Keys. They are the authors of "Hunting with Hemingway," a memoir of Leicester's adventures hunting with his older brother, Ernest. She and Jeff also have co-authored two novels.

11:00 am. . . . . Brief general meeting of the all members of the Michigan Hemingway Society, *and farewell until next year!*

**\* \* \*A meeting of the Board of Directors follows.**

### **OTHER WORTHWHILE JAUNTS IN THE AREA.....**

Visit the Little Traverse Historical Museum at 100 Depot Ct. and see their Hemingway Collection. Open Saturday 1-4 pm. (Brochure enclosed)

Drive 7 miles north on US31 to the Oden Fish Hatchery for a fascinating visit. It was reopened just last week – renovations are not quite complete and hours are irregular. (Brochure enclosed)

Go shopping in the Gaslight District! (Brochure enclosed)

***Please sign on to our membership listserv. We use this forum to make announcements concerning Society business and happenings in the world of Hemingway interests. It can also be used to ask questions, open discussions, etc. Send the message:***

***subscribe mihemsoc-L***

***to [majordomo@mtu.edu](mailto:majordomo@mtu.edu) if you have not received any messages from this list.***