



OCTOBER 15, 16, 17: THE HEMINGWAY WOMEN

PRE-CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

SPRING, 2004

Artist to tell about Michigan Legacy Art Park Hemingway project

Northern Michigan artist Patricia Innis will present a slide show and talk about her new Hemingway project at the October Hemingway Weekend in Petoskey.

Innis has been collaborating with the Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain Resort and the Traverse City Public Schools on the project's first stage, which is titled "Ernest Hemingway and Michigan's Natural Resources." She spent five days working with fifth grade students, using Hemingway's northern Michigan stories to inspire the students to create art that will be installed at the Legacy Art Park's Discovery Grove in June.

Patricia Innis hopes to extend her project into a program called "Hemingway Haunts." This second stage of the project would take the artist to public schools in several northern Michigan counties where Hemingway lived or visited. In each school Innis would work with the students to create Hemingway-inspired art for the MLAP and to construct an "art trail" on their own school grounds. The MLAP would then create "an arts and literature trail guide to all of the Hemingway locations, featuring thoughts by the writer about the locations."

Innis will also create images of Hemingway's fictional characters which will be displayed at the Art Park. The results of this first stage will be revealed when the artist speaks at our fall conference.

A number of rooms are being held for the Hemingway Weekend at the historic Perry Hotel, which has been conference headquarters since our first gathering in 1990. Don't be left scrambling for accommodations during northern Michigan's peak color season! Reserve your room now and enjoy staying in the heart of the Gaslight Shopping District. Mention the Hemingway Society for our special rate. Call 1-800-737-1800 no later than Sept. 16

Annual weekend features Hemingway "letters" editor

This year's Hemingway weekend, set for October 15, 16, 17 in Petoskey, will take a look at "The Hemingway Women". We will visit Ernest's mother, his sisters, and his wives as revealed in letters, researched by biographers, and included in the body of his literature.

Dr. Joe Waldmeir, founding president of Michigan Hemingway Society, has written a special setpiece for the conference and hopes to travel from Iowa to present his paper.

Keynote speaker is Dr. Sandra Spanier, associate professor of English at Penn State University. Spanier is responsible for editing and annotating all of Hemingway's correspondence, a collection estimated to be 8,000 to 10,000 letters strong, for publication in a multi-volume edition.

She will coordinate an international team of scholars in this effort. In addition, a single-volume edition of selected letters will be published with the general public in mind.

Through the years, Hemingway's letters have been carefully guarded. Only two books of selected letters have ever been published, and about 90 percent of his letters are as yet unpublished.

"Hemingway once said that his letters were 'often libelous, always indiscreet and often obscene,'" says Spanier.

"These are private writings, unguarded and uncensored. They capture his emotions in the heat of the moment, and reveal a far more interesting and complex personality than one might expect from Hemingway's public persona. Sometimes he would vent his anger in a letter and then not send it—usually wisely. He could be vulnerable, tender, critical, and self-critical, and he could be wickedly funny."

Plans are not yet complete for this, our 15th "Hemingway in Michigan" weekend, but we know you will

Hemingway's wives and mother to appear together in Petoskey

Well, that would be something, wouldn't it? Actually, Grace, Hadley, Pauline, Martha, and Mary will be portrayed by MHS board members who have been researching these women and their relationships with Ernest Hemingway. There could be fireworks!

The five will appear in costume to give brief biographical sketches of their subjects. One of Grace Hall Hemingway's gowns will be exhibited, courtesy of Jim and Marian Sanford.

In another presentation, several individuals who were acquainted (or related) to Hemingway women will reminisce about their experiences with the distaff side of this notable family.

A tour featuring the shadowy history of Prudence Bolton will be conducted by author Constance Cappel.

Ken Marek will blend history, geography and literature as he leads a tour, "Men with Women", to Horton Bay, scenic background of Nick Adams' summer romances.

Books are always an important part of our weekends and, like last year, we will have a seller of new/used books exhibiting at the Perry. McLean and Eakin is cooperating with us to stock up on books illuminating the Hemingway women. If you have a special order, Julie will be happy to fill it for you.

One of the most popular aspects of our Hemingway weekends is the opportunity to talk amongst ourselves and with our speakers; to share opinions, experiences, and reading lists; and to expand our understanding of Hemingway's work and the life behind it.

Our conference brochure will be coming to you in the mail by mid-August. In it, you will find details about the weekend and a registration form.

Because our events are packaged with wonderful meals prepared by the staff of the Perry, we must have registration by October 5 so the culinary crew can shop.

We are working on some surprises to make this weekend extra-special. Some things will remain surprises, but important "breaking news" will be posted along with expanded information and a registration form on our website, www.northquest.com/hemingway.

The annual meeting of the Michigan Hemingway Society is held at our October weekend conference. This brief session includes elections for the board and other pertinent business or announcements. During the past year, the directors have been working on the by-laws to clean up some confusing language. Copies of the new by-laws will be available at the meeting if you wish to have a copy.

Dues are still just \$10, and that's no bull!

*Your support is appreciated. Please send checks to: Michigan Hemingway Society
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