



# MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY

## WINTER 2014 NEWSLETTER

### RAISING A GLASS WITH HEMINGWAY



Our October MHS conference theme was “Raising a Glass with Hemingway” with Philip Greene as the keynote speaker. Friday’s reception featured delicious hors d’oeuvres and drinks. Following that was a welcome from president Mike

Federspiel, comments from Frank Boles, Director of Central Michigan University’s Clarke Historical Library, and the sharing of quotes about drinking from Hemingway’s works and letters. Favors for the weekend were a beautiful drinking glass etched with a drawing of the young EH fishing.

After Saturday morning’s breakfast, MHS board members Ken Marek, Chris Struble, and Fred Svoboda presented a panel discussion. Saturday afternoon’s options were viewing the new Hemingway exhibit at the Little Traverse Bay History Museum, touring the new EH markers in Petoskey and other nearby locations, and shopping. Also there was a book signing by Philip Greene at the McLean & Eakin bookstore downtown and a screening of excerpts from a new EH documentary at the offices of Contem-

porary Learning Systems. Our Saturday evening began with appetizers and a cash bar followed by dinner. Afterward we were highly entertained by Philip Greene’s talk. He wrote “To Have and Have Another,” a delightful book about Ernest Hemingway and drink. Mr. Greene handed out complementary samples of rum and daiquiris to the audience as we watched his slide presentation containing quotes from Hemingway on drinking. A VERY good time was had by all!

During the weekend Steve and Marlene Ruebelman enticed everyone to spend their time and dollars in their room with all kinds of used books relating to Hemingway and/or drink, plus other Hemingway topics of interest. They always have one or two somethings that one just has to buy.

On Sunday morning a general membership meeting took place after breakfast, Michael Artman was elected to the Board, and the results of the writing contest were announced. We parted from each other with words of safe passage home, again reluctant to break the spell of another MHS conference we’ve all come to enjoy very much.

—Carole Underwood and Nancy Nicholson

# RU KEEPING UP-DATED ON THE MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY?

Are you on the Society's email list? If not, sign up by sending an email to [sympa@mtu.edu](mailto:sympa@mtu.edu). On the *subject* line, write `subscribe mihemsoc-L` and send it! That's all you need to do!

**THE TIME IS NOW!** Renew your annual membership—see the attached form.

***Be sure to check out our excellent website: [www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org](http://www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org)***

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

When the theme “Raising a glass with Hemingway” was decided on for this past October conference the MHS Board of directors wanted to make sure we did not concentrate on the image of Hemingway as just the heavy drinker that traditionally has been perpetuated, but instead to address some of the encompassing facets of his mythical levels of consumption. Armed not with “Pilar rum” (as we were Saturday evening), but instead with the likes of Ken Marek and Fred Svoboda, our thought was to concentrate on the short story “The Three Day Blow”, which serves as a very nice summary of some of the quirkiest aspects and stigmas surrounding Hemingway's early days as a very “practical” drinker. I have always focused more on Hemingway's ability to capture the timeless very basic “human element” as opposed to the images of the older man in the fisherman's sweater with a daiquiri in his hands. And I think this year's conference really served to remind me that Hemingway enjoyed many things—food, sport, travel, and life. As Jim Sanford pointed out he was a true connoisseur, and alcohol was just another category he became very familiar with. He was particular about brands, regional wines and, as Philip Greene's book documents, proportions. For Hemingway drinking was not just about intoxication it was also the ceremony.

—Chris Struble

## WRITING CONTEST

The 2013 Michigan Hemingway Society Fall Conference once again gave attendees the opportunity to tap into their literary creativity. The writing contest has provided a special highlight to our Sunday morning session. Writing entries which are submitted by

Saturday morning are reviewed, judged, and winners announced on Sunday. The writings must include in some way the theme of the conference and a nod to the style of Hemingway. With this year's theme “Raising a Glass with Hemingway” our writers let both their words and drinks flow.

The announcement of the top three entries is certainly a highlight for the winners, but everyone is rewarded with the winners reading their award-winning stories. The animated reactions of the audience attested to the quality and success of the authors. Our third place winner, a first time attendee, was Dan Wilcox, whose essay “What Would Hemingway Drink?” recounted a camping trip on the Fox River; second place was Joe Meany, a seasoned Hemingway Society member and past winner, with a piece entitled “First Drink,” which reminisced about the teenage rite of passage ordering beer. And the coveted first place went to MHS Board member Jack Jobst with “Roscoe Learns a Lesson”—a charming story of a young boy meeting Ernest Hemingway in Key West. Each received a gift card to McLean and Eakin Booksellers in downtown Petoskey. We offer our sincere thanks to all who entered, and our congratulations to the winners!

When the theme for the 2014 Fall Conference is announced, we will include the guidelines for the 2014 writing contest. We encourage all of you to attend next fall's event and to start your writing efforts early. While celebrating the life and writings of Hemingway, it is only fitting that we make this creative writing contest the culmination of an always eventful and entertaining weekend. For a picture of this year's winners, see our website [www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org](http://www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org).

—Susan Lightcap and Diane Fox



P.O. Box 922  
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## 2014 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, VENICE, ITALY

**“It’s a good town to walk in. I guess the best, probably.... It’s a strange, tricky town and to walk from any part to any other given part of it is better than working cross-word puzzles.”**

Colonel Cantwell muses on Venice in Ernest Hemingway’s *Across the River and Into the Trees*.

The Ernest Hemingway Society will hold its 16th biennial international conference in Venice, Italy, from 22-27 June 2014. The conference will be hosted by Venice International University on the spectacular island of San Servolo. The island is a ten minute boat ride from Piazza San Marco. All paper presentations and panels will be at VIU Conference Center on the island.



In addition to enjoying one of the most beautiful cities in the world, we will explore the Veneto, a region of the world Hemingway held dear and immortalized in *Across the River and Into the Trees*. Possible day trips may include Gorizia, Schio, and Fossalta di Piave, the site of Hemingway’s wounding. For further details and links to lodging and travel information, please visit the society’s website at [www.hemingwaysociety.org](http://www.hemingwaysociety.org).

# MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



MHS membership benefits include the newsletter and eligibility for the base fee at our annual conference.

The membership year is January through December. Fees paid anytime in the year will apply to that calendar year.

A membership form is included in the Fall/Winter newsletter each year and is also available online at

[www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org](http://www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org)

I am applying for following membership level:

- \$10 – Student
- \$20 – Individual
- \$30 – Family (2 adults)
- \$50 – Patron

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT MAIL NEWSLETTER, I WILL READ IT ONLINE AT  
[www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org](http://www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org)

*Mail completed form with check or money order made out to the Michigan Hemingway Society to:*

**Nancy A. Nicholson, Membership Chair**  
**Michigan Hemingway Society**  
PO Box 922  
Petoskey, MI 49770