

The 2011 Michigan Hemingway Society Writing Contest

“Hemingway's Waters: Exploring the Depths”

Open to all attending the 2011 MHS Weekend at the Odawa Hotel in Petoskey, October 14-16, 2011.

The weekend theme, *Hemingway's Waters: Exploring the Depths*, stresses the inspirational nature of the famous author's interaction with the natural world, reflected in many of his most famous works.

- Nick Adams wades the “Big Two-Hearted River” in northern Michigan.
- Santiago the aged Cuban fisherman wages an epic battle with a great marlin in the Gulf Stream in *The Old Man and the Sea*.
- Frederic Henry swims the Tagliamento River, escaping the killing fields of the First World War in northern Italy in *A Farewell to Arms*.
- Jake Barnes and Bill Gorton fish for trout and tell bad jokes in northern Spain (in *The Sun Also Rises*).
- Colonel Cantwell and Renata kiss (and more!) in a Venetian gondola in *Across the River and Into the Trees*.

Your assignment, should you choose to accept it: Write an equally memorable short-short story or essay in Hemingway's style, stressing what you see as a parallel role for water in your piece.

- Make your piece no longer than two double-spaced pages, 12-point Times New Roman type.
- Submit it (anonymously) by noon on Saturday so that it can be evaluated by breakfast on Sunday. (Excellent prizes to be awarded.)
- Winners (first, second and third places) will be announced at Sunday breakfast and the winners invited to read their stories.

Please note this final important point: your story or essay must include a fish.