2007 summer date requires MHS to seek new conference headquarters

Our conference headquarters this year is the Victories Hotel. Stafford's Perry Hotel has been home to MHS since our first conference in the fall of 1990. However, the Perry was already booked for summer when it became necessary for us to schedule the annual Hemingway weekend in July rather than the usual October this year.

If you plan to attend the MHS July conference, please reserve your room as soon as possible at the Victories Hotel and mention MHS by June 27. The number to call at Victories is 231-347-6041. Lodging is not included in conference fees or registration. Shuttles will provide transportation to and from Victories to conference events downtown.

Registration will begin on Friday in the late afternoon at the hotel, located on US-131.

We also have just a few rooms available for us at the Bay View Inn. (Reservations for these rooms are required by May 27.)

This particular weekend is exceptionally busy, even for a resort town like Petoskey, and hotel/motel rooms will be scarce and at a premium later. See you in July!

18th Annual MHS Weekend Conference to feature artifacts, tours, speakers and discussion sessions

The July 27-29, 2007 Michigan Hemingway Society weekend has been scheduled to occur in conjunction with a special display of Hemingway artifacts collected by the Clarke Historical Library and exhibited at Crooked Tree Arts Center in Petoskey. A reception with wine and hearty refreshments will be held at CTAC Friday at 6:30 pm. This will be the grand opening of the exhibit "Up North with the Hemingways" sponsored jointly by the Clarke and MHS. At 8 pm Hemingway scholar Fred Svoboda will talk about "Nick Adams and Ernest Hemingway" in the auditorium. The public will be invited to buy tickets to attend this event also, and reservations will be required.

A breakfast buffet at Victories Hotel at 8:30 am will start off our Saturday morning. Buses will transport attendees at 9:30 to the CTAC for a ribbon cutting ceremony and then a tour of some Hemingway-related sites until about 12:30. Some tickets will also be available to the public for the bus tour. Attendees will then have time downtown for lunch on their own, and to enjoy the Downtown Sidewalk Sales! On Saturday afternoon from 2-4 pm, there will be discussions on three Nick Adams stories at the Petoskey library and at the Crooked Tree Arts Center. The stories are "The Big Two-Hearted River," "Fathers and Sons," and "The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife." Shuttles from the hotel will transport attendees back at 4:30 pm.

Saturday evening activities will begin with a reception at 5:30 pm at Victories Hotel followed by dinner at 6:30. Then at 8 o'clock Mike Federspiel, president of The Michigan Hemingway Society, will give a video presentation called "The Rest of the Story (Grace's Photo Albums)."

Victories Hotel will host a breakfast buffet on Sunday morning starting at 8:30 am. At 9:30 Sunday, Jim Sanford, one of Hemingway's nephews, will speak about his early recollections of Walloon Lake. Attendees will have been invited earlier by mail to write a Hemingway-style vignette. Some of these will be read during the general membership meeting that follows.

Book dealer Steve Ruebelman will again be present during the weekend at the hotel with his marvelous selection of used and rare books and magazines for our perusal and purchase.
Crooked Tree Arts Center hosts
“Up North with the Hemingways” Exhibit

The Michigan Hemingway Society and the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University are proud to announce “Up North with the Hemingways,” a jointly sponsored exhibit at Petoskey’s Crooked Tree Arts Center from July 27 - August 25, 2007.

Beginning in 1899, the Hemingway family summered in northern Michigan and it was here that young Ernest learned to hunt, fish and appreciate the natural world. His time in Michigan made a great impression on him and served as inspiration for many of his earliest and best works of fiction.

The exhibit tells the story of the family’s Michigan experiences between 1899 and 1921 and will feature numerous items from private Hemingway family collections and from the Clarke Historical Library.

The following are just some of the items anticipated to be on display:

- A 5 page letter written by Ernest Hemingway 1919 urging a friend to join him for the summer in northern Michigan. In it he writes about what he loves about Michigan.
- A letter from Hemingway to his father describing his work on the family’s northern Michigan farm and his reaction to his mother’s decision to build herself a cottage on the family’s property.
- A postcard sent by Ernest to his father from Seney, Michigan, describing the fishing success he and his friends were having on the Fox River. (This trip would later be the inspiration for one of his most famous short stories, The Big Two Hearted River.)
- A handwritten unpublished fragment from a story he wrote as a young man about a Michigan lumber camp.
- A booklet he created as a child that includes a story about a porcupine and a photograph of fish caught in northern Michigan.
- Numerous photographs of Ernest and the family taken at their Walloon Lake cottage, Windemere, and in the area’s woods, lakes and streams.
- Information and photos of ships, trains, and automobiles the Hemingways used to travel from their Chicago area home to northern Michigan.

Additional information about the exhibit can be obtained from Dr. Frank Boles, Clarke Historical Library Director, at boles1fj@cmich.edu or 989-774-3352 or from Mike Federspiel, President, Michigan Hemingway Society, at feder1mr@cmich.edu

Information on the Crooked Tree Arts Center can be secured at www.crookedtree.org or by calling 231-347-4337.

“A Day with Ernest Hemingway” features Windemere tour

A rare opportunity to tour the Hemingway family cottage, Windemere, is being offered on Monday, August 7, to benefit the Michigan Hemingway Endowment.

The day begins at 1:30 p.m. with an orientation lecture at the Crooked Tree Art Center in Petoskey. Attendants can view the exhibit, “Up North with the Hemingways,” which will be featured in the arts center’s galleries until August 25.

During the afternoon a shuttle bus will transport small groups of participants to Walloon Lake to tour Windemere. The cottage tours will be conducted by Ernest H. Mainland, a nephew of Ernest Hemingway.

The day will end with cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and dinner at the Perry Hotel.

The price for the event is $125.00 per person, which is all-inclusive. Space is limited to 50 guests. Tickets will go on sale July 1 and may be obtained by contacting Central Michigan University’s Director of Library Development and Community Outreach Brian A. Palmer at (989) 774-1826 or via email at palme1ba@cmich.edu.

The Michigan Hemingway Endowment exists as part of the Clarke Historical Library, and supports the documentation of Ernest Hemingway’s life and involvement with Michigan. To learn more about the Clarke and its collection of Hemingway material visit the website at www.clarke.cmich.edu.

Join us for “Hemingway and Friends” in 2008!

Mark your calendar now for the Michigan Hemingway Society’s 2008 gathering. The theme is “Hemingway and Friends” and our dates are October 24 - 26. Program details will follow: refer to the MHS website at: www.northquest.com/hemingway
Ken Marek Retires from MHS Office

At the January 2007 meeting of the Michigan Hemingway Society Board, Treasurer and Tour Guide Extraordinaire, Ken Marek, submitted his resignation from the posts he has held for many years.

Members may recall that Ken assumed the job of treasurer at a particularly difficult point in the history of the organization. During the years that he served in this office, Ken maintained meticulous records making sure that deposits were recorded immediately, the bills paid promptly, and the checkbook perpetually balanced. Ken’s careful record keeping and mild manner became trademarks of all treasurer’s reports, be they at board meetings or the annual general meeting. Thus Ken helped secure financial stability for the Society while presenting the finances to the membership in a clear and gentle manner.

Ken is best known for his role as MHS Tour Guide. The ease with which Ken spoke during the visits to Michigan Hemingway sites always concealed the extraordinary volume of research he undertook for these tours. Visiting sites beforehand; talking with landowners and neighbors; double-checking on locations and legal descriptions; plotting routes for self-guided tours and then making them available to the public, all were part and parcel of Ken’s work. Especially noteworthy is the fact that although Ken could have sold his manuscript to a publisher, he preferred to make the information available to others for free.

In appreciation for his contributions, Ken was made an honorary life member of MHS by the board of directors. Now, as an auxiliary board member, Ken hopes to continue attending the annual Hemingway weekends. Only now, he will be able leave the financial reports and tour planning to those who follow in his footsteps.

Lucille deView dies

Lucille deView, author of the play, *A Summer with Hemingway’s Twin*, died in September at age 85.

Her play, written when she was 70 years old, won the 1997 National Play Award from the National Repertory Theatre Foundation, in Hollywood; was included in Charlotte Repertory Theater’s 1999 Festival of New American Plays; and won a regional Best New Play Award for its 1999 premiere in Santa Ana, Calif.

DeView was a journalism pioneer at the Orange County Register. She was among the first writing coaches in the nation as newsrooms strived to improve their prose in the late 1970s. “A writing coach in that day was unusual,” said Roy Peter Clark, Senior Scholar of the Poynter Institute, in Florida. “There was no map for that. Lucille was one of the people who drew the map.” She also was a columnist for the Orange County Register.

She was the keynote speaker at the 2000 Hemingway weekend, during which Little Traverse Civic Theatre staged a full production of the work.

“It was a joy and inspiration to have this wonderful woman speak to our group, and we are saddened to know that she is no longer with us,” said Mike Federspiel, MHS president.
Newly acquired Little Traverse Conservancy site has Hemingway boyhood connections...

Ernest Hemingway was known to have fished Horton Creek, a creek that is mentioned in several of his books. "Hemingway called this ‘the last great country’," said Rufus Teesdale, who donated a significant portion of funds needed for the property’s purchase, along with funds from an anonymous donor. "Not much of the land is left the way Hemingway saw it. All we have left are bits and pieces, and his wonderful descriptions of what it used to be. When we can save some of it without expropriating it, everybody gains."

Directions: From Petoskey, take US-31 south to Horton Bay Road. Turn left and travel until it dead ends at Boyne City-Charlevoix Road. Turn right and the preserve is the second driveway on the right. Follow the footpath to the creek.***

"Hemingway loved to fish for trout on Horton Creek. He refers to it in "The End of Something," "The Indians Moved Away" and "On Writing," and it appears to be the model for the creek mentioned repeatedly in "Summer People" and in the early pages of "The Last Good Country." Also, in the "fictional memoir" True at First Light, Hemingway describes his vivid memories of fishing at the cider mill located on Horton Creek."

From "Hemingway-related sites" Research and compiled by Ken Marek and available online at: www.northquest.com/hemingway/hemsites.html