



THE MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY

www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org

SUMMER 2017 NEWSLETTER

MHS Fall Conference **"Hemingway: The End of Youth"** **Petoskey – Bay View, Michigan** **October 6-8, 2017**

After graduating from high school in Oak Park, IL, Hemingway left the culturally rich environment there and the freedom of summers in Northern Michigan when he moved to Kansas City to become a journalist for *The Kansas City Star*. From there he joined the Red Cross as an ambulance driver in Italy during WWI, and finally returned to Petoskey as a wounded and decorated war veteran, no longer a young boy enjoying carefree summers.

Table of Contents	
<i>Page</i>	
1	2017 Conference
2	Bay View: Then & Now
4	Marge Bump Letters
5	Coté Scholarship
5	Dann Rupp Honored
6	2016 Friday Night
6	First Time Attendees
7	At the Carnegie
8	Take Me Out to the Ballgame
9	Conference Registration
10	Membership

Our keynote speaker this year will be Steve Paul, the author and editor of several books. His latest, *Hemingway at Eighteen: The Pivotal Year that Launched an American Legend*, will be published this fall. Paul recently retired from the editorial board of *The Kansas City Star* after 41 years of service there.



Starting out on the city desk, he was a longtime arts and culture editor, book critic, special assignment writer, projects editor and writer, mentor and coach to young writers and teachers, and producer of high-

profile feature stories on culture, music, architecture, books, people and the city, and co-owner of a bookstore. Today he writes and edits at will.

Conference Headquarters

This year our conference headquarters will be The Terrace Inn in the Northern Michigan Chautauqua community of Bay View. Founded on the shores of Lake Michigan in 1875, Bay View has maintained its historic buildings, homes and charm. Hemingway was very familiar with the Bay View community when he lived in Petoskey for that last time. We will tour some of the old Victorian buildings and cottages, exploring their architecture and learning the history of the community. There is a plan for a special event on Sunday afternoon. Those who stay over after lunch will be re-creating, to a limited extent, an infamous party that Hemingway attended in one of the Bay View cottages.

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Bay View - Now and In Hemingway's Day

by Mary Jane Doerr

For Ernest Hemingway, Northern Michigan was anything but black and white. Yet, the Bay View pictures from his time are all black and white. It is as if the Bay View grounds were drab and gray in those days.



Muddy Woodland Avenue

In reality, those days were very colorful. Newspaper stories by local authors Paul and Brand Blanshard and other journalists reveal an aura of excitement. Thousands visited Emmet County during the summer months from all over the country. Two trains arrived daily from Chicago often bringing hundreds of visitors. The S.S. Manitou docked twice a week in Harbor Springs unloading as many as 250 passengers from Chicago. The Little Traverse Bay Ferries carried nearly 35,000 passengers a month between resorts.

Fifteen major hotels and hundreds of Petoskey rooming houses accommodated these sightseers. The largest hotel, The Arlington, rivaled the Grand Hotel in style and size. Bay View itself had five hotels and 35 rooming houses, each with “overflow” cottages nearby.

Hemingway remarked in his Kansas City letters about Vice President Charles Fairbanks. He had to have known that Teddy Roosevelt’s VP and the 1916 Republican VP candidate owned a Bay View cottage and property in Harbor Springs. Everyone did. The sitting Democratic Vice President Thomas R. Marshall vacationed annually in Petoskey for decades and even addressed a crowd of hundreds on the Bay View beach. On July 2, 1901, the Grand Rapids Press reported more than 10,000 people made Bay View their summer home. Emmet County was an exhilarating place.

There have been a few changes in Bay View since the great author roamed the grounds. The sidewalks are no longer planked wooded walkways nor are the streets muddy roads for horse drawn carriages and noisy horseless rigs. The campus is manicured with green grass, newly planted trees, and trimmed beeches dating back to the camp meeting days flanked by brightly painted cottages decorated with flowers and hanging baskets.

Loud Hall where Grace Hall Hemingway continued her painting classes during the summer months under instructors from the Art Institute of Chicago, is missing its elegant tower but otherwise the same. The great room at Epworth Hall where Grace Hemingway told her

children's stories to the Bay View young people in 1909 is much as it was then but smaller due to an addition of an apartment.

The "old sheet barn" as the Old Auditorium was called, where Hemingway, his mother and 2000 others enjoyed concerts by the celebrated mezzo-soprano Madame Schumann-Heink was replaced in 1914 with a concrete concert hall, the John M. Hall Auditorium. Anne Sullivan fell in 1913 taking Helen Keller down to the stage. So, the wooden structure had to go.



John M Hall Auditorium

Marcelline performed at the "new" auditorium with the Bay View Orchestra in 1917. Trumbull White's house where she spent that summer and Hemingway sought advice from the famous war correspondent is now a fast food restaurant. The enormous Bay View House which graced the first terrace overlooking Little Traverse Bay was destroyed in a massive 1929 fire. Sadly, the little room on the southeast corner of Evelyn Hall where young Hemingway slept, ate and wrote was eliminated in a "renovation" and the quaint 1896 Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Station where Hemingway and his family came and went was torn down in the 1940s.

Today the vitality of life in Bay View and throughout the area is much as it was a century ago. The Bay View Music Festival draws 180 music students from all parts of the country who audition for scholarships and main stage productions via YouTube. Thousands attend an eclectic variety of concerts and entertainment spanning an ever-increasing number of festival weeks. Hundreds of locals and part-time Emmet County residents take education classes and attend daily lectures on all sorts of contemporary topics just as they did at the beginning of the 20th century. Children participate in the cultural events while enjoying the recreational ones.

Hemingway turned the ordinary into the extraordinary with his colorized versions of black and white images of his time. The author raved about the ever-changing blue-green, turquoise colors of the bay. Seen in the gray scale though, the iridescent color of Little Traverse Bay is hardly comparable to the Bay of Naples. It wasn't just in Hemingway's young mind that the water color is extraordinary. For us, it is just as alluring and just like the water, the Bay View grounds were never drab but always vibrant. Walking around the area today in the great author's footsteps, everyone experiences life as the young Hemingway saw it.

The “Marge Bump” Letters At Home in Michigan

By Jack Jobst

Your Michigan Hemingway Society Board has been working to make available a collection of letters written by one of Ernest’s first girlfriends, Marjorie Bump (Main). The letters, composed long after Hemingway’s death, provide a unique view of the famous author when he was in his teens. They were donated to the Michigan Hemingway Society by David and Stephanie Meeker who felt the letters should be at home somewhere in Michigan. That home is now the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University. Thanks to the efforts of your Board, Mrs. Main’s daughter, and the MHS affiliation with the Clarke Historical Library, the plan is for the letters to one day become available on-line to everyone,



Chris Struble, Frank Boles (CMU), Cecil Ponder

In Ernest’s first book, *In Our Time*, the author refers in two stories to a young girlfriend of Hemingway’s protagonist, Nick Adams. Her name is Marge, and most scholars agree that she is a fictionalized version of a Petoskey high school student, Marjorie Bump.

In 2011 Marjorie Bump Main’s daughter, Georgianna Main, published her book, *Pip-Pip to Hemingway*, based on her mother’s reminiscences of Ernest. I was fortunate enough to be traveling in California at the time near Georgianna’s hometown of Carmel. We got along well, and I was pleased to purchase a copy of her book, which she autographed for me.

I learned that Cecil Ponder, who was working with the collection of letters, was hoping they might be made available on-line to anyone interested in the early part of Ernest’s life. He needed a copyright release from Marge’s daughter, Georgianna, but attempts to reach her had failed.

The gods who watch over literature must have directed my travels again to Carmel, this time with my wife but merely to show her this beautiful little town. Georgianna, I knew, no longer lived there. As is common with lovers of books, we happened to stop in at the Carmel library where the gods whispered in my ear, “Ask the head librarian about Georgianna.”

“Yes,” the librarian answered, “I know Georgianna, but she no longer lives in Carmel; she has moved to the Pacific Northwest to be closer to her grown children.” I left my email address with the librarian and asked if she would pass it along to Georgianna, who, I hoped, would remember me from our meeting several years earlier.

Within a few days of my return to Michigan, I heard from Georgianna, and I replied, asking permission to place her mother’s letters on-line. She initially demurred, so we negotiated. I told her that no one would be receiving any remuneration from the project, but the letters should be a valuable addition to Hemingway studies. I suggested, finally, that she ask her sons for advice. A week later she returned the signed release form that Cecil needed. The letters (more than 200!) may now be seen by visiting the Clarke library at CMU and when they are available online members of the Michigan Hemingway Society will be among the first to know.

Bill and Donna Coté Scholarship for 2016 Awarded to Lily Rosenberg

The Michigan Hemingway Society exists to encourage the study of Ernest Hemingway's life and work, especially regarding his relationship to Michigan. What better way to do this than to foster an interest in Hemingway in a new generation? Long-time Society member Bill Coté suggested that a student scholarship be created and designed to bring young students to read, understand, and appreciate the novels and short stories of Ernest Hemingway. The Board of Directors is delighted to announce the creation of the Bill and Donna Coté Scholarship Fund.

The very first Bill and Donna Coté Scholarship was awarded to Lily Rosenberg, an eleventh grade student at West Bloomfield High School in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Read her award-winning essay "Hemingway's Pure Michigan" on the MHS website. Lily has been actively involved in her school's one-of-a-kind Literary Garden, a project that repurposes neglected courtyard space to feature plants collected from the homesteads of American authors, along with those plants featured prominently in their narratives. The garden showcases the plants collected from over 30 authors, including mint from Horton Bay to represent Hemingway. We were thrilled to have Lily and her teacher, Jennifer McQuillan, with us at the fall conference. We look forward to continuing this important scholarship in the coming years as we do our part to introduce new readers to Hemingway and provide them with the opportunity to share their interest with others.

This scholarship is open to High School, College and University students who show an interest in learning about the influence Michigan had on the life and works of Ernest Hemingway. Those interested should submit a short essay to the society, with their instructor's recommendation, no later than two months prior to the upcoming conference (no later than August 6th, 2017). Mail the essay to The Michigan Hemingway Society, PO Box 922, Petoskey, MI 49770, or submit it to info@michiganhemingwaysociety.org.

If you would like to actively support this scholarship, please contact Christine Ney at info@michiganhemingwaysociety.org for details. One way you can help is by donating online at www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org or sending your check to the Michigan Hemingway Society, PO Box 922, Petoskey, MI 49770, specifying a donation to the Bill and Donna Coté Scholarship Fund.



Dan Rupp Honored

On October 14th, 2016 The Michigan Hemingway Society presented member Dan Rupp a plaque to commemorate his retirement from the MHS Board of Directors. We thank Dan for his hard work and years with the Society but also for being a great resource and connection to the rich history Northern Michigan offers. There is very little Dan does not know about this area and his fellowship at Board meetings will be missed.



October 14-16, 2016 Michigan Hemingway Society Conference: Friday Night

The Friday night opening celebration for our MHS Fall Conference began in the lobby of the Perry Hotel with heart felt greetings by long standing Society members. Fourteen new members joined us and soon merged into the group as welcome additions to the organization. Promptly at 5:00 pm the upstairs bar at the historic Perry opened for business, much to the approbation of the now thirsty, festive gathering. In true Hemingway fashion, drinks were soon followed with tables of lavish hors d'oeuvres, and celebrants helped themselves to a repast of fresh fruit, cheeses, pretzel-puffs, fresh vegetables, and an amazing smoked whitefish. Once satisfied with food and drink, the group moved into the adjoining room for the official opening by President Chris Struble.

Chris's brief remarks enthusiastically welcomed both old and new friends and enticed the members with an overview of what promised to be a wonderful weekend of events! Chris introduced Steve and Marlene Ruebelman, MHS's favorite used book sellers, who had hand selected special volumes relevant for the theme of our conference for the membership. Next Chris moved on to introduce George Colburn who serves as the coordinator between the Dau family and the city of Petoskey on the design and placement of the statue of the young Ernest Hemingway that the Daus have graciously funded. George mentioned that the clay model is available for viewing at the artist's studio in Gladstone, a little Upper Peninsula community known to only a few Hemingway fans. Soon the statue will be cast in bronze to be shipped to Petoskey in the spring.

Our next guest was Jennifer McQuillan, an English teacher at West Bloomfield High School. Jennifer illustrated her narration with photos of her and her students' work on the unique Literary Garden that has been created in a courtyard at their high school. Great American authors are represented with plants taken from their restored homes, museum properties, or outdoor areas. For Ernest Hemingway, it is mint from Horton's Creek. As a result of her moving talk about the power of the natural world as a healing force as well as a pedagogical tool, the Board of Directors of the Michigan Hemingway Society voted on Saturday to give Jennifer \$500 to be used to maintain the garden. In addition, one of her eleventh-grade students, Lily Rosenberg, was awarded the very first Donna and Bill Cote scholarship to attend the meeting. A very poised young lady and polished extemporaneous speaker, she spoke about what the garden has meant to her personally. [See her blog on Facebook waldenwestbloomfield.blogspot.com. Also see the article in this newsletter on the Cote scholarship.

As the evening continued, John Cohassey primed his listeners for the conference theme of 1919, by providing national and international context for this significant year in Hemingway's life. He spoke about such events as the Chicago Black Sox Scandal with the involvement of Shoeless Joe Jackson and other baseball legends. He elaborated on the Italian opinion of Woodrow Wilson's peace plan, which was extremely negative, and of the high opinion in which Ernest held the Italians, including author/politician Gabriele D'Annunzio who firmly opposed that plan. Of course, Ernest especially liked those first and second-generation Italians living in Chicago who provided him with wine at his Oak Park home during prohibition. Cohassey's well-documented while humorously presented remarks brought laughs from the appreciative audience.

Lastly, a panel, led by Chris Struble and including Fred Svoboda, Donald Daiker, and Jennifer McQuillan, discussed a few of the Nick Adams stories. The discussion of the father figure in the story "Indian Camp" generated a fascinating discussion with sharply differing views. Whether Hemingway created a compassionate father teaching his son or a cruel one who subjected his son to this emotionally fraught tragedy placed Don Daiker and Fred Svoboda on opposite sides. Tactfully Jennifer McQuillan kept to the middle ground with her observations. With Don Daiker the featured speaker on Saturday evening, the group certainly ended the evening eager to hear more from Dr. Daiker.

2016 First-Time Conference Attendees



Hemingway at the Carnegie

Reenactment by Ron Meyer



Upon returning home from WW2 in January of 1919, Ernest Hemingway was a bit of a local celebrity. Accredited with being the first American wounded in Italy, he had already made an appearance in a film reel before leaving Europe and was asked to recount his experiences before audiences in Oak Park. Later that year, in Northern Michigan on Armistice Day, November 11, he gave the first of two talks in Petoskey at the local high school where he was rumored to have boxed once or twice. In December, he would give the second talk, wearing his Italian cloak and polished Cordovan boots, for the Ladies' Aid Society at the Carnegie Library in what we imagine would have been the Fireplace Room. This talk proved to be a life-changing moment for the young Hemingway, as it would ultimately yield him an introduction to and offer from Mrs. Harriet Connable to move temporarily to Toronto, Canada, where the affluent family owned a second home, to provide companionship for their son Ralph Jr. While in Toronto, Hemingway linked up with *The Toronto Star* and began what would be a several year long freelance journalist position. Once he married Hadley Richardson and they relocated to Paris, that job would take him all over Europe.

Our goal for the 2016 conference was to try to re-create the essence of what would have been the look and content of that presentation. We were fortunate to be able to include the Carnegie building which has retained so much of its original charm. Several actors were screened before finally finding Ron Meyer, a local actor who at 25 still has the boyish good looks of our Young Hemingway. Plenty of work was put into collecting the necessary uniform, cane, and especially the boots that were such a focal point of his attire. With a few quick responses from Ron, the event served as a great Hemingway 101 course, if you will. After all of the challenges that this event presented, I was glad Ron waited until after the weekend to tell me he was actually 36 years young!

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME!

by Nancy Nicholson



Petoskey Mossbacks vs the Cheboygan Shanty Boys Play Using Vintage 1860's Base Ball Rules

It was a beautiful fall afternoon when the MHS members who had stayed around Sunday afternoon went to a local ball field to watch the Petoskey Mossbacks play the Cheboygan Shanty Boys in a vintage baseball game. What fun! We had hotdogs, chips and pop available as we cheered the teams. They had vintage uniforms, strange rules --no gloves are used, only one baseball is used for the entire game, foul balls are not considered strikes, and you can catch a fly ball on one bounce and it is an out!-- and two teams of volunteers who love the game. The Cheboygan Shanty Boys are in their first season – and they included one woman. The Petoskey Mossbacks, a more seasoned team, won – in an extremely lopsided score. But that was not the primary goal of the game. These people come out on a beautiful day to show the small crowd how the game was played a century ago and how much they love what they do. MHS had about fifteen members and spouses who turned out. I was one of those, and it was GREAT!!!



2017 Conference Registration Form

Register Online at www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org

Registering online is safe and convenient and you get an immediate receipt from PayPal (you do not need a PayPal account – only a credit card). Room reservations are separate from your conference registration fee and must be made by you (see website). If you have any questions, or special dietary needs, please contact us at info@michiganhemingwaysociety.org

To register by mail please send this completed form with your check or money order made out to the Michigan Hemingway Society to:

Michigan Hemingway Society
P O Box 922
Petoskey, MI 49770

Enter name(s) below as you want them on your nametag(s):

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ Telephone _____

_____ # of MHS 2017 Member Conference Fees @ \$180 ea

_____ # of Expired or Non-Member Conference Fees @ \$220 ea*

Date: ___/___/___ Total Enclosed: \$_____ Check # _____

MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MHS membership benefits include receiving a printed copy of our *Newsletter* and eligibility for the base fee at our annual conference. Membership also helps to support our website and Facebook page.

The membership year is January through December. Memberships expire at the end of each calendar year.



I am applying for membership
for the year _____ as a:

_____ \$10 – Student

_____ \$20 – Individual

_____ \$30 – Family (2 adults)

_____ \$50 – Patron

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Date ____/____/____ Total Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____

*Mail completed form with check or money order made out to the
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