

MICHIGAN

Hemingway

SOCIETY

P.O. Box 2039
Petoskey, Michigan 49770-2039

President's corner

I attended the MLA conference in Chicago over the holidays, and while there, I visited our sister group in Oak Park. They are extremely gung-ho about our plans for a joint session in 1999. I talked to them about the possibility of holding the session during October, but they feel that it would be best if it were held in July, at the time of their annual Hemingway birthday party. I informed them that, if that were the case, we could probably use NCMC dormitory facilities, in order to cut expenses for attendees during the "high season" in Petoskey. They were much in favor of this.

We are still looking into means of transportation, Oak Park to Petoskey and return. Train may not be

convenient. Bus, private car and boat may work better. If any member has any suggestions, or other input on travel arrangements, contact Rosemary Horvath, 239 N. O'Keefe St., Cassopolis, MI 49031.

Also, if anyone has any news or other information for the newsletter, please send it in. Especially if you have suggestions for the fall 1996 meeting we would like to hear them. The board will meet in March to discuss plans for fall; contact us early.

Joe Waldmeir
English Dept.

Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824

Parody winner ...

We are reprinting John Porter's winning entry from our parody contest as announced at the fall 1995 gathering. He is from Marquette.

CONVALESCING

It was fitting that he lie there, legs swollen by a poison ivy allergy. Increasingly his outdoor adventures ended in comedy or disappointment. Undaunted, he studied and followed his unlikely role model.

The early milestones were easily achieved. Accumulating a library. Visiting the author's sister at her Walloon Lake cottage. Learning to ski and to luge.

At some point the quests had become more difficult. They required more planning and more effort.

Like the christening of fishing equipment, purchased impulsively after he read Howell Raines' book. Rod and reel and flies. Packed neatly in the classy L.L. Bean carrying cases his wife ordered the Christmas before. She understood, and would do anything to see him through a crisis. Midlife or otherwise.

An hour from home, he stopped where the highway crosses the Fox River's east branch. The spring runoff made the water muddy and turbulent. He could not understand why any fish would choose to live there.

When he left, he pocketed a few pebbles from under the bridge. The trip's only reward. He remembered that a friend's wife gave some to her literature students each fall. He hoped to ponder these during the winter months but they were eventually misplaced and forgotten.

Now, impassively, he let his gaze travel around the room. It landed on the dust jacket of *Fiesta*. His daughter had found it in the foreign language section of a used bookstore in Bellingham. She, too, understood, and mailed it as soon as she learned of his misfortune.

He said ...

Much has been written about Hemingway's debt to Gertrude Stein. This interesting twist on the credits comes from Norman Mailer, "Picasso," 1995.

"As a writer, it is hard to say whether her (Gertrude Stein's) reputation would be larger now or non-existent if Hemingway had not been her pupil in the twenties. But he was - he took the live ember of her perception of a new kind of prose and carried it to places that affected generations of writers; if he had not come along, her work might have perished."

Board meeting March 9 in Lansing

The board of directors of the Michigan Hemingway Society will meet at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 9, in room 213 of Morrill Hall on the campus of Michigan State University. If you have an issue to raise, contact the board via regular mail, or e-mail (see address at left).

September 10, 1995

Reaching us:

The Michigan Hemingway Society can also be reached via e-mail at: michhemi@sunny.ncmc.cc.mi.us, or if you prefer the regular mails, at P.O. Box 2039, Petoskey, MI 49770.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS
MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY SOCIETY
ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECEPTION -- OCTOBER 20, 1995

Mike Wilson suggested that I make a few introductory comments before reading my story. I am pleased to do so.

I would like to thank the Society for including this contest in the agenda of the annual conference. It gave me an opportunity to try something that I have wanted to do for several years.

To appreciate the nature of this challenge, you have to understand that I am the only math major in a family of English majors. That includes my primary writing instructor, my wife, Francie. I was so awed by this contest that I did not even tell her I wrote this story until after I received Mike's call. Our son graduated from Eastern Michigan with a degree in English and our daughter will be the first linguistics graduate of Western Washington University this next spring. To them I am indebted because I have learned much from them and I have been inspired by their writings.

You should also understand that, before this story, I had not written any fiction, since my English 101 class at Albion College, 30 years ago. I like to think that I have been saving things to write until I "knew enough to write them well". Most of you will know that that is not my quote, that's from "The Snows of Kilimanjaro".

So, I feel a bit out of my element here.... Actually, little of what you are about to hear, as you may have surmised, is actually fiction. Thank you, again, for this opportunity!

-- John Porter

1995 Hemingway weekend, Oct. 20-22

Stafford's Perry Hotel, Petoskey, Mich.

▶ "How Hemingway Learned to Write like Hemingway"

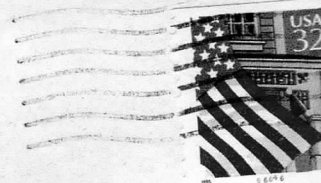
by Paul Smith, author of the definitive critical volume, *A Reader's Guide to the Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway* (Boston, G.K. Hall, 1984). Smith is Goodwin Professor of English (Emeritus) at Trinity College, Hartford, CT., founding president of the national Hemingway Society and member of the Hemingway Foundation board of directors.

▶ "Where I Fished During My Summer Vacation"

a tongue-in-cheek parody writing contest, in Hemingway style, about one of Hemingway's favorite Michigan topics: fly fishing. Keep it short: 250 words or less. Entry fee is \$5. Prize is free conference registration plus \$50. The winner's entry will be read during Friday night's reception, and published in the November MHS newsletter. Entries are due by September 15; mail entry with check to MHS, Box 2039, Petoskey MI 49770. Entries will not be returned.

▶ "Père Et Fils and Papa's Paris"

Joe Waldmeir, Professor Emeritus of the MSU English D. presents his own Hemingway parody to trace Hemingway's



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