Nick Adams Stories central to statewide reading project

MHS Newsletter Fall 2007

www.MichiganHemingwaySociety.org

Great Michigan Read premieres at MHS Annual Hemingway Weekend

The *Nick Adams Stories* are considered by many scholars to be some of Ernest Hemingway's best writing, a masterpiece literally made in Michigan.

Hemingway spent the marjoity of his first 22 summers in northern Michigan. The experiences he had here played an essential role in his development as one of the world's most significant writers.

The importance of Michigan to Hemingway originally led to the creation of the Michigan Hemingway Society nearly 20 years ago. This year, the Michigan Humanities Council chose the *Nick Adams Stories* as the focus of its statewide program to encourage reading of great literature.

With its cumulative expertise in the Hemingway-Michigan connection, MHS was a natural to help outline activities and resources for the year-long endeavor. With our partner, CMU's Clarke Historical Library, MHS was privileged to cooperate with the humanities council and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs to produce a printed tour of Hemingway sites, a reader's guide, a film entitled *Hemingway: A Life in Michigan,* and an exhibit of Hemingway artifacts entitled *Up North with the Hemingways*. After its July premiere at Crooked Tree Arts Council in Petoskey, the exhibit is traveling to 28 Michigan communities.

More than 100 Michigan communities have planned events to coincide with the Great Michigan Read, from film festivals to lecture and discussion series. Many of MHS' board members are serving as speakers and resources for these events.

www.greatmichiganread.org has helpful resources (a map, the reader's guide, bibliographies, list of events, etc.)

Letter added to Clarke Historical Library Hemingway Collection; endowment grows, too

With the help of MHC, the Clarke Historical Library at CMU was able to purchase the letter auctioned by North Central Michigan College. It was written by Ernest Hemingway to his father and discusses his living arrangements in the fall of 1919 when he decided to live in Petoskey and make a serious effort to live as a writer. The letter lists a number of books the young Hemingway was reading, although he unfortunately doesn't share any opinions about the authors, according to Frank Boles, library director.

The Windemere home tour offered by Ernest Mainland to benefit the Michigan Hemingway Endowment, together with other recent pledges, has grown the fund by $10,000 to a present balance of approximately $30,000, Boles reports.

"Two traveling exhibits, using two sets of the banners that were first shown at the Hemingway exhibit at Petoskey's Crooked Tree Art Center this summer, are now making their way around the state, along with copies of the exhibit catalog and the dvd created as part of the exhibit. We are equally pleased with our partnerships with the MHS and the MHC in the Great Michigan Read program," Boles said.

MHS Members Contribute to Hemingway Letters Project

Jack Jobst, Ken Marek and Fred Svoboda are contributors to the first volume of Hemingway's collected letters, providing annotations on Michigan places and events from the author's life.

This multi-volume collection to be published by Cambridge University Press will collect the 6,000-7,000 letters that Hemingway is known to have written over his lifetime.

Volume 1 of *The Cambridge Edition of the Letters of Ernest Hemingway* will contain the more than 400 letters that Hemingway wrote through 1925. It currently is being compiled under the general editorship of Sandra Spanier of Pennsylvania State University, with the first volume edited by Robert Trogdon of Kent State University. It should appear late in 2008.

For detailed information on the project, consult www.hemingwaysociety.org/#lettersproj.asp.

International conference headed for Kansas City June 9-15, 2008

The Hemingway Society and Foundation, also known as the International, will host its 13th biennial conference in Kansas City, Missouri, in June of 2008.

A must for journalists and Hemingway biographers, the conference will feature a tour of *The Kansas City Star,* the paper that launched the teenaged Ernest Hemingway on his writing career. Numerous other activities which relate to Hemingway's time in Kansas City are planned. One of these is a visit to the new World War I museum which should be of particular interest to historians and Hemingway biographers.

A new feature of the 2008 conference will be the participation of the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award winners and finalists. Among those award recipients who have already accepted the invitation is the 2007 winner, Ben Fountain. Because the Hemingway Society and Foundation sponsors the prestigious annual award for the best first book of fiction, an evening reading and fund raising dinner will be part of the program.

Full conference information and call for papers is available at www.HemingwaySociety.org.

Conference photos on facing page courtesy Art Wagner. Top right, Nancy Nicholson; then Maddy Wagner, Christine Ney, Jan Byrne and Carol Underwood at Crooked Tree; Bill Nicholson leads a tour; bottom left, Susan introduces vignette writers Matthew Smith and Joe Meany.

Hemingway items on auction block

On November 29, 2007 Swan Galleries in New York is placing several unique Hemingway items on the auction block. Among these is a proof of For Whom the Bell Tolls. The volume, which is dedicated to Ernest's friend Toby Bruce and which comes from Bruce's estate, is expected to sell for somewhere between $75,000 and $125,000.

Also to be sold is a little known edition of Men Without Women, but no identifying information was given for that volume.

EHFOP announces Fall '07 events

As part of the Big Read program of the National Endowment for the Arts, Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park is joining with public libraries and universities in sponsoring events surrounding the reading of *A Farewell to Arms*.

James Nagle will present a slide/lecture on "Hemingway in Love and War: the Real Life Story," on October 9 and will also speak at the Museum with Redd Griffin on October 10.

For a complete list of events surrounding the Big Read, see www.EHFOP.org

While you're on the website, take a moment to view the EHFOP promotional video being shown at Chicago's Midway Airport.

Also note that you are invited to EHFOP's Wine Auction at the Cheney Mansion in Oak Park on October 28. Details on the website or phone 708.848.2222.

News of significant developments concerning the Hemingway Boyhood Home will be forthcoming in the *Despatch* newsletter.

-Maryanne Rusinak
Despatch Editor

MHS ANNUAL HEMINGWAY WEEKEND:

UP NORTH WITH THE HEMINGWAYS, JULY 27 – 29, 2007

In order to coincide with the grand opening of the exhibit "Up North with the Hemingways" at the Crooked Tree Arts Center, this year's annual Hemingway Weekend was held in July with headquarters at the Odawa Hotel in Petoskey.

The reception to celebrate the opening of the exhibit was held at CTAC with guests from our membership, the Petoskey arts community, Central Michigan University, and the Michigan Humanities Council. Following the private preview of the exhibit, the gathering adjourned to the arts center theatre to receive a welcome from president Mike Federspiel and greetings from Judy Rapanos, Chair of the MHC.

Next came the premier showing of the DVD "Hemingway and Michigan." The film, a longtime dream of our organization, was produced by WCMU-TV with funding from the Michigan Humanities Council, WCMU, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Michigan Association of Public Broadcasters, and MHS. It will be provided to every school district in Michigan in conjunction with the Michigan Reads project. Each conference participant received a copy as part of his registration packet. The quality and content of this production are outstanding, and board members Jack Jobst, Mike Federspiel, Ken Marek, Jim Sanford, and Fred Svoboda appear in it as commentators. Fred offered the audience further insights into Hemingway and Nick Adams following the DVD screening.

Bus tours of Hemingway-related sites were offered on Saturday morning, hosted by board members Chris Struble and Bill Nicholson. Other board members led story discussions of "Big Two-Hearted River," "The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife," and "Fathers and Sons" at the Petoskey Public Library.

Saturday's banquet at the Odawa Hotel was capped by Mike Federspiel's presentation "The Rest of the Story (Grace's Photo Albums)". He showed slides of photos donated to the Clarke Historical Library's Hemingway Collection by The Sanford family . On Sunday morning, we heard a brilliant and moving paper by Jim Sanford on life at Walloon Lake, illustrated by more historical family photos.

Also on Sunday, three writers were recognized for the entries in the just-for-fun Hemingway vignettes writing activity. MHS board member Susan Lightcap judged the entries.

Marian Sanford and Nancy Nicholson coordinated weekend events.

The Michigan Hemingway Society
PO Box 922
Petoskey, MI 49770

2008 Hemingway Weekend booked at Perry Hotel Oct. 24-26

Fall is fast approaching and our thoughts usually would turn towards northern Michigan and all that is Hemingway. Except this year we'll have to be content thinking of 2008's festivities. After two years away from our traditional conference headquarters, the Michigan Hemingway Society's Oct. 24-26th '08 weekend will return to the Perry Hotel. The theme is *Hemingway and Friends*. As always, our advice is to mark your calendars now and plan to bring your own suntan lotion and/or long underwear.

MHS ranks grow with new -- and renewing -- members

Our membership continues to grow. We had 64 participants for the full weekend conference this year, among them 11 first-timers! If you came to our 2007 conference this July, your membership for 2008 was a part of your fee. **If you could not attend…then the time to renew is now, before the end of this year.** We are considering an increase in dues and perhaps different levels of support, but we haven't worked out the details yet. We'll keep you informed. **Dues are still a bargain at $10 for 2008 if you renew now.**

* *

Please make your check payable to the Michigan Hemingway Society and mail with this form to:

Michigan Hemingway Society - PO Box 922 - Petoskey, MI 49770

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____ **E-Mail** _____

My areas of interest are:

SCHEDULE

18TH ANNUAL MICHIGAN HEMINGWAY CONFERENCE
"UP NORTH WITH THE HEMINGWAYS"
July 27-29, 2007

Friday: 4:00 - 6:00 pm Registration in **Lobby of the Odawa Hotel**

6:30 - 8:00 pm Reception at the **Crooked Tree Arts Center** with wine and hors d'oeuvres, conversations and greetings with other members and CTAC friends, and a private preview of the exhibit

8:00 pm Program in the **Ross Stoakes Theatre at the Crooked Tree**
Welcome from Mike Federspiel, MHS president; greetings from Judy Rapanos, Chair of the Michigan Humanities Council; the first-time showing of the DVD "Hemingway and Michigan," produced by WCMU TV; and a presentation from Fred Svoboda, Hemingway scholar and MHS vice-president, "Ernest Hemingway and Nick Adams"

10:00-???? Conversation and "Awesomes" in the **Lounge of the Odawa Hotel**

Saturday: 8:00 - 9:45 am Board meeting in the **Superior Room of the Odawa Hotel**

8:30-10:00 am Breakfast Buffet in the **Huron Room of the Odawa Hotel**

10:00 am Boarding of the buses in the **parking lot of the Odawa Hotel**

10:10 - 12:55 Bus Tour, with Chris Struble and Bill Nicholson leading (2 buses) for those members who have registered to take the tour. Additional tickets have been sold to the public, who will be boarding in the parking lot also.

NOTE: both buses will drop people off near the Perry Hotel at about 12:55 pm – or deliver them back to the parking lot of the Odawa. Because it is Sidewalk Sales in downtown Petoskey, streets will be blocked off and parking will be extremely difficult. If you are on the tour and plan to eat lunch downtown, shop downtown, and/or attend the short story discussions, which will be held at the new Petoskey Public Library, you should be dropped off downtown. Shuttles from the Odawa will pick people up at 4:30 sharp in front of St. Francis Catholic Church to return them to the Odawa. If you are electing to do other activities in the afternoon, you may prefer to be dropped off at the Odawa at the end of the bus tour. BOTH STOPS WILL BE MADE BY BOTH TOUR BUSES. You have a brochure of downtown Petoskey in your folders with a map which shows lunch spots and the Petoskey Public Library. (The older library is now known as the Carnegie Building.)

If you are not taking the bus tour but would like to go downtown anytime, please inquire at the front desk for shuttle transportation. The Odawa Hotel provides this service.

1:00 - 2:00 pm	Lunch on your own
2:00 - 4:00 pm	Short story discussions – meet in the **Quiet Area room on the lower level of the Petoskey Public Library.** After preliminary comments, attendees will be divided into three groups and meet in three different rooms, then rotate so that each person will participate in all three stories. (See downtown map and also map of library itself in your folders.)
4:30 pm	Shuttles from the Odawa Hotel will be in front of **St. Francis Catholic Church** on Howard and State Streets to take people back to the hotel.

******IF YOU SHOULD HAPPEN TO MISS THE SHUTTLE AND ARE WITHOUT TRANSPORTATION, DO NOT FRET! CALL 231-347-6041 AND THE HOTEL WILL SEND A CAR OR SHUTTLE BACK FOR YOU!**

5:00 - 6:30 pm	Appetizers and cash bar in the **Huron Room of the Odawa Hotel**
6:30 pm	Dinner in the **Huron Room of the Odawa Hotel**
8:00 pm	Program "The Rest of the Story (Grace's Photo Albums)" by Mike Federspiel in the **Huron Room**
9:30 - ????	Conversation and "Awesomes" in the **Lounge of the Odawa Hotel**

Sunday:	8:30 - 9:30 am	Breakfast buffet in the **Huron Room of the Odawa Hotel**
	9:30 - 10:00 am	Sharing of memories and photos by Jim Sanford in the **Huron Room**
	10:00 - 11:00 am	General Membership Meeting and Announcement of winners of the "Hemingway-like vignettes" creative writing contest in the **Huron Room**

Adjournment and Departure

Be sure to visit Steve and Marlene Ruebelman and their always-fabulous selection of used books in the Michigan Room of the Odawa Hotel

- ***Friday 3-6 pm***
- ***Saturday 8 am-6:30 pm***
- ***Sunday 7:30-8:30 am, and also after the conference closes***

THE 2008 MHS CONFERENCE "HEMINGWAY AND FRIENDS" WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 24-26. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW AND WATCH FOR DETAILS IN YOUR NEXT NEWSLETTER. SEE YOU THEN!