Michigan Hemingway Society

Summer 2010 Newsletter

www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org

MHS 2010 CONFERENCE – "DINING AT HEMINGWAY'S TABLE"

You'd better start on that diet now, because this year's conference is lining up to be a wonderful culinary weekend that you won't want to miss! One of our most popular keynote speakers, Valerie Hemingway, is returning to present "At Hemingway's Table: Food for the Five Senses". This will be held Saturday afternoon at the Crooked Tree Art Center Auditorium, and will also be available by ticket to the area residents. Since the focus is on food, the board made the decision that all meals for this weekend will be a part of the conference fee, which will be $170 ($195 for non-members). We are including a Friday evening dinner, which is more than the hors d'oeuvres that we usually have. And Saturday's lunch, which was usually on your own, will also be included. Both Friday and Saturday dinners will feature recipes from Craig Boreth's book *The Hemingway Cookbook* (Chicago Review Press, Inc., c1998). Saturday and Sunday breakfasts are also included. Saturday lunch will be a tasting experience at the Crooked Tree Art Center galleries, featuring food and drinks offered by several local restaurants, focusing on different cuisines that EH enjoyed. (Some examples are a Cuban steak sandwich, gazpacho, pasta, and even the infamous Nick Adams camp entrée of canned spaghetti with pork & beans and catsup!)

Other favorite events for the weekend: Steve Ruebelman, our excellent seller of used books, will be present as always, with tempting offerings; informal two-hour car tours, led by board members, will be an option for Saturday morning—sign-up will be Friday at registration; and yes, there is a contest! See the article further in the newsletter.

CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS

Conference headquarters is again at the Odawa Hotel, located at 1444 South US 131. Booking the venue for our conference is always challenging. Our attendance numbers preclude some locations, and scheduling costs and conflicts for this popular resort area are other issues that determine our final selection. We have been most pleased with the Odawa for their willingness to meet our financial needs, and for their congenial attitude and overall service. And although they are affiliated with a casino, it is at a completely different location.

Room reservations are separate from your conference registration fee. The Odawa is holding a block of 43 rooms and 4 suites from Thursday October 14 to Monday October 18, so you may come early or stay late to enjoy Hemingway country. The rates for the rooms are Sunday thru Thursday $68, Friday and Saturday $77. The rates for the suites are Sunday thru Thursday $98, Friday and Saturday $107. These rates are based on single/double occupancy with a $15 charge for additional adults. The Odawa will hold these rooms at this price until **September 15, 2010**, one month before the conference begins. To book your room, call 1-877-442-6464, then dial 0 and ask for the Michigan Hemingway Society special conference rate. If you wish to inquire about other nearby lodging please call 1-800-845-2828 or see www.boynecountry.com on the web.

MHS WRITING CONTEST 2010

The competition for this year's Michigan Hemingway Conference returns to the written word. All are invited to enter. The rules are minimal and quite simple. The topic of your writing must be food and drink. The length is limited to **one page** and must be submitted at the **time of registration**. What you choose to write is limited only by your imagination. First, second and third place winners will be selected by the judges, based on creativity and originality. Prizes will be a $25 gift certificate to McLean & Eakin for first place, $15 for second and $10 for third. *(Please put your name on the **back** of your entry.)*

The possibilities are endless. Some ideas are listed at right. Let your creative muse take flight in the world of food and drink.

- Select a restaurant and explain why Hemingway would never eat there.
- Open a restaurant which features a Hemingway/ Hemingway and friends ambiance.
- Plan a dinner party including guests, courses, and conversations.
- Create a travel itinerary featuring cities and restaurants.
- Have Hemingway write a review of a restaurant.

As always, we eagerly anticipate your entertaining entries. Winners will be announced at the Sunday morning festivities.

Start writing. See you in October!

HEMINGWAY SOCIETY GIVES FINAL APPROVAL FOR 2012 CONFERENCE – UP IN MICHIGAN

by Charlotte Ponder

From the time the Ponders and the Svobodas arrived in Lausanne, Switzerland, for the 2010 conference, excitement was already running high for the next international gathering in Michigan. Team members met enthusiasm and interest at every event, fielding questions from participants from all over the world. Everyone wanted as much detail as possible, starting with the dates of June 17-23, 2012. A display table with ink pens, buttons featuring Windemere Cottage, brochures from the area, and MHS president Mike Federspiel's new book *Picturing Hemingway's Michigan* kept the conversations lively all week.

Evelyn Hall in Bay View, Michigan

On Tuesday, June 22, Cecil and Charlotte Ponder met with the Hemingway Society Board of Directors to update them on plans for the conference and to receive their final approval. With that done, the Ponders then presented the basic facts to the general membership meeting on Thursday, June 24. By then, as Charlotte said, "It was like trying to sell them a car they had already bought."

2012 participants will enjoy the genuine Victorian atmosphere of the Bay View Association Chautauqua community's campus for keynote speeches, plenary sessions, and academic papers. One of our principal buildings will be Evelyn Hall where Hemingway borrowed a room in order to have a quiet place to write during the winter he spent in Petoskey following World War I.

The 2012 conference week will open with a reception at the historic Perry Hotel where Hemingway once stayed. Other exciting events are already planned, including tours of the Hemingway family cottage Windemere and the Horton Bay area, with closing festivities at the elegant new Bay Harbor Yacht Club. Hemingway never ate there, but the venue offers spectacular views of the bay he considered more beautiful than that of Naples. The Petoskey business community and the Bay View Association are working very hard with the MHS site planning team to provide the best and most authentic "Up North" experience possible for our guests.

Hosting this conference is indeed a point of pride for the Michigan Hemingway Society and will allow us to show off the region while publicizing Hemingway's ties to it. Board members and conference veterans predict that attendance records for an International Conference may well be broken, so mark your calendars now and plan to be a part of this fabulous week in Michigan.

REPORT FROM LAUSANNE

by Fred Svoboda

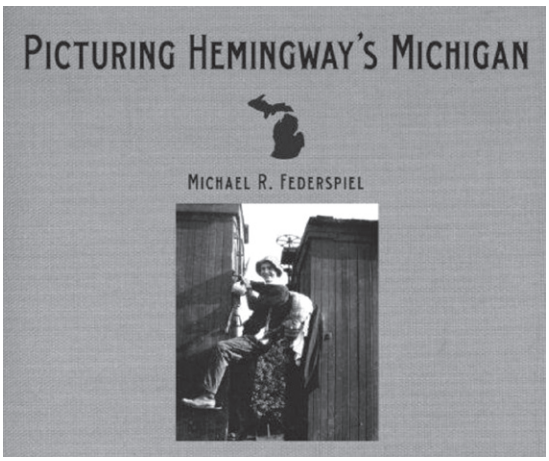
Apparently a conference was held the end of June/ beginning of July in Lausanne, Switzerland, but this might not have been evident from the activities of the Ponders and Svobodas (including Fred & Jerri's sons, Joe and Dan). They all stayed at Hotel au Lac in Ouchy, on the lakefront and just across the street from the Jumbotron and bleachers from which raucous football fans were watching the World Cup games each night. Among other activities were excursions to the Chateau de Chillon, to the wine-tasting village of Epesses (in Lavaux, center of wine growing on terraces dating back to Roman times) and to the cheese-making destination of Gruyere.

The theme of the conference was "Hemingway's Extreme Geographies" which somewhat justified the excursions. Sessions were held at the University of Lausanne. Conference co-chairs were Boris Vejdovsky of the University of Lausanne, and Suzanne del Gizzo of Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia. Boris reports skiing every weekend during the season and provided much background on the geography influencing Hemingway's works set in Switzerland (notably *A Farewell to Arms* and "Cross-Country Snow," among others). The geography theme extended not just to literal geography but also to the many ways in which scholars continue to re-envision the author in terms of more recent works that reveal his interests in gender issues (as opposed to machismo), in conservation (as opposed to rapacious hunting), and the like.

The conference opened with a wine-fueled reception at the Lausanne city hall and ended with a cocktail party at Hotel de la Paix. No one embarrassed himself very much, and a good time was had by all. A post-conference tour of Munich (see picture) was also enjoyed. Consult the Ponders and Svobodas for more details at our weekend in Petoskey in October.

MHS PRESIDENT MIKE FEDERSPIEL'S NEW BOOK

You'll want to enjoy this wonderful book, released this past May, which is a fascinating pictorial collection of people and places here in Michigan connected to Hemingway - about which we are always curious. The author's profits from the sales of this book will benefit the Michigan Hemingway Endowment at our partner institution, the Clarke Historical Library of Central Michigan University. If you order by going to our website www.michiganhemingwaysociety.org and look for the article with this picture, and then click on the McLean & Eakin link there, your purchase will also benefit MHS.



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THREE YEARS IN THE MAKING: THE HEMINGWAY HISTORICAL MARKER

On July 31 a state historical marker recognizing the role northern Michigan played in the life of Ernest Hemingway was unveiled in the village of Walloon. The dedication of the approximately 250 pound, bronze marker was the completion of a three year journey to commemorate Michigan's most recognized author. In 2007, when the Michigan Humanities Council selected Hemingway's The Nick Adams Stories for its first Great Michigan Read program, Mike Federspiel and Frank Boles approached the Council with a series of projects built around the book. As a "capstone" event designed to finish the year-long read of Hemingway's Nick Adams stories, we proposed that in the summer of 2008 a historical marker be dedicated on the shores of Walloon Lake. A series of unanticipated challenges delayed the completion of the marker project, but in early June the marker was delivered "up north" and installed by the local township. We are grateful to Melrose Township for installing the marker, the Michigan Historical Commission for approving the marker, as well as the Michigan Humanities Council for underwriting the marker's cost.

Jim and Marian Sanford at the marker at Walloon Village