

# The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of The Hemingway Society

No. 5/January 1983

## Madrid Conference Planned for 1984

Plans for the International Hemingway Conference are proceeding on schedule, according to a report to The Hemingway Society by the Executive Committee at its annual meeting at MLA in December. The conference is being planned for Madrid at the end of June, 1984.

The formal invitation from the *Instituto de Cooperación Iberoamericana* of Madrid, which was expected in time for the Los Angeles MLA, has been delayed, but members of the Executive Committee met with a representative of the *Instituto* and were encouraged to believe that the invitation is forthcoming.

Meanwhile, James Brasch (McMaster University), general chairman for the conference, needs assistance in planning and organization and is looking for volunteers. Society President, Paul Smith (Trinity College), said that the Executive Committee is working on program ideas and that a call for papers would be made within the next two months; Smith, too, is seeking ideas from members for the program.

Brasch needs assistance with the following committees: travel, program, publications (that is, a monthly newsletter about the conference), grants, advertising, local facilities, and side trips (Toledo, Pamplona, etc.). He is also interested in hearing from people with special contacts in Spain. Brasch's address is Department of English, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont., L8S 4L9, Canada. Although some planning has already taken place and work is proceeding, Brasch and the Executive Committee are open to further ideas about the planning and organization of the conference, probably the most ambitious program ever attempted by a group of scholars and teachers on behalf of Ernest Hemingway.

## SAMLA Considers Hemingway Session

Pending approval of the program committee, there will be a special session, "Hemingway's Place in The American Scene," at the 1983 South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA) convention in Atlanta next October 28-30.

Alfred Kazin and Paul Smith have been selected to present papers. Others interested in presenting papers may send an abstract to Allen Josephs, English and Foreign Languages, University of West Florida, Pensacola, Fla., 32504. After the special session there will be an organizational meeting for a regional branch of the Hemingway Society in conjunction with SAMLA.

## 1983 MLA: A Call for Proposals

The Hemingway Society is now formally affiliated with the Modern Language Association, and with that affiliation we are eligible to arrange up to two meetings and various social functions at each MLA convention.

At its last meeting The Executive Committee agreed to ask the membership for proposals for the two seventy-five minute meetings, comments on how such meetings might be organized, and ideas for activities during the social functions. These ideas will be circulated among the members of the Executive Committee who will then select two for the convention and try to incorporate suggestions in the organization of the meetings.

**Proposals for Meetings:** Submit a tentative title, a paragraph or so describing the topic, and the names of those you might suggest as participants.

**Suggestions for Organizing the Meetings:** Suggest other ways than the usual papers-and-question-period one of arranging the meeting. (The MLA suggests that we may combine the two meetings in one.)

**Ideas for the Social Functions:** Comment on the notions of a Society dinner, cash-bar (open or closed), or a wine reception, and the possibility of a reading, a dramatization, or whatever.

The committee must complete the proposed program by mid-March, so we will have to have responses by February 28, 1983. Please mark them MLA Convention Proposals and send them to: Paul Smith, Department of English, Trinity College, Hartford, CT. 06106

## Members, Please Note...

Questions concerning membership in The Hemingway Society should be addressed to the president: Paul Smith, Department of English, Trinity College, Hartford, Ct., 06106; questions concerning subscriptions to *The Hemingway Review* should be addressed to the editor: Charles M. Oliver, Department of English, Ohio Northern University, Ada, Oh., 45810.

The \$15 membership fee (which should be mailed to the president) includes subscriptions to both *The Review* and *The Hemingway Newsletter*. Those interested in *The Review* only may subscribe by sending a check for \$4 (one year) or \$7 (two years) to the editor. Back issues are available from the editor for \$3 each copy.



## Hemingway Sessions Held at MLA

The annual conference of the Modern Language Association included two meetings of interest to Hemingway scholars and teachers this year in Los Angeles: first, the annual meeting of The Hemingway Society, held December 28 in the Jonathan Club and, second, the special session, "The Aesthetics of Ernest Hemingway," held December 30.

Jackson Benson (San Diego State), who has recently completed a biography of John Steinbeck, gave the address at the Jonathan Club reception: "The Public and Private Writer: Hemingway and Steinbeck." Following the address, Society President, Paul Smith (Trinity College), conducted the annual business meeting. The following items were on the agenda:

1. Recognition of Dr. John M. Goin, Los Angeles host for the reception and member of The Society.

2. Announcement of our formal affiliation with MLA, to become effective with the 1983 MLA conference in New York.

3. Acceptance of the financial report.

4. Announcement of five future Hemingway conferences: "Up in Michigan" in October, SAMLA in October, NCTE in November, MLA in December, and the International Hemingway Conference, Madrid, in June 1984 (see separate stories elsewhere in this *Newsletter*).

5. Report of the nominating committee (Scott Donaldson, chairman). The three nominees recommended for positions on the Executive Committee and accepted by vote of the members present were James Brasch (McMaster University), James Nagel (Northeastern University), and Jackie Tavernier-Courbin (University of Ottawa).

6. Resolution in recognition of retiring members of the Executive Committee: Jo August Hills (Kennedy Library), Michael Reynolds (North Carolina State), and Linda Wagner (Michigan State).

At the Thursday morning session, "The Aesthetics of Ernest Hemingway," Nagel moderated for three papers: 1, George Monteiro (Brown University), "Across the River and Into the Trees and British Aestheticism"; 2, Erik Nakjavani (University of Pittsburgh), "The Aesthetics of Silence: Hemingway's 'The Art of the Short Story'"; and 3, Barbara Clarke Mossberg (University of Oregon), "Ernest Hemingway and Gertrude Stein."

## "Up in Michigan" Conference Set

Traverse City, Mi., near Petoskey and Walloon Lake, is the site for a conference titled "Up in Michigan," scheduled for next October 13-15. The Hemingway Society is sponsoring the event, and the director is Joe Waldmeir, Michigan State University.

The conference will include papers, panels, and "distinguished guest speakers," according to Waldmeir, and a screening of some of Hemingway's films. For further information, write Waldmeir: Department of English, 201 Morrill Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mi., 48824.

Abstracts and proposals for papers are welcome and should be sent by April 1 to the selection committee chairman: Charles M. Oliver, Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH., 45810. The selection committee will then ask to receive selected papers by July 1.

## Hemingway Work-in-Progress

Cecchin, Giovanni. *I Ragazzi Di Chicago*. (work-in-progress on the ARC Section Four of Schio—Vicenza—"with important new documents and splendid photographs previously unpublished").

\_\_\_\_\_. *Omaggio A Hemingway*. (Sponsored by the Administration of Lignano Sabbiadoro--Udine--and "scheduled for publication in Italian in 1983").

Meyers, Jeffrey, ed. *Hemingway: The Critical Heritage*. Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1982.

Nagel, James, ed. *Ernest Hemingway: The Writer in Context*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press. (Due out in late 1983).

Robert, Lee A. *Ernest Hemingway: New Critical Essays*. New York: Barnes & Noble, 1982.

Svoboda, Frederic. *Hemingway and The Sun Also Rises: The Crafting of a Style*. Lawrence, Ka.: University Press of Kansas. (Due out in "early" 1983).

## Erie, Pa., Meeting Scheduled

A conference titled "Hemingway/Fitzgerald: Research Past, Present, Future, and Pluperfect" is scheduled for April 15 in Erie, Pa. Alan Margolies is chairman for the meeting; speakers are James Nagel, Linda Wagner, and James West III.

## Program Planned for NCTE

The Hemingway Society is calling for proposals for the special Hemingway session scheduled for the NCTE conference in Denver, November 19-23. Send ideas to President Paul Smith, Trinity College, Hartford, Ct., 06106.

## Special OMS Published

The National Association for Visually Handicapped has recently published *The Old Man and the Sea* for "the partially seeing." It is in a ring binding, 145 pages, the only Hemingway item so issued.

*Visiting during the Hemingway Society reception at MLA are, left to right, Dr. John Goin, Marcia Goin, Sue Benson, and Jack Benson. The Goins were hosts for the reception at the Jonathan Club in Los Angeles; Jack Benson gave the address.*





## Hemingway Notes and Queries:

### Note That Noboby Understood Oin

As a boy one of Hemingway's names for himself was "Oin." Presumably it was distorted spelling of "Ern." At least that is how E.E. Cummings later took it:

What does little Ernest croon  
in his death at afternoon?  
(kow dow r 2 bul retoinis  
wus de woids uf lil Onis

In high school Hemingway began calling himself "Stein." At first that seems a surprising choice for someone who was mildly anti-semitic. But consider: what does "Oin" plus "Stein" give us?

There's a wonderful family, called Stein,  
There's Gert and there's Epp and there's Ein;  
Gert's poems are bunk,  
Epp's statues are junk,  
And no one can understand Ein.

— James Hinkle  
San Diego State

### Note on Hemingway in the Classroom

Although the proposed *Newsletter* column on "Hemingway in the Classroom" has been slow to develop, the editor is pleased to note that a paper, "The Old Man and the Sea in the Classroom," delivered at the NCTE meeting in Boston, November 1981, has been published by *Indiana English*, 5 (1982).

Copies of the journal may be obtained by writing the author, John J. Roberts, The Westminster Schools, 1424 W. Paces Ferry Rd., N.W., Atlanta, Ga., 30327.

### Query on Passage from *The Sun Also Rises*

Would someone throw a little light on a passage from *The Sun Also Rises* which has always puzzled me. When Bill and Jake are eating their picnic lunch after fishing (Chap. XII, p. 122), Bill says to Jake, "Remember the woods were God's first temples. Let us kneel and say: 'Don't eat that, Lady—that's Mencken.'" What is the meaning of the passage Bill quotes?

— Donald E. Houghton  
Sacramento, Ca.

### Note on Two More Popular Items

*Men Without Women* is now the title of a new record album by Little Steven and the Disciples of Soul. Little Steven is Steven Van Zandt, known as Miami Steve when he performs his regular duties as guitarist for Bruce Springsteen (one of the top names in rock). According to Van Zandt in *Rolling Stone* (November 25, 1982), "It was a book of boxers and bullfighters and soldiers, but it coulda had a chapter about a rock & roll band."

*Zany Afternoons* is a book of humor written and illustrated by Bruce McCall (Knopf, 1982) recalling a past you won't find in any history books. He takes a look at zeppelin shoots, tank polo and wing dining among others. About the latter, he says, "Hemingway always said the best tables were outboard beyond the prop wash.... Of course, Ernest never went up again after that day over Lyons when some fool waiter took away the Dom Perignon bottle that held down the manuscript he'd been reading to Ford Madox Ford. It had been a fine piece, too."

— Randall Scott Davis  
Monrovia, Ca.

### Query on Rules of "Poker Dice"

Can anyone tell me how three-man poker dice is played—as in *The Sun Also Rises* (p. 229):

So we rolled poker dice out of a deep leather dice-cup. Bill was out first roll. Mike lost to me and handed the bartender a hundred-franc note.... We had another round and Mike lost again.... We had another round. I went out on the first roll with four kings. Bill and Mike rolled. Mike won the first roll with four jacks. Bill won the second. On the final roll Mike had three kings and let them stay. He handed the dice-cup to Bill. Bill rattled them and rolled, and there were three kings, an ace, and a queen.

We are told that Mike therefore lost for the third time in a row. I am willing to believe this, but I don't really understand how the game was played. The only accounts of poker-dice I have been able to find deal with a double-or-nothing game played with a bartender. The simple rules applicable there don't exactly fit Jake's and Bill's and Mike's game to determine which one should pay for their drinks.

— James Hinkle  
San Diego State

### Query on "A Natural History of the Dead"

What happens in "A Natural History of the Dead" is anything but clear to me. Are we to understand that the iodine has blinded the artillery lieutenant permanently, or just temporarily. When the lieutenant suddenly screams "You have blinded me!" does he think the damage is permanent. At the very end when the doctor begins to work on the lieutenant, what is he about to do? Help him. Hurt him further?

— James Hinkle  
San Diego State

### Note on the Dangers of Choosing Hemingway

From *The New Yorker* (November 1, 1982, p. 19):

A west German woman who had switched television channels from the Mundial (World Soccer Cup Match) to watch a rerun of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" was immediately thrown out of the window by her ruffled husband.

— Paul Smith  
Trinity College





### Note on the Papa-Doble

A *Papa-doble*, according to the present barman at Sloppy Joe's in Key West, is not the double Daiquiri most tourists seem to expect. It is basically a double Planter's Punch made with Myer's dark rum instead of light rum and with maraschino cherry juice added. None of his regular customers drink it, the barman says—just Hemingway pilgrims.

There are not too many people who have a drink named after them. There is a Harvey Wallbanger and a Freddie Fudpucker, a Charlie Chaplin, and a Shirley Temple, but no William Faulkner or Dylan Thomas. Why would Hemingway be thus remembered when others, equally qualified as drinkers, were passed by?

The answer, I suggest, lies in a coincidence in language and the associations that follow from it. *Papa-doble* is very much like *paso-doble*, and the *paso-doble* is the brazen Spanish march that announces the parade of bullfighters which begins each afternoon's proceedings in the arena. Our papa's waltz, unlike Roethke's or Ike McCaslin's, does not begin with whiskey; ours is a two-step, played by trumpets and laced with dark rum.

— James Hinkle  
San Diego State

### Note on the Judgment of Manitou

Several have remarked on the appropriateness of the *Mannlicher* which Margot Macomber used to kill Francis, and I suppose there must have been those who noted that Nick, once again alone after his experience with Ad and Bugs, is walking up the railway tracks toward *Man-celona*, but I am not aware that anyone has remarked that Harry met his death, equally appropriately, on the plain beside *Kilimanjaro*.

— James Hinkle  
San Diego State

### Note That Even Hemingway Added a "k"

Some time ago, in *Hemingway notes*, I referred to Lieutenant Henry's first name in *A Farewell to Arms* and said that midway in Chapter XIII, when he's asked what his name is, replies, "Henry, Frederick Henry." In numerous articles and in some books on Hemingway, the name is spelled "Frederick." The only correct way to spell it is "Frederic," Ernest Hemingway's way.

But we all make mistakes, even Hemingway.

In Paul Smith's article, "Almost All Is Vanity: A Note on Nine Rejected Titles for *A Farewell to Arms*," in *The Hemingway Review*, Vol. 2 (Fall 1982), 74, a MS. in the Hemingway Collection at the John F. Kennedy Library is quoted, which I assume to be written by Hemingway himself, listing rejected titles to the novel; and No. 17 is "The Sentimental Education of Frederick Henry."

So those critics who add the extra "k" are in good company; Hemingway did the same thing.

— William White  
Rollins College

### Note on Hemingway Comparison in a Record Review

In a record album review of Fleetwood Mac's "Mirage" and Warren Zevon's "The Envoy," there is this interesting reference to Hemingway:

If Fleetwood Mac's "Mirage" is a glib and enchanting soundtrack for a fantasy film, "The Envoy" is the perfect score for Hemingway's "Farewell to Arms" or "The Sun Also Rises." At times tender, often insolent, and always urgent, "The Envoy" is Zevon at his eccentric best.

— Written by Geoff Long, staff writer for the Grand Forks (N.D.) *Herald* (Aug. 6, 1982) and contributed to *The Newsletter* by Bob Lewis, University of North Dakota.

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### Publication of The Hemingway Society

#### Executive Committee:

Paul Smith, Trinity College, President  
James Brasch, McMaster U.  
Robert W. Lewis, U. of North Dakota  
James Nagel, Northeastern U.  
Bernard Oldsey, West Chester State  
Jackie Tavernier-Courbin, U. of Ottawa  
Charles M. Oliver, Ohio Northern U., Editor

#### Editorial Office:

Department of English  
Ohio Northern University  
Ada, OH. 45810

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