

The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of The Hemingway Society

No. 13/January 1987

Conference Planned for Austria, 1988

Schruns, a lovely valley town in Western Austria, will be the site of the next International Hemingway Conference. The executive board of the Hemingway Society recommended the site to the membership at its annual meeting during the MLA Convention last month, and the vote was unanimous.

The dates are June 19-24, 1988, and Frank Scafella (West Virginia U.) was appointed program director. The general theme for the conference, according to Scafella, is "A Reassessment of Ernest Hemingway." There will be three topics under this theme: "Fiction and Biography," "Fiction and Manuscripts," and "Fiction and Psyche (Psychology)." The deadline for completed papers is September 15, 1987. Tod Oliver was appointed on-site chairman, and he will be sending information to members as it becomes available.

Schruns, where Hemingway stayed during the winter of 1925-26 (see *A Moveable Feast* 198-211) and, among other things, revised *The Sun Also Rises*, is a resort town with 65 hotels, public indoor and outdoor swimming pools, tennis courts, riding stables, and some of the best hiking in the world. The town is at 700 meters but is surrounded by mountains, the highest of which is 2,386 meters (the Zamangspitze), and one of which (the Hochjoch at 2,520 meters) can be hiked to by way of the Madlener-Haus where Ernest and Hadley usually rested after their hike up before skiing down. Now there is a gondola funicular that goes to 2,100 meters and drops its passengers at a restaurant with a magnificent view and lots of paths.

Zurich has the nearest international airport, and the three-hour train ride to Schruns winds down through the Swiss mountains to the Rhine and Feldkirch and then up the Montafon Valley.

New Hemingway Film Reviewed

"Ernest Hemingway: Grace Under Pressure" is the title of "the first major film biography of the man who single-handedly forged the modern novel." Advertised in a catalog for The Center for Humanities, Inc. (Communications Park, Box 1000, Mount Kisco, NY 10549), the film "shows the relationship between Hemingway's life and works, and evaluates both." Anthony Burgess is the author-narrator and "provides background commentary and insights." The video film is 55 minutes in color for \$299; rental fee is \$65.

Lewis Elected Society President

Robert W. Lewis (U. of North Dakota) is the new president of The Hemingway Society, elected during the annual meeting Dec. 29 at the MLA Convention in New York. Lewis, editor of *The North Dakota Review* and program director for the Lignano conference last summer, replaces Jim Nagel (Northeastern U.), president since 1983.

New executive board members were also elected: Susan Beegel (U. of Massachusetts/Nantucket), Allen Josephs (U. of West Florida), and Linda Miller (Penn State/Ogontz) to three-year terms; Ken Rosen (Dickinson C.) and Jim Nagel (Northeastern) to two-year terms.

Other action taken at the meeting included the appointment of Dick Davison (U. of Delaware) to organize the sessions on Hemingway for the 1988 MLA convention in New Orleans and the reappointment of Tod Oliver (Ohio Northern U.) as editor of publications. Paul Smith (Trinity C.), the Society's first president, introduced a resolution thanking Nagel for his work as president during the past three years, "leading us from . . . an era of box lunches to one of formal dinners at the Ritz-Paris." International conferences in Madrid (1984) and Lignano (1986) came during Nagel's presidency, and membership has grown from 115 to nearly 300.

Books Recent and Forthcoming

Bakker, J. *Ernest Hemingway in Holland, 1925-1981: A Comparative Analysis of the Contemporary Dutch and American Critical Reception of His Work*. Atlantic Highlands, NJ: Humanities P International, 1986.

Brucoli, Matthew J., ed. *Conversations with Ernest Hemingway*. Jackson, Ms.: UP Mississippi, November, 1986. [41 interviews].

Bloom, Harold, ed. *Modern Critical Interpretations: A Farewell to Arms*. New York: Chelsea House, 1987.

—, ed. *Modern Critical Interpretations: The Sun Also Rises*. New York: Chelsea House, 1987.

—, ed. *Modern Critical Views: Ernest Hemingway*. New York: Chelsea House, 1985.

Clockwatch Review (Vol. III, No. 2). Hartland, Wi.: Driftwood Publications, 1986. [Special Issue devoted mostly to Hemingway, published in conjunction with "Hemingway Days '86," Key West.]

Lignano Memories Linger

Everyone who was there wants to make Lignano Sabbiadoro the permanent site for future Hemingway conferences. That's how good it was.

Lignano's Mayor Steno Meroi and the city council put on a week-long show that lingers still in the memories and on the tastebuds. The setting was beautiful (for members who weren't there, see the photograph of the convention center jutting out into the Adriatic in the June 1985 *Newsletter*); the luncheon spreads each day at the center were magnificent, the local wines and champagnes complementing the salmon loaves; the dinners too were splendid, hosted by two famous old Northern Italian families (Roberta Kechler on Monday, Gianfranco Ivancich on Tuesday), by the cities of Udine, Cividale del Friuli, and Gorizia on Thursday, and by Mayor Meroi at the Lignano zoo on Friday. There were 44 papers presented during the week (see the list in the June 1986 *Newsletter*).

There was a tour to Venice on Tuesday, highlighted for some by being turned away at Harry's Bar because Hillary Hemingway (Leicester's granddaughter) and her friend Jeff Freundlich had on shorts and by being supported in the incident by Burt Reynolds (with a friend, the only customers in the bar) who told the maitre d' that not letting us in was "shitty." Burt added that "The only reason I'm here is because of Hemingway." All to no avail. Lignano Mayor Meroi hosted us for lunch at the Europa Hotel, an exquisite meal matched in the Society's collective memory only by Candido's roast suckling pig in Segovia, 1984.

Thursday, homage was generously paid to Hemingway and the Society by three of the cities central to Hemingway's fiction: Udine, Cividale del Friuli, and Gorizia. At the castle in Udine we were feted, toasted, and fed while honors and speeches were liberally exchanged. At Cividale, we were conducted on a fascinating tour of the ancient city after being similarly toasted, dined, and celebrated, and, finally, at the Villa Trento outside Gorizia, which had been the headquarters for the First British Red Cross Unit for Italy, and where the British nurses were quartered and the casualties from the Isonzo front had been brought, Alpini units of the Italian army and Red Cross nurses dressed in the uniforms of Frederic Henry's war. The Alpini military band went through its elaborate formations and played throughout the

afternoon and evening, an Alpini chorus serenaded, and a group of Friulani singers in native costumes sang. We were issued mess kits and joined the army in its chow line, eating with them and our many titled hosts in the long vaulted rooms of the wine cellars of the villa.

For the Friday banquet, we took a boat up the Tagliamento River a half mile or so to the zoo, where a festival of eating took place, and where, in an emotional midnight ending to the conference, the mayor toasted his American friends and, moving from one to another of us, touched his glass to each of ours.

—The editor and
Robin Gajdusek



PHOTOS FROM LIGNANO CONFERENCE: *Above*, the wine cellars under Villa Trento echo song after song as Americans and Italians join in singing and eating; *bottom left*, at the Europa Hotel luncheon, from left to right, Jim Freeman (U. of Mass./Amherst), Elizabeth Zingoni-Nuti (Florence, Italy), Dick Davison (U. of Delaware), Ghanda di Figlia (Watertown, Ma.), and Margaret Freeman (Amherst, Ma.); *bottom center*, Sparrow and H.R. Stoneback entertain at the Friday banquet; and *bottom right*, Italian Red Cross nurses and soldiers in WWI uniforms pose at the Villa Trento. (Photos at the Villa Trento courtesy of Robin Gajdusek).



Notes and Queries

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—Adeline Tintner
(New York)

Bull Fight Ticket Information Wrong

A note by Adeline R. Tintner in the June 1986 *Hemingway Newsletter* reproduces a photograph of a bull fight ticket in a recent catalog of David Schulson, a New York City autograph dealer. The ticket is signed by "Ernesto Hemingway" and "Antonio Ordóñez" on verso. And the catalog description says that Ordóñez was Pedro Romero in *The Sun Also Rises*.

I am quite sure that Ms. Tintner and the editor of the *Newsletter* realize that Mr. Schulson confused Antonio Ordóñez with his father Cayetano Ordóñez, the nineteen-year old matador Hemingway saw in his first season at the feria of San Fermín in Pamplona in 1925. The character of Romero was based in part upon Cayetano Ordóñez who sometimes fought under the professional name of Niña de la Palma. Hemingway met Antonio Ordóñez in Pamplona in 1953. His *mano a mano* against his brother-in-law, Dominquín, in the spring and summer of 1959 became the subject of *The Dangerous Summer*.

While it may seem pedantic to make this rather obvious distinction, some readers unfamiliar with the autograph market might not realize that an item signed by Hemingway and Cayetano Ordóñez would be quite scarce and well worth the seemingly astronomical price of \$825, since Hemingway knew the young matador only casually and neither of them were celebrities at the time of their acquaintance in the 1920s. Items signed by Hemingway and Antonio Ordóñez in the summer of 1959 are considerably more common. But Antonio was *not* Romero.

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The Rosado of the Campanas

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—Aden Hayes
(St. Lawrence Univ.) and
Delbert E. Wylder
(Murray State Univ.)

Hemingway in the Marketplace

First Margaux was spokesmodel for Babe cosmetics. Then Mariel hawked Noxzema skin cream and Maxwell House coffee ("Instant Sophistication"). And soon the commercialization of Hemingway will hit new, even more explicit heights: according to the *Detroit News*, Papa's descendants have formed a company to "capitalize on the author's macho image" by licensing the family name on a variety of products. And yes, "Hemingway family members" — presumably including Margaux and Mariel — "will be available as spokesmen, models in advertisements and for public appearances for licenses of the Hemingway brand names." The first product chosen for marketing under the Hemingway brand name is a rifle to be manufactured by Bernaldelli, Italian gunsmiths, for \$1,000.

—Alice Hall Petry
(Rhode Island School of
Design) and news clips
from several others.

Ketcham Tourists Welcomed

Hemingway is well represented at the Tourist Information Center in Ketcham, Id. "Summer in Sun Valley" lists locations of The Alpine (new Whiskey Jacque), Hemingway's home, the cemetery, and the memorial.

The Idaho Travel Committee also has a limited edition print (17x22 inches) of Hemingway by Bart Forbes, used in summer advertising. Send \$35 to Room 108, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720.

—Allan Fesmire
(Lexington, Tn.)

Commemorations of Hemingway's Death

There were at least three programs last summer, in widely separate parts of the world, commemorating the 25th anniversary of Hemingway's death, July 2, 1961.

There was a three-week conference at the Hemingway Museum, Finca Vigia, outside Havana; *La Figaro* did a bibliography of its own articles on Hemingway for a special 25th anniversary issue; and there was a conference in China.

The Havana conference, July 2-22, "Primer Coloquio Sobre la Vida y Obra de Ernest Hemingway," had a daily program of events and lectures at Finca Vigia, hosted by museum director, Gladys Rodríguez Ferrero. The *La Figaro* bibliography was due out in late summer, and Jim Friend (Chicago) was scheduled to attend the conference in China.

Western Program in Hemingway's Name

Here is a passage from the Boise State University catalog, describing a new Western studies program named for Hemingway. "The Hemingway Western Studies Series at Boise State University has been made possible through the cooperation of the Hemingway family and is intended to encourage study and appreciation of Western American Culture."

Two of the books published in the program are titled *The Literature of Idaho* and *An Introduction to the Archaeology of Southern Idaho*.

* * * * *

SVR in Travel Magazine

Travel and Leisure (October 1986) has a feature article "Sun Valley Also Rises" by Tom Bates. There are several references to Ernest Hemingway and to other family members, notably Jack.

* * * * *

John Gardner on Hemingway

Raymond Carver in his "Foreword" to John Gardner's *On Becoming a Novelist* (Harper, 1985: xv): "I remember Gardner telling me, 'Read all the Faulkner you can get your hands on, and then read all of Hemingway to clean the Faulkner out of your system.'"

—Robert W. Lewis
(U. of North Dakota)

Now a Pop Culture Credo

Ernest Hemingway's sardonic credo "grace under pressure" is among household words now. The *San Francisco Chronicle's* columnist Herb Caen announces (June 4, 1986) a candidate for "a Hemingway award for grace under pressure," a San Francisco bar pianist. Reportedly, "feeling a heart attack coming on, he managed to get off a chorus of 'There Goes My Heart' before collapsing." Hemingway's credo may be a trend-setter.

—Teddy Wojnicki
(Defense Language Inst.)

Doonesbury and Hemingway

Here's another item for the collectors of popular culture. A selection of Gary Trudeau cartoons from the book *The Wreck of the Rusty Nail* has been published by Fawcett as a Doonesbury Book, titled *A Farewell to Alms*. The cover has a Trudeau drawing of the White House, a movie scene slate marked "Scene 19, Take 82" and titled "Let The Good Times Roll."

—Peter Hays
(U. of California/Davis)

Marist College Holds Conference

The Hudson Valley MLA had a session on Hemingway at its meeting Dec. 1-2 at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY. Papers were read by James Hinkle (San Diego State), "Henry's Bicycle and Ernest's Yacht"; Allen Josephs (U. of West Florida), "The Pruning of *The Garden of Eden*"; and Paul Smith (Trinity C.), "The Myth and History of Hemingway's First Book, *Three Stories and Ten Poems*." Session chairman was H.R. Stoneback.

Hemingway Look-Alikes Gather

Key West, Fl., holds a week-long Hemingway Festival in July, and last summer marked their sixth such event. *Signature* magazine, published by Diner's Club, carried a story in its July issue and described the 1930s-style costume ball, street fairs, food fests, and the annual Hemingway Look-Alike Contest (with a photograph of ten contestants).

—Henry Hoche
(Glenville, NC)

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Executive Committee:

Robert W. Lewis, U. of North Dakota, President
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Editorial Office:

Department of English
Ohio Northern University
Ada, OH. 45810

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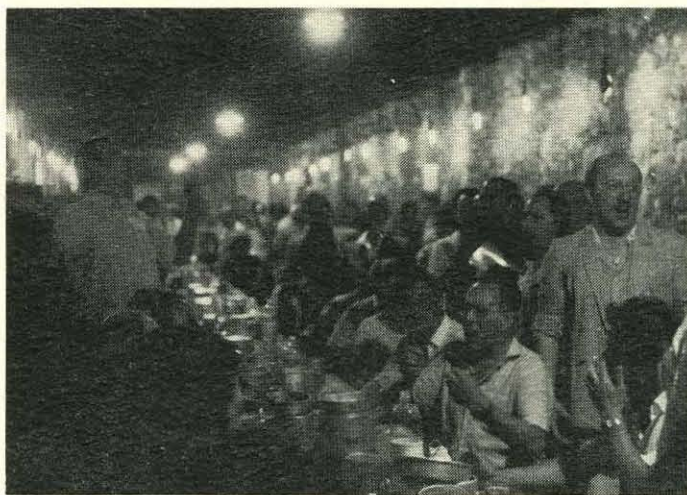
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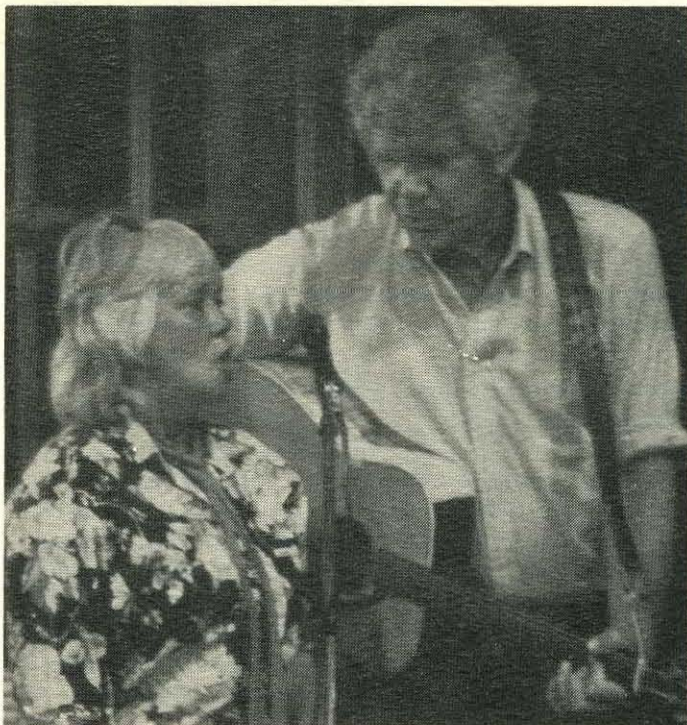
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