

The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of The Hemingway Society

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May EH Conference in Provence Includes "Extraordinary" Events

Some extraordinary events are included in the plans for the 8th International Hemingway Conference, scheduled for Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, France, May 25-31. *Newsletter* readers should have already in hand a registration packet, which will no doubt duplicate some of the following information. H.R. Stoneback is the on-site chair for the conference and spent the fall semester in Les Saintes working on the details.

Keynote speakers include A.E. Hotchner and Valerie Hemingway. William Kennedy and Milan Kundera have been invited but had not responded at press time. The scholarly program, directed by Robert W. Lewis (Univ. of North Dakota) is forthcoming.

Special events include the following:

1. *Corrida de Hemingway*. Bullfighters Antonio Ordóñez (see *The Dangerous Summer*) and Luc Jalabert will stage a corrido in the arena in Les Saintes, across the street from the Convention Center. As the European press has already announced, Ordóñez will serve as impresario and will also bring, for exhibition, his personal collection of Hemingway photographs and documents. The corrido is the opening event of the conference on May 25 and is included in the cost of registration and open to the public. Tickets will be in registration packets. Prof. Stoneback recommends that conferees arrive in town by noon the 25th, in order to register in time for the corrido, set for late afternoon.

2. *Tour de Hemingway*. This event will follow—with participants riding horses or bicycles—part of the route through the spectacular Camargue back-country, known locally as "the profound and secret Camargue," that Ernest and Pauline Hemingway cycled through on their way to the "Gypsy Pilgrimage" in 1927. Stoneback notes that it will *not* be a difficult tour, approximately ten kilometers, perhaps two hours by horseback. The Camargue is the horseback riding capital of Europe, and the horses are gentle, the guides professional and patient. The guides say that "anyone from eight to 80 can do it easily." Participants will see wild horses, bulls, birds, and no cars.

3. *Bus tour*. Coordination of the Tour de Hemingway is linked with a bus tour, which will take in Les Baux, le Grau-du-Roi, and Aigues-Mortes, all places import-

(Continued on p. 2)

Provence Hotels Still Available

Recent correspondence from Prof. H.R. Stoneback (SUNY/New Paltz) in Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, France, urges Hemingway Society members to make hotel reservations for the May conference in Les Saintes if they have not already done so. He says that the "most urgent difference between this conference and others is this: early booking of lodging is essential."

Here is a sampling of hotels still available:

1. \$38-60 per night double. In-village lodging: L'Abrivado overlooks the beach and is next door to the convention center (Stoneback recommends the terrace rooms only—ask for "terrasse avec vue sur mer"); others hotels include Les Palmiers, Les Arcades, Lou Marques, Lou Maset Coucagno, and Hotel de la Plage. Four miles outside of the village, there is Les Mas de Layalle with a country setting, including horses, and nice hotel rooms with baths.

2. \$60-95 double. In-village, there is Le Bleu Marine with a swimming pool and near the beach; outside the village, there are L'Etrier Camarguais, Le Mangio Fango, Le Boumian, Le Clamador, and Mas St. Helene, all with country settings and swimming pools.

For reservations, send requests to Dominique Francingues (she speaks English). Fax to or phone 04-90-97-75-03; from the U.S. the overseas and France numbers must be included and the first zero dropped, thus 011-33-4-90-97-75-03. The mailing address is Camargue Congrès, 13460 Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, France. E-mail <saintes-maries@enprovence.com>. Stoneback recommends a Fax as more reliable than e-mail. He urges anyone who has reserved a room but has not received confirmation to send the following request to Mme Francingues: "Please reconfirm my booking, since I fear that your earlier confirmation may have gone astray."

Kennedy, Svoboda Elected

J. Gerald Kennedy (LSU) and Fred Svoboda (Univ. of Michigan/Flint) were elected to The Hemingway Society's Board of Directors in the fall election. See the current list of board members in the masthead on p. 8.

Following are the vote results: Gerry Kennedy (768 votes), Fred Svoboda (783), Rose Marie Burwell (883), Donald Jenkins (895), Sandra Spanier (896), Peter Hays (924), Richard Davison (998), and Jacqueline Brogan (1089).

In a site preference poll for the 2000 International Conference, Bimini received 120 votes and Nice, France 55. (Note that the 2000 Fitzgerald Conference will be in Nice; see story, p. 4).

Provence Conference story cont.

ant to Hemingway (see *The Garden of Eden*). The mayors and local dignitaries in these towns will greet conferees, followed by lunch on the Place Saint-Louis in the medieval, walled village of Aigues-Mortes. A *pena* (brass band) will start off the tour de Hemingway. Everyone will see a good stretch of Hemingway's route through the Camargue as the buses move to the ruins of a Vauban fort, the starting place of the "tour." The buses will go on to the tour finish line at a country auberge, where *apéritifs* and music will be served and the presentation of Tour de Hemingway certificates to the horseback riders and bicyclists. Registration for this event and the choice of transportation is required before arrival in Les Saintes. The appropriate boxes must be checked on the registration form.

4. *Concours de Petanque*. The game of *boules* (or *petanque*) is one of the defining sights in Provence, and the local Petanque Association has organized a special *boules* event, open to everyone, especially beginners. Included in the cost of registration.

5. Nîmes Feria Trip. Includes the *Pentecôte Feria*, a reception by the city of Nîmes, and an inauguration of the Bar Hemingway at the Hotel Impérator, one of Hemingway's favorites. An afternoon and evening will be devoted to this visit to Nîmes, where The Hemingway Society will be the honored guests of the city and of the Conseil Régional Languedoc-Roussillon. Not an extra-fee event. Free buses will be provided, and *apéritifs* will be served at the newly named bar. Stoneback requests that if anyone has photographs or anecdotes about Hemingway-at-the-Impérator, he would like to have them for a permanent exhibition at the bar.

This tour will also include the *Pentecôte Feria* in Nîmes, and many may wish to attend a *corrida* in the "best-preserved Roman Arena in the world." Tickets must be reserved no later than April 1 with a Fax to Mme. Pascale de Salaberry at 04-66-76-06-95 (from the U.S. at 011-33-4-66-76-06-95). Ask for: *Première et Toril Bas* (best seats) between ff 400-500; *Seconde et Toril Haut* between ff 300-400; *Tribunes Torils et Secondes Deuxième Serie* between ff 200-250; or non-numbered *Amphithéâtres* seats about ff 100. Tickets may be picked up and paid for at the Arena on *corrida* day, but they may want a credit card number when you order.

Another Nîmes option, under negotiation at press time, may be the opportunity to dine at the Hôtel Impérator, with access to the Bodegas, the "privileged center of feria activities," for approximately half the normal price. Those who choose not to go to the *corrida* or dine at the Impérator will have ample time for sightseeing.

Nîmes in summary: the bus and reception are free, but conferees must check the registration form to indicate that they plan to go.

5. Final Banquet. This will be held on Saturday night (May 30) at an authentic Camargue *Manade*, the "ranch" of a bull-breeder. Conferees will be welcomed by

Gardians on horseback and be invited to witness a *Ferrade* (or ceremonial "branding" event); the *cocardiers* (fighting bulls of La Course Camarguaise) will be in action, and conferees will have the opportunity to enter the bullring and try their speed, skill, and courage with a *cocardier*. A dinner of regional food will be served at the "ranch," with Provençal songs and dances. This event is also included in the registration fee.

6. Other Activities. There is a "social registration" option for those not attending the academic program. It includes all of the "special events." There are miles of beaches, plus horseback riding, nature trails, regional and national parks close by with lots of wildlife, boat-trips on the Mediterranean and Le Petit Rhône (special prices have been negotiated), deep-sea fishing opportunities, village tours, and the running of bulls in village streets.

Arles is 20 minutes from Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, with its Roman and Medieval remains and museums. And within 40 minutes of Les Saintes, in almost any direction, are Roman ruins, historical monuments, museums, medieval churches and abbeys, walled villages, vineyards, restaurants, etc.

Stoneback sums up his on-site information by quoting a local Provençal poet who said, "I am sure that all Hemingway aficionados know that Paris is a moveable feast; but do they know that Provence is that a thousand times more, that Provence is an infinite, glorious fête?" Stoneback answered that some do, but those who don't know *will know* after this conference.

Paul Smith Fund Grows

The Paul Smith Memorial Fund is slowly gathering size. Some funds, however, were received by the chair of the memorial committee, Gerry Brenner, without identification.

Brenner has stated that anyone who did not receive a formal acknowledgment of a donation should let him know the amount and the approximate date of the donation so he can thank the donor on behalf of The Hemingway Society.

Note on EH Centennials

A number of Hemingway Centennial Conferences are being planned for the summer of 1999, the hundredth anniversary of the author's birth. Information about these conferences should be mailed to *The Hemingway Newsletter*, Charles M. Oliver, editor, 1417 Ricky Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901. The June 1998 and January 1999 issues will publish news of all the centennials.

Oak Park Web Site Offers Books

The Oak Park Foundation web site carries books available for sale from Amazon.com, the largest of the internet booksellers. The Foundation receives 15 percent of sales made through its web page. The Oak Park address is <http://www.hemingway.org/hemingway>.

The Foundation also carries used books and Hemingway first editions; call (708) 386-4363.

Oak Park Looks to 1999 Celebration

The Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park is particularly busy during the next year and a half as it looks toward its centennial celebration in 1999.

The Foundation established themes for 1997 and 1998. The 1997 theme was "Hemingway and the Natural World," highlighted last summer at the annual Oak Park Hemingway birthday celebration with a talk by Prof. Bickford Sylvester titled "Hemingway and the Natural World: Moral and Artistic Aspects of Hemingway's Perspective." The 1998 theme is "Hemingway and the Arts."

One of the most ambitious undertakings by the Foundation is a "marathon study" of 55 of Hemingway's short stories, done mostly one story per session. The series of discussions began in September and will continue through 1999. The sessions take place at the Hemingway birthplace home at 339 N. Oak Park Ave., now owned by the Foundation.

The \$60,000 challenge grant goal for the Birthplace Centennial Restoration Campaign was met for 1997. A late-December gift of \$5,000 from actor John Mahoney, who lives in Oak Park, pushed the grant over the top.

BELOW IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE PALAIS DES CONGRES IN LES SAINTES-MARIES-DE-LA-MER, FRANCE, SITE OF THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL HEMINGWAY CONFERENCE, MAY 25-31. PHOTO COURTESY OF H.R. STONEBACK, THE ON-SITE CHAIR. SEE STORIES, PP. 1-2.

Dos Passos Letters to U. of Virginia

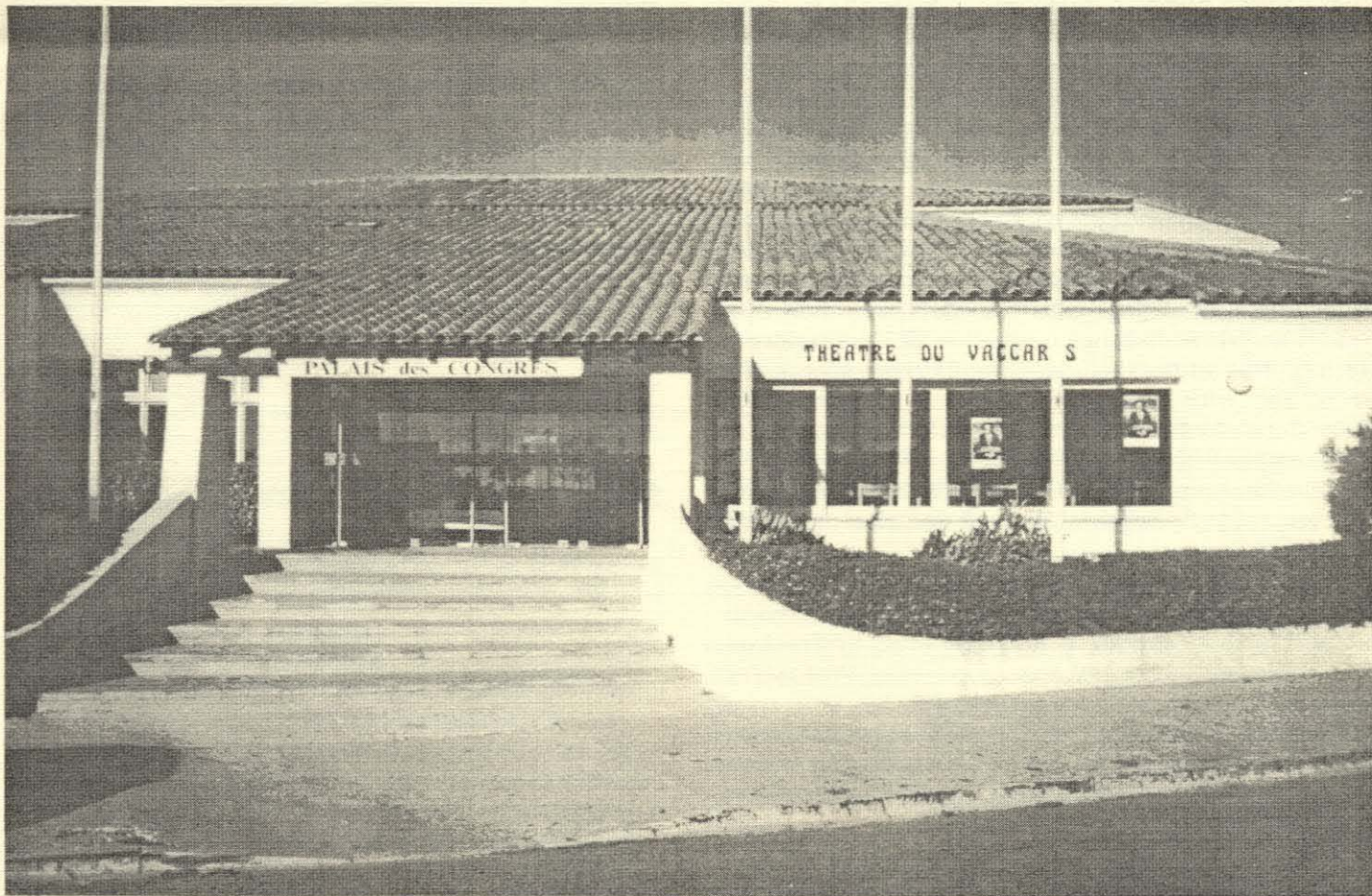
The widow of John Dos Passos, Elizabeth Holdridge Dos Passos, donated to the Univ. of Virginia's Alderman Library last fall all of the personal and literary letters written to her husband, including 30 letters from Hemingway. Dos Passos died in 1970.

The gift of letters brings the total number of Hemingway letters owned by the library to nearly 150. The Waller Barrett Collection contains about 115 letters, most to A.E. Hotchner, as well as 22 manuscript and typescript materials of various works, the most important of which is the holograph manuscript of *Green Hills of Africa*.

According to the library's newsletter, Hemingway's letters to Dos Passos "gossip about mutual friends, praise Dos Passos' writing, and describe life in Key West."

The gift, appraised at \$730,000, completes the Dos Passos Collection at Virginia, which includes first editions and manuscripts, annotated manuscripts, and typescripts of all his novels, histories, works of journalism, poetry, and most of his short stories. The collection also includes family correspondence, diaries, and his parents' papers.

Dos Passos became interested in the Univ. of Virginia during the writing of his book *The Head and Heart of Thomas Jefferson*, the founder of the university. He was writer-in-residence at the university in 1963.



Hemingway, Bonefish Willie, and Outdoor World

By Keneth Kinnamon
(Univ. of Arkansas)

Travelers on Interstate 44 between St. Louis and Tulsa should make a point of stopping in Springfield, Missouri, for a visit to Outdoor World. This centerpiece of the Bass Pro Shops empire of Johnny Morris is an enormous sporting goods store complete with aquarium shows, an indoor simulated Ozark stream, a four-story waterfall dropping into a trout pool, an excellent trophy wildlife collection, a rod-and-reel repair shop, a large collection of antique fishing tackle, and even a barber shop.

After exploring the first three levels, Hemingway types can ride an elevator to the fourth level to eat at Hemingway's Blue Water Café, featuring a large marine aquarium behind a long bar; seventeen well-selected photographs at various periods of his life, usually engaged in fishing or hunting; trophy fish mounts; game heads; African masks and sculptures; a large painting of Santiago battling his marlin; and, most important, Bonefish Willie's ancient skiff, formerly serving as an oyster bar but now suspended from the ceiling.

But who was Bonefish Willie and why did Johnny Morris name his Outdoor World restaurant for Hemingway? The late Willie James Duncombe of Bimini was a bonefish guide and a deacon of the local black Anglican church. (Don Junkins informs me that in Bimini several black and white families have the same surname, but that the proprietor of The Compleat Angler on Bimini, Helen Duncombe, was white.) As the back of the menu at Hemingway's Blue Water Café explains: "It was legendary flats guide Bonefish Willie on the island of Bimini in the Bahamas who first triggered John Morris' admiration for Ernest Hemingway and his great literary works. As a youngster, Johnny fished the Bimini flats with Bonefish, who had also been a long-time fishing companion of Hemingway's. Johnny was enthralled as Bonefish recounted his adventures with Hemingway pursuing the 'grey ghost of the flats.' Years later, John had the opportunity to buy Bonefish Willie's old flats fishing skiff, which is now displayed in Hemingway's Blue Water Café as a tribute to Hemingway, Bonefish Willie, and the sport of saltwater fishing."

Elsewhere on the menu Morris cites, rather predictably, his favorite passage in Hemingway: "He loved to fish and to shoot exactly as much as when he first had gone with his father. It was a passion that never slackened and he was very grateful to his father for bringing him to know it." Morris also urges customers "to pick up a copy of *The Old Man and the Sea* in our lobby and read it to a youngster. The child will enjoy it and so will you!"

1998 Hemingway Conferences:

Here is a list of conferences for 1998 involving scholarly papers on Ernest Hemingway.

1. Cuba Symposium, Ambos Mundos Hotel, Havana (March 31-April 4). The first of two Cuba conferences this year, this one celebrating the 70th anniversary of Hemingway's first visit to Cuba. Registration is \$80; details available at Instituto Internacional de Periodismo Jose Marti, Calle 6 #503, Vedado, CP 10 400, Habana, Cuba or e-mail <yankro@instjm.sld.cu>

2. The 8th International Hemingway Conference, Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, France (May 25-31). Topic: "Hemingway in Provence." Deadline for papers was Sept. 15, 1997. For further information on the conference, see the story, pp. 1-2.

3. American Literature Assn., San Diego, CA (May 28-31). Topic: "Hemingway in the Next Millenium." Two sessions are scheduled, one to be chaired by Fern Kory, the second by Peter Hays. Kory is looking for scholarly papers of 8-12 pages; Hays wants one-page papers with a provocative topic sentence and just enough argument to spark discussion. Deadline for papers was Jan. 15. For further information, send questions to Prof. Fern Kory, Eastern Illinois Univ., Charleston, IL 61920 (e-mail <effek@eiu.edu>, or to Prof. Peter Hays, Univ. of California/Davis, Davis, CA 95616 (e-mail <phlays@ucdavis.edu>).

4. Cuba Conference (Sept. 21-24), "Hemingway Discovers Cuba." (see registration information in #1 above.)

5. Illinois Assn. of Teachers of English, Bloomington, IL, (Oct. 23-24), "Hemingway and More." Conference site is Indian Lakes Resort and is open to teachers of English at any grade level, including college.

6. South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta, GA (Nov. 5-7), "Hemingway and the Undergraduates: Why Read Hemingway? How?" Inquiries and submissions (15-20 minute reading time) should be sent by May 1 to session moderator George Cheatham, Dept. of English, Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC 27403; e-mail <Cheathamg@gborocollege.edu>

7. Modern Language Assn. Convention, San Francisco, CA (Dec. 27-30). There will be two sessions: "Family Dynamics in Hemingway's Fiction," chaired by Rose Marie Burwell; and "Recent Theoretical Approaches to Hemingway's Work," chaired by Gerry Brenner. Deadline is Feb. 15. Contact the moderators for further information: Prof. Burwell at 410 N. Oak Park Ave., #2, Oak Park, IL 60302/ e-mail <rmb39@interaccess.com>; or Prof. Brenner at Dept. of English, Univ. of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812/ e-mail <koala2@selway.umt.edu>.

2000 Fitzgerald Conference in Nice

An International Conference on F. Scott Fitzgerald will be held in Nice, France, in early July, 2000. There will be a session on Hemingway and Fitzgerald, and papers and proposals are invited. Contact Jack Bryer, Dept. of English, Univ. of Maryland, College Park 20742 (e-mail <Jackson_R_Bryer@umail.umd.edu>).

Fitzgerald-Wolfe Meeting Planned

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Society and the Thomas Wolfe Festival committee are sponsoring a conference in Asheville, NC, for September 24-27, 1998.

Deadline for papers, letters of intent, and abstracts is March 15. Send to Prof. Ruth Prigozy, Dept. of English, Hofstra Univ., Hempstead, NY.

Books Recent & Forthcoming

- Boker, Pamela A. *The Grief Taboo in American Literature: Loss and Prolonged Adolescence in Twain, Melville, and Hemingway*. NY: New York Univ. Press, 1996.
- Brucoli, Matthew J., ed. *The Only Thing that Counts: The Ernest Hemingway/Maxwell Perkins Correspondence, 1925-1947*. Scribner's, 1997. \$35.
- Civello, Paul. *American Literary Naturalism and Its Twentieth-Century Transformations: Frank Norris, Ernest Hemingway, and Don DeLillo*. Univ. of Georgia Press, 1994.
- Dolan, Marc. *Modern Lives: A Cultural Re-reading of "the Lost Generation"*. Purdue Univ. Press, 1997. \$16.95.
- Gajdusek, Robin. *Resurrection: A War Journey*. Notre Dame Univ. Press, 1997. 256 pp. \$30 cloth, \$16 paper, plus \$3.50 shipping. [Memoir of one week during World War II when the 95th Infantry Division, Gajdusek's unit, was chosen to spearhead an assault by Patton's Third Army on the German fortifications at Metz, France. Many references to Hemingway, who was, at the same time (November 1944), with Buck Lanham along the Allied front line in France a little further north.]
- Olson, Barbara K. *Authorial Divinity in the Twentieth Century: Omniscient Narration in Woolf, Hemingway, and Others*. Lewisburg, PA: Bucknell Univ. Press, 1997.
- Percival, Philip H. *Hunting, Settling and Remembering*. Agoura, CA: Trophy Room Books, 1997. 230 pp. \$85 plus \$6 shipping. [Ltd. edition, numbered, signed by Percival's grandson; includes 150 photographs from the author's photo album; text completed in 1961. An autobiography, full of hunting anecdotes and photographs by a man considered by Hemingway to be the best guide in East Africa.]
- Pizer, Donald. *American Expatriate Writing and the Paris Moment: Modernism and Place*. Louisiana State Univ. Press, 1996.
- Rogal, Samuel J. *For Whom the Dinner Bell Tolls: The Role and Function of Food and Drink in the Prose of Ernest Hemingway*. Bethesda, MD: International Scholars Publications, 1997.
- Wilkinson, Myler. *The Dark Mirror: American Literary Response to Russia*. Lang, 1997. \$42.95. [Chapters on Hemingway, Anderson, Cather, and James.]
- Yenne, Bill. *100 Authors Who Shaped World History*. San Francisco: Bluewood Books, 1996.

Videos

- Ernest Hemingway, The Man: A Biographical Interpretation with Carlos Baker. Mount Kisco, NY: Guidance Associates [1980 or 1987?]. [A 34-minute video and teacher's manual; relates biography to specific portions of his work.]
- Hemingway: His Sister Sunny Talks about the Formative Years up in Michigan. [Traverse City, MI]. Dave Fortin Productions, 1988. [45-minute video; includes interviews with Sunny Hemingway Miller and Ken Marek.]
- Hemingway in Cuba. West Long Beach, NJ: Kultur International Films, 1996. [30-minute video.]
- Playwrights 56. Montroe, CT: NBC-TV production company; Video Yesteryear distributor, 1981. 1955. 60-minute adaptation of "The Battler," broadcast live on NBC on Oct. 18, 1955. Cast includes Dewey Martin, Paul Newman, Phyllis Kirk, Frederick O'Neal, Richard Collier. [A.E. Hotchner's amalgamation of several stories featuring Nick Adams.]
- The Spanish Earth. Contemporary Historians, Inc., a film by Joris Ivens. Burbank, CA: Hollywood's Attic, 1996 [1937]. [52-minute video release of the 1937 film; commentary written and narrated by Hemingway.]

EH Biographer James Mellow Dies

James Mellow, who wrote *Hemingway: A Life Without Consequences* (1992), died at his home in Rockport, MA, Nov. 22, 1997. He was 71. Mellow also wrote *Charmed Circle: Gertrude Stein & Company* (1974), *Nathaniel Hawthorne in His Times* (1983), and *Invented Lives: F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald* (1984).

Blixen Museum Opens Exhibit

Last summer the Karen Blixen Museum and home at Rungstedlund, north of Copenhagen, Denmark, held an exhibition of 10 writers' houses. Shown were photographs from nine writers' houses, plus Karen Blixen's own home and her library of books by the nine other authors. She is best known for her novel *Out of Africa*.

Hemingway was represented by photographs from the Key West house, plus Blixen's copies of *The Torrents of Spring*, *The Sun Also Rises*, *Across the River and Into the Trees*, and *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Though Blixen and Hemingway never met, Hemingway knew well her first husband, the Swedish hunter Baron Bror von Blixen. And when Hemingway was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, he mentioned that Isak Dinesen (Karen Blixen) had deserved it.

The Blixen home/museum at Rungstedlund is worth a visit. The rooms are kept as when Blixen lived there until her death in 1962. The museum was opened to the public in 1991. The huge sale of Blixen's books following the Sydney Pollack film version of *Out of Africa*, starring Meryl Streep and Robert Redford, made possible the necessary arrangements by the Rungstedlund Foundation for opening the museum.

—Claus Theilgaard
(Copenhagen, Denmark)

Two Hemingway Operas Scheduled

Two one-act operas based on Hemingway works will be performed in New York City in spring and fall 1998. *The Sun Also Rises* is a 40-minute vignette, and *Banal Story* is a one hour-15 minute drama based on Hemingway's short story, set in Madrid, and amplified with material from *Death in the Afternoon*.

Both operas were composed, words and music, by Webster Young, who has permission of the Hemingway estate for the productions. Both are written in collaboration with De Stefano Presents, Inc. New York. According to a press release, Young, a relative of composer Otto Harbach, has written 10 ballets, three other operas, and several orchestra pieces, including two symphonies.

The Web Opera Guild website will have further information on the performances of the two operas by Feb. 15 (<www.rpbinc.com>).

Review Seeks Centennial Articles

Susan Beegel, editor of *The Hemingway Review*, is asking for help in planning the special centennial issue.

Prof. Beegel would like to know what sorts of materials would make the issue special to readers. Are there particular critics or writers readers would like to hear from? Are there particular topics or an overarching theme to be addressed? She states that "anniversary issues can be tedious and predictable, so I'd love to have everyone's input on how to liven up the centennial issue (or issues—we could do spring and fall 1999)."

Send suggestions to Prof. Susan Beegel, editor, *The Hemingway Review*, 180 Polpis Road, Nantucket, MA 02554.

Notes & Queries

New Novel Written in Hemingway's "Attic"

The Richmond, VA *Style Weekly* (Sept. 16, 1997) carried an article by Susan Betts, titled "Attic Inspiration," about a writer writing a novel while holed up in the attic of Hemingway's Oak Park home (339 N. Oak Park Ave.; 439 when the Hemingways lived there).

The writer, Bill Hazelgrove, a Richmond native now living in Oak Park, got permission from the Oak Park Foundation to write the novel in "Hemingway's dusty old attic complete with a Victorian turret, cobwebs and no air conditioning."

Hazelgrove has an earlier novel titled *Tobacco Sticks*," set in Richmond. He told Betts that the attic experience was like writing in church but on top of a volcano. Church because of the quiet atmosphere; volcano because he knows he doesn't belong in the place of such a great writer. The novel, due out this year, is titled "Hemingway's Attic."

—Marvin Heffner
(Richmond, VA)

Editor's note: According to Jennifer Wheeler at the Foundation, Hazelgrove wrote for at least six months in the Hemingway "garrett," working until "it started getting too cold to type up there!" And he has received a lot of publicity for his effort.

Burroughs' "Last Words" Include Hemingway Item

The New Yorker (Aug. 18, 1997) has for a "Personal History" column an item titled "Last Words" by William S. Burroughs, who died Aug. 2, 1997. It includes two pages of journal entries by the author of *Naked Lunch*, including one for "June 6, Clom Fliday" (sic) in which Burroughs wonders about the "future of the novel or any writing."

After listing contemporary writers Paul Bowles, Jane Bowles and Graham Greene, he writes:

Maybe there was just so much "juice" [in the above and other writers], as Hemingway used to call it, but not quite enough to get him in with Joyce and the selected few. Not quite enough, Pa. He killed himself from vanity and self-inflation and then the balloon ruptured. He knew he was finished. "It just doesn't come anymore." He just wasn't there anymore.

More from *The New Yorker*

In *The New Yorker's* "The Literary Life" column (Oct. 20 & 27, 1997; p. 96), was this, titled "Fame, The Sequel: What to do next when you start at the top." James Atlas discusses writers who had early success but whose later work failed. Atlas writes that Norman Mailer "had stamina."

He made a comeback, after a fashion, with "Armies of the Night," and even now he's still ambulatory. Plenty of others never quite recover. After "The Sun Also Rises" and "A Farewell to Arms," Hemingway was basically done.

Name Recognition

A recent *Washington Post* book review by Michael Colton of a "legal thriller" by Brad Meltzer begins with this sentence: "Now that John Grisham has better

name recognition than Ernest Hemingway, it seems that every frustrated lawyer wants to be a writer."

—Keneth Kinnamon
(Univ. of Arkansas)

More on an Old O'Hara-Hemingway Story

An article by Morris Freedman, "By O'Hara Besotted," in *The American Scholar* (Autumn 1997) includes (on p. 589) a paragraph about the Hemingway and John O'Hara controversy. O'Hara wrote a negative review of Hemingway's *Across the River and Into the Trees*, which Hemingway dismissed on the grounds that O'Hara didn't know the kind of people Hemingway knew.

According to the story—now part of the growing Hemingway mythology—EH suggested to two other writers that they use "some of their extra funds to send O'Hara to Yale." The Freedman article continues:

O'Hara was uncomfortable about not having gone to college and apparently talked excessively about Yale. (When he heard the story, O'Hara was reported to have said, "It was the first time I knew Hemingway had any real envy of me.")

—Claude Smith
(Ohio Northern Univ.)

Memphis Street Named for EH

According to an article in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* (Aug. 15, 1996:EM2), "Hemingway Avenue north of the National Cemetery, was named for Ernest Miller Hemingway, one of the most famous and influential American writers of the 1900s."

Vonnegut on Hemingway

The promotional preview of the Christmas 1997 issue of *Playboy* carries an excerpt from Kurt Vonnegut's latest novel, *Timequake*, and it seems that "Papa" was very much on Vonnegut's mind.

He opens the piece with a discussion of *The Old Man and the Sea*, stating his belief that the novel was a response to the negative criticism to *Across the River and Into the Trees*: "As far as I know, he never said so. But the marlin could have been that novel" (100). Vonnegut then likens *Timequake* to *Across the River*:

And then I found myself in the winter of 1996 the creator of a novel which did not work, which had no point, which had never wanted to be written in the first place. *Merde!* I had spent nearly a decade on that ungrateful fish, if you will. It wasn't even fit for shark chum.

In addition to these direct references, Vonnegut also appears to be incorporating a number of leitmotifs stereotypically associated with Hemingway, namely balls, bravery, death, and war.

—Kathy Willingham
(Clovis, NM)

Hemingway Restaurant Seats 300

Here's a note on another, perhaps the largest and most unique, Hemingway Restaurant. It is located within the Bass Pro sporting goods store in Springfield, MO. Bass fishing is to the Ozarks what Abercrombie &

Fitch used to be to New York City (where I spent forty years as a magazine writer and editor).

The Bass Pro store's owner, John Morris, says he received permission from Jack Hemingway to use the name. On the walls hang oft-seen photos of EH hunting and fishing. A skiff, now suspended from the ceiling but once used as buffet table (all-you-can-eat buffets are very big in the Midwest) was a gift to Morris, a gift, says the staff, from Bonefish Willie, minister and fishing guide on Bimini who was hired some years ago by Morris and, decades earlier, guided EH in the Bimini Flats.

The favorite meal at this "Hemingway's" seems to be boiled king crab taken from the buffet by diners on hugely stacked-up plates, for some a trip oft repeated.

—Robert M. Beason
(Bolivar, MO)

Editor's note: For more on the restaurant, see Kenneth Kinnamon's story about Springfield's "Outdoor World" sporting goods store on p. 4.

Hemingway Featured in Willis & Geiger Catalog

The cover of Willis & Geiger Book No. 12 (one of their 1997 catalogs) features one of the 1940 Sun Valley hunting photos of Hemingway on its cover and an ad for their "Hemingway Jacket" inside (p. 37). The firm's No. 11 catalog features the jacket, with another EH photo on its back cover: tan or pewter; \$128 regular, \$132 tall.

—Robert W. Lewis
(Univ. of North Dakota)

Havana Announces EH Professorship

Radio Havana reported in July that an Ernest Hemingway Professorship has been established at the Jose Marti School of Journalism in Havana.

An International Hemingway Conference examining the writer's journalism and writing style and the influence of Cuba on his work is scheduled for September 1998.

—John R. Bittner
(Univ. of North Carolina)

Editor's note: See further information on the conference in "1998 Hemingway Conferences" on p. 4.

Columnist Refers to THHN Film

A "Bookshelf" column in *The Wall Street Journal* (June 4, 1997), written by Donald Lyons, discusses *Howard Hawks* by Todd McCarthy and mentions Hawks's "decisive film, the one in which nearly all of his vital interests intersect," *To Have and Have Not*.

Lyons quotes McCarthy:

Faulkner and Furthman [the screen writers] refashioned a weak Hemingway novel, updating it to World War II and in the process making it a comic takeoff on "Casablanca."

—John R. Bittner
(Univ. of North Carolina)

The editor requests that readers keep those cards, letters, and e-mail notes coming. The June Newsletter deadline is April 15.

Sloppy Joe's Bar Opens on the Ohio River

The Cincinnati Enquirer reports the opening in August 1997 of Sloppy Joe's Bar and Restaurant, 101 Riverboat Row in Newport, KY, across the Ohio River from Cincinnati.

An ad for the Grand Opening says in part:

It was once Ernest Hemingway's favorite watering hole. That was 1933 . . . today Sloppy Joe's is a Key West tradition and it's about to become an Ohio River favorite. There's Hemingway memorabilia everywhere . . . A huge selection of American-Caribbean seafood specialties . . . A great Raw Bar . . . So come hungry and stay late. At Sloppy Joe's "fun is the only order of the day."

—Sandy Forman
(Northern Kentucky Univ.)

Madrid's Cheap Bulls Anger Crowd

According to a Universal Press item in the magazine, *Nashville Scene*, the Fiesta de San Isidro in Madrid (last June) was a fiasco, because the organizers economized by buying cheaper, docile bulls.

An ordinary card featured six bulls with three alternates. One night, when the main bulls were booed and the three substitutes used up, one of the rejected bulls was painted with white splotches and returned masquerading as a fresh bull. The crowd got wise, however, and rioted when the torero's red pants turned whiter and whiter with each pass.

—Allan Fesmire
(Nashville, TN)

EH Gift to Marlene Dietrich Sold at Auction

A Sotheby's auction November 1 included a dining room table owned by Marlene Dietrich, a gift to her from Hemingway. The table had been in Dietrich's upper Park Ave. apartment in New York from 1959 to 1970. She then moved to Paris, where she died in 1992 at age 90.

Two Hemingway letters were also sold at the auction, purchased for \$5,462 and \$6,037 by actress Jennifer Tilly, who played in the short-lived television series "Key West."

—Sharon Stilwell-Hopewell (Durham, CT)
and John Sullivan (Scottsdale, AZ)

Lincoln Brigade Member Dies

L.A. Nicholas Pappas, a member of the Lincoln Brigade, which fought on the side of the Republic during the Spanish Civil War, died during the last week of January 1997.

A native of Massachusetts, Pappas also served as an advisor on Hemingway's film, *The Spanish Earth*.

The Hemingway Newsletter

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Madrid Promises a "Swell Life"

In a *U.S. Airways Magazine* story on Madrid (June 1997: 35-40) titled "Madrid: Searching for Castizo," author Abigail Seymour writes about the fun of discovering "one of Europe's friendliest cities."

The word *Castizo* means authentic, real, genuinely popular, truly Spanish, and Seymour argues that Madrid's "culturally literate pub-crawling residents know how to live." She says that the "best way to start looking for *castizo* Madrid is to plant yourself at Kilometre 0 in Puerta del Sol, the city's central plaza, spin around in any direction and walk into the nearest tapas bar."

She ends the article by saying that she was recently "paging through" her copy of *The Sun Also Rises* and ran across the passage where Bill Gorton calls Jake Barnes an "expatriate."

"You've lost touch with the soil. You get precious. Fake European standards have ruined you. You drink yourself to death. You become obsessed by sex. You spend all your time talking, not working. You're an expatriate, see? You hang around cafés."

"Sounds like a swell life."

"Well, maybe Hemingway didn't get it completely right," Seymour continues, "but you know what? [Hitting the Madrid night spots] is a swell life."

—John R. Bittner
(Univ. of North Carolina)

Hemingway Story on the Side of a Coffee Mug

Here is the text of a story about Hemingway that appears on the side of a coffee mug:

When he was an ambulance driver during the first World War, Hemingway had a habit of playing the ambulance radio so loud none of the wounded would ride with him. Fed up with complaints from the front, Hemingway's commanding officer called him into company headquarters one afternoon and demanded he lower the volume.

"I beg your pardon?" Hemingway said.

"I said turn it down. It's too damn loud!"

"Excuse me?" Hemingway said. "I can't understand you. I have gum drops in my ears. They block out the noise from my ambulance radio. It's deafening."

—John Sullivan
(Scottsdale, AZ)

The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of The Hemingway Society

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Race Car Driver Villeneuve "Undaunted"

In an article about Jacques Villeneuve winning a close stock car race at the Circuito de Jerez in Cadiz, Spain, writer Jack Todd of *The Ottawa Citizen* (Oct. 28, 1997) describes the victory by using a number of references to bullfighting and to *The Sun Also Rises*.

The subheading for the article states that Villeneuve won with "grace under pressure," and the epigraph to the piece quotes Bill Gorton in *The Sun Also Rises*: "Never be daunted. Secret of my success. Never been daunted. Never been daunted in public." And the racing article ends: "Villeneuve won, he would say, because in the end, he was not daunted."

—Michael Vyse
(Ottawa, Ont.)

Burguete Lures Tourists With "Hemingway Soup"

An article by S. A. Belzer in *The New York Times* (Dec. 12, 1997) reveals the "slender thread" by which the Hostel Burguete attracts tourists. It's "Hemingway Soup."

In Burguete, before their trip back to Pamplona for the Fiesta San Fermin, Jake Barnes and Bill Gorton have a "big bowl of hot vegetable soup" before a dinner of "fried trout . . . some sort of stew and a big bowl full of wild strawberries."

The Hostel Burguete, a converted farmhouse, serves "Hemingway Soup," according to the *Times* article, "a hearty country soup and trout with ham." Someone has carved "E. Heminway, 1923" into the piano, but apparently the soup is good, a mix of olive oil, onion, leeks, garlic, ham, dried white beans, cabbage, green beans, and peas, taking three hours to cook.

—Donald Q. O'Brien
(Bedminster, NJ)

Deadline for publication of items in the June Newsletter is April 15.

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