

The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of The Hemingway Society

No. 10/June 1985

Society Issues Call for Papers For 1986 Lignano Conference

The Hemingway Society is announcing a call for papers to be selected for the Second International Hemingway Conference, to be held in Lignano, Italy, June 22-28, 1986. Prof. Robert W. Lewis (U. of North Dakota) is program chairman.

The conference is being co-sponsored by the town of Lignano and by the Language Department of the University of Udine.

The program schedule will be similar to the one held in Madrid last summer. There will be an opening reception on Sunday evening, June 22, formal papers on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and excursions on Tuesday and Thursday. The conference will end Saturday morning, June 28.

Prof. Lewis says that the selection committee is looking for a variety of 15-20 minute papers—critical, biographical, scholarly; that a coherent program will be developed but that any topic is acceptable and “inventiveness is encouraged.” It is expected that there will be at least one general session on “Hemingway in Italy” and one of Italian scholars on Hemingway; other sessions will include guest speakers, including Hemingway relatives, and panel discussions.

There will be two excursions, one to Venice and one to the Piave-Caporetto (Kobarid, Yugoslavia) area.

Information on travel and hotel arrangements will be distributed to Society members as it is known—in the fall issue of *The Hemingway Review*, in the January issue of *The Hemingway Newsletter*, and in special mailings. Lignano officials have said that hotel rates will be the same as in Madrid—\$15 per night per person. Lignano is a resort town on the Adriatic, midway between Venice and Trieste, called Lignano Sabbiadoro because of its “golden sands” (see photo on p. 3 for a rough idea).

The deadline for papers has not been set, but manuscripts should be mailed to:

Prof. Robert W. Lewis
Department of English
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND. 58202

Toronto Star's McGeary Dies

William L. McGeary, 91, colleague of Ernest Hemingway's during his *Toronto Star* years and credited with chronicling Hemingway's *Star* stories, died December 2, 1984. McGeary held a number of *Star* editorial positions until his retirement in 1963 and helped Carlos Baker in his Toronto research on Hemingway.

A Report from the President

There has been a great deal of activity in the Hemingway Society since our business meeting in Washington, matters I will discuss in some depth in Chicago, but perhaps a brief interim report will keep you current on several of the most important items.

The conference in Key West in January was an enormous success. Sponsored by the Council for Florida Libraries, with our cooperation, the event drew some 400 people for several days of discussion and celebration. Patrick Hemingway, Charles Scribner, Jr., George Plimpton, and a score of Society members spoke at the event, which drew national attention from the press. After the Key West meeting, Allen Josephs and I drove up to Ft. Lauderdale for a continuation of the event, including half-hour television interviews and papers at an evening session that drew an audience of about 150. Paul Smith did all the work on this event from within the Society, giving advice to the staff in Florida handling the actual administration of the meeting, and we all owe him a great deal for his excellent work.

In March I was in Paris for the Ritz Paris Hemingway Award, the first time the prize has been awarded. Mario Vargas Llosa won the novel award of \$50,000 (which he donated to charity in Peru) for *The War of the End of the World*. The Ritz Paris award for organizations was increased to \$100,000 and given to five groups for scholarships, disadvantaged children, and protection of the environment. The award dinner was attended by 250 people, among them many writers, movie stars, and French dignitaries. The award had the full support of the Hemingway family, and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hemingway, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hemingway, and their daughters Muffet, Margaux, and Mariel all attended. Richard Bernstein's report on the award appeared in *The New York Times* on March 30.

On the matter of copyrights and permissions, I have spoken to several people involved in this matter, especially Jack and Patrick Hemingway, about our desire to have a clear statement about policies and procedures for quoting from unpublished manuscripts in scholarly research. This issue turns out to be extremely complex, but I have been assured that some modifications in the procedures are now being discussed and that we will have an announcement ready for the MLA meeting in Chicago. There is every reason to be optimistic that a policy that is fair, consistent, and clearly stated will be forthcoming, one that protects the property rights of the Hemingway family while providing scholars with

Continued next page

access to the pertinent documents. We have agreed, by the way, that no one will be informed of the policy statement in advance of our business meeting in Chicago.

Jack Hemingway and I recently returned from a trip to Lignano, Italy, for the *Premio Ernest Hemingway: 1985*, a series of prizes for literature, journalism, and entertainment. While there I negotiated several matters for the 1986 conference, tentative arrangements that I am proposing to Bob Lewis, director of the 1986 conference, for his disposition. In my meetings with the Mayor's office and the tourist board we worked out arrangements for the conference center overlooking the Adriatic, extremely favorable hotel rates, special fares with Alitalia, and a series of dinners and films and related events that will be truly unforgettable. For example, when we tour Venice, Gianfranco Ivancich will welcome us to his Venice residence to view his exhibit of Hemingway photographs, most of which have never before been publicly displayed. He is delaying the international exhibition of this collection to schedule the opening to coincide with our visit. The next day we are invited to a concert and dinner at the Ivancich country estate. I spent an afternoon there with Gianfranco, and I can assure everyone that this will be an event no one should miss. Later that week we are invited to the home of Roberta Kechler, where Hemingway stayed after the African plane crash in 1954, for cocktails and conversation about Hemingway. There is a great deal more, all of it exciting and promising; my strong feeling is that this conference will be our best event so far and that no member of the Society should miss it. Incidentally, while in Italy I read the manuscript of Jack Hemingway's memoir, *The Misadventures of a Flyfisherman*, which will be published in October by Taylor Publishing Co., of Dallas.

As you can see, it has been an eventful period for the Society, one that bodes well for our continuing development as an important organization in the international study of American literature. I very much appreciate the understanding and cooperation of the members of the Society as we work through this important period.

—James Nagel, President
Northeastern Univ.

At Chicote's (Madrid)

*Stronger than
my Cuba Libre*

*and the ghost
of Ernesto H.*

*is a butterfly
around the bar*

*in brown legs
and red dress*

*above the knee
about one inch.*

—Wayne Kvam
Kent State Univ.

Agnes von Kurowsky dies at 92

Mrs. Agnes von Kurowsky Stanfield, the American Red Cross nurse whose brief romance with Ernest Hemingway in Italy in 1918 became the central element in his second novel *A Farewell to Arms*, died November 25, 1984, in Gulfport, Fl. She was 92.

Although she rejected being called the "model" for the 1929 novel's heroine, Catherine Barkley, Mrs. Stanfield was generous in her assistance to Hemingway scholars. In her later years she was interviewed by Carlos Baker, Michael Reynolds, Bernice Kert, Henry Villard, Mary Hemingway, Leicester Hemingway, and John C. Buck.

Mrs. Stanfield remained devoted to the Red Cross after World War I. She served as a nurse in Romania and later in Haiti in the 1920s. In 1934, while working as a nurse in Otisville, New York, she married Mr. Stanfield, a widower with two young children. During World War II, she worked for the Red Cross in New York City while her husband served in the Navy.

Burial was in Soldiers' Home National Cemetery in Washington where her parents and maternal grandparents are buried.

—James M. Halbe
Fort Pierce, Fl.

Recent Works of Interest

Griffin, Peter. *Along With Youth: Hemingway, the Early Years* [tentative]. Foreword by Jack Hemingway. Oxford: Oxford U. Press, Sept. 1986 [projected].

Hemingway, Ernest. *The Dangerous Summer*. Eds. Charlie Scribner and Michael Pietsch. Charles Scribner's Sons, June 1985. [This is the first book publication of the novel published in *Life* in 1960; according to the press release, more than one-third of the new version has never been published.]

Meyers, Jeffrey. *Hemingway: A Biography*. New York: Harper & Row, Sept. 1985 [projected]. \$25.50.

You will have to use your imagination only slightly to see that the water is as blue as water ever gets and that the sand is as golden brown as golden brown can be. The white, scallop-designed building, extending over the Adriatic is where the 1986 International Hemingway Conference will take place, June 22-28. (Photo courtesy of Mayor Steno Meroi of Lignano, Italy).



Hemingway Notes and Queries

Note on a Thurber Letter

In a second postscriptum to a letter dated 24 June 1959 (*Selected Letters of James Thurber*, 121-2), James Thurber writes:

P.P.S. "You are all a lost generation, "Gertrude Stein said to Hemingway. We weren't lost. We knew where we were, all right, but we wouldn't go home. Ours was the generation that stayed up all night. Indeed, we spent so little time in bed most of us had only one child (Ross, White, O'Hara, McKelway, Sayre, Markey, Brown, McNulty, myself, and others). I have stayed up all night with most of those named, and the first and only time I met Fitzgerald, Thomas Wolfe, and Sinclair Lewis. We changed the sitting room to the pacing room. No wonder so many of my generation have died before the age of sixty-five. The American pace we set was much too fast for life to endure long. I count my generation as beginning in 1889, when Benchley was born, and ending about 1905, when O'Hara and McKelway were born, but most of us saw the light in the nineties. I was born in 1894, same year as Mark Van Doren and, I learned when I met him, J.B. Priestley, who said, "It was a vintage year." Fitzgerald, by the way, had only one child, a daughter. The only night we met, at ten p.m. in Tony's in 1934 we got back to the Algonquin at eight a.m. in a cab. He got out and said, "Goodnight. You don't belong to my generation and you don't have a daughter." I told him I was 1894 to his 1896 and had a daughter. He got back in the cab. "Drive around the park," he told the driver, and we drove around Central Park.

—George Monteiro
Brown University

Note on Odd Source for Recent Movie

According to a review of the movie *Romantic Comedy!* (starring Dudley Moore and Mary Steenburgen) in the September 1984 issue of *Z Magazine*, published by a pay television channel in Los Angeles, the screen writer Bernard Slade originally conceived the movie when he ran across something Hemingway said about his relationship with Marlene Dietrich: "I have been in love with a woman for forty years, but when she was married, I was single, and when I was married, she was single. We were victims of unsynchronized passion."

On the basis of this review it would appear that the film *Romantic Comedy!* breaks all previous records in the brevity of original material/length of film sweepstakes. This record, I believe, was previously held by the two versions of *The Killers*, a rather short story in which not a whole lot happens was used as the basis for two completely different films. *Romantic Comedy!* is a 103-minute feature length film based on two sentences.

—John M. Goin, M.D.
Los Angeles

Note on Plimpton's New Book

In his book *Fireworks* (Doubleday, 1984) George Plimpton describes the "festival of San Firmin" in *The Sun Also Rises* and quotes the passage on the *traca* firecracker from *For Whom the Bell Tolls*:

We made love in the room with the strip blinds hanging over the balcony...and from the streets there was the scent of the flower market and the smell of burned powder from the firecrackers of the *traca* that ran through the streets exploding each noon during the *feria*. It was a line of fireworks that ran through all the city, the firecrackers linked together and the explosions running along on poles and wires of the tramways, exploding with great noise and a jumping from pole to pole with a sharpness and a crackling of explosion you could not believe.

—Tadeusz J. Wojnicki
Monterey, California

Note on Hemingway Wallpaper (Yes!)

Hemingway's name and reputation are now in the library of wallpaper books. He is not in with the sprays and trellises of floral patterns. His volume is a "Wildlife Edition" titled "For Men Only," from United Wallcoverings, which features mostly designs in stripes and plaids, with bird dogs and mallards. The design "Hemingway" (Pattern No. 111-8541, copyright 1984) is a soft sea-blue, or sea-gray, with a subtle wave pattern over its surface. The glossy over-size page illustration shows "Hemingway" on the walls of a handsome bathroom with expensive towels.

You might want the coordinated border: dark blue and white (or grey and white) sailfish in curving jumps, bill to tail fin (though they've named it "Merlin" [sic?]) (Border No. 111-8531-B).

—Frank Laurence
Cincinnati Country Day

Query on the Hemingway "Curse"

Does anyone recall a reference to a Hemingway "curse"? I remember reading such a thing somewhere, but now cannot locate it. What made me think of it was what happened to the title of a paper I delivered at the Hemingway Society conference in Traverse City. The title was "For Whom the Bell Booms: Hemingway's Spanish Civil War Reporting." Gremlins intervened, however, and the program listed the paper as "For Whom the Bell Blooms." The index of the proceedings carried the same error, while the title of the article itself became "For Whom the Bell Boomes."

I couldn't help musing over whether E.H. might have disapproved of the paper because it mentioned that he got a dollar for each boom in one dispatch that reported the bombs went "boom, boom, boom, boom then boom boom boom just beyond us."

At any rate, I would be grateful if anyone can point me to a reference to such a "curse."

—William E. Coté
Michigan State University

Note on Times Ad for Whistles

The April 28, 1985, *New York Times* carries an ad for Harry Winston Petit Salon whistles, "inlaid with your choice of black onyx, mother-of-pearl or crystal highlighted with rubies...in 18k gold with or without diamonds." And, you guessed it, just under the picture is the quote from *To Have and Have Not*: "You don't have to say anything or do anything. Well, maybe just whistle."

—Adeline R. Tintner
New York City

Note from the "What Next" Category

★★★★
Final

DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER®
Monday, February 18, 1986

Sports
starts on
Page 34
Largest general circulation paper in America

SUB ALSO RISES
Stewart sparks St. John's, 93-80

—Adeline R. Tintner
New York City

Note on Two African Safaris

Abercrombie and Kent International, a company dedicated to creating African game-watching safaris that are the "ultimate in comfort, luxury, and style," has appropriated Hemingway's name to encourage travellers to join two of the safaris. "The Hemingway Safari" is a 16-day tented "safari in the Hemingway tradition," led by Denis Zaphiro, one of Hemingway's friends and safari guides; cost is \$5,500, including round-trip airfare from New York.

The company also offers "Off the Beaten Track" adventure safaris, including "Snows of Kilimanjaro," which is described as "an exhilarating mountain climbing expedition to experience the euphoria of climbing Africa's highest peak; cost is \$729 for the seven-day trek (apparently *not* including airfare).

—Sylvia Hardin
Cincinnati

Query on the Dingo Bar

Last summer in Paris I went in search of the Dingo American Bar on the rue Delambre, where Hemingway, in *A Moveable Feast*, says he first met Fitzgerald in the spring of 1925. I did not find the Dingo, but just off the Boulevard du Montparnasse, and across the street from Le Dome, I came upon Le Scott Bar. It was not open for business and looked rather seedy. Could this be the old Dingo, renamed in honor of Scott Fitzgerald?

—James B. Haines
Point Park College

Especially for the Gourmet

Love of the outdoors and a passion for good food seem genetically linked in the Hemingway family. Dr. Clarence Hemingway knew how to bake a pie over a campfire with blackberries gathered along a trail and honey stolen from wild bees. His son Ernest appreciated food collected and eaten outdoors: Robert Jordan munches wild watercress beside a Spanish mountain stream, Francis Macomber enjoys eland meat with gravy and mashed potatoes while on African safari. Ernest's son John, Idaho's former Fish and Game Commissioner, claims that he inherited his father's considerable appetite and plans to

write a book on game cookery (E.M. Swift, "In the Country He Loved," *Sports Illustrated* 5 November 1984: 80+). John's daughter Joan, Clarence's great-granddaughter, has already published a cookbook on dining outdoors: *The Picnic Gourmet* (Joan Hemingway and Connie Maricich, New York: Random House, 1977).

Inexpensively available in paperback (Vintage, \$9.95), *The Picnic Gourmet* would be a good investment for those who share the Hemingway's interest in good food consumed *al fresco*. The book contains dozens of well-written, easy-to-follow recipes for all manner of delicious picnic fare, from pâté and chilled soups to stuffed figs and chocolate tortes. There is a sprinkling of game recipes: lemony wild duck, baked Chinook salmon with oyster stuffing, trout ceviche. Joan Hemingway also includes tips on choosing wines for picnics, and on gathering wild foods (watercress, herbs, berries, mushrooms). She has obviously inherited both her grandfather's courage and his penchant for instruction: Joan carries foods like pear tart with frangipane custard in her backpack while mountain-climbing, and in a special chapter on packing tells you how to do it too—if you're not afraid of spare socks with frangipane custard.

Of special interest of Hemingway gourmets are ten menus for "theme" picnics, several designed to be eaten in Hemingway locales. There are picnics for the Bois de Boulogne, the Lido, and the Idaho mountains. One such "theme picnic represents Joan's childhood memories of food served to her by Ernest's cook Juan and Mary Hemingway aboard the *Pilar*. This Cuban boating picnic is sumptuous and mouth-watering: Spanish peasant soup, marinated bluepoint oysters, Morro crab with homemade mayonnaise, Cuban potato salad, shrimp-stuffed avocados, guavas filled with whipped cream cheese, and Mary's meringue torte. Drinks include gin with fresh coconut juice, Marqués de Riscal, and Cerveza Hatuey. This is the only food in *The Picnic Gourmet* Joan claims her grandfather actually ate, but the Hemingway gastronomic legacy seems present throughout this excellent cookbook. What more could we expect from a Hemingway grandchild who enjoyed her first moveable feast beside a trout stream in the Black Forest?

—Susan F. Beegel
Univ. of Massachusetts/Boston

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