

The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of The Hemingway Society

No. 46/June 2003

Eleventh International Conference To Open On Whitehead Street in Key West, Florida

By Gail Sinclair

(Key West Conference Site Director)

We are only a year away from the Eleventh Biennial International Ernest Hemingway Conference to be held in Key West, Florida, from June 7-12, 2004, and it's not too early to start locking in your plans to attend.

The August 1, 2003, Call for Papers deadline is fast approaching, so be sure to send in proposals to the address listed below. The conference will convene on June 7, with an opening reception at the Hemingway House and gardens on Whitehead Street. Sessions will begin the following morning.

Expected topics include: *To Have and Have Not* and other neglected fiction with local settings (e.g. "After the Storm"); Hemingway's nonfiction essays on Key West, whether humorous ("The Sights of Whitehead Street") or political ("Who Murdered the Vets"); the adventures and outings; feuds and affairs that influenced Hemingway's literary development in the 1930s; and Hemingway's relationships to other writers with Key West associations.

Each day is organized to best make use of both academic enrichment and tropical island pleasure. Sessions are set through the morning and into the early afternoon, leaving the remaining time for special programs, tours, dinners, and personal exploration of the lush island's haunts. Specially scheduled programs already in the planning stages include guest lectures from family members, Hemingway friends, and other authors who have personal and professional memories of the writer. We also have organized seminars with writers, walking tours of important literary sites, a visit to the Key West Art and Historical Museum displaying Hemingway's WW I Red Cross uniform (complete with bullet holes and blood stains), movie screenings of Hemingway films, a sunset champagne sail around the island, access to water activities (deep sea fishing, snorkeling, a tour of the Dry Tortugas, sailing, etc.).

The conference will be held at the Casa Marina Hotel built by Henry Flagler in the 1920s. Stuart

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EH Letters to Dietrich Added to Library

Letters written to Marlene Dietrich from Ernest Hemingway have been donated to the Hemingway Collection at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston.

According to an Associated Press story written by Martin Finucane, the "collection includes 30 letters, telegrams and a Christmas card that were written by Hemingway between 1949 and 1959, as well as early drafts of several Hemingway poems and stories." The gift was donated to the library by Dietrich's daughter, Maria Riva. According to her terms, the correspondence cannot be opened to the public until 2007.

The collection includes seven handwritten letters, 18 typed and signed letters, four telegrams, and the Christmas card. The items are mailed from, among other places, Cuba, Idaho, Paris, Venice, and Kenya.

Finucane writes that the director at the library, Deborah Leff, says the letters are "breathtaking" and "beautifully written." They show a tremendous intimacy. . . , a sense of sharing souls."

With the letters are also drafts of three Hemingway works of fiction: *Across the River and Into the Trees*, "The Good Lion," and "The Story of the Faithful Bull." The manuscripts of two poems are also included: "First Poem to Mary in London" and "Poem to Mary," the first inscribed "Marlene from Papa."

According to a story in *The New York Times* (April 7, 2003), Ms. Riva "donated her mother's film memorabilia to the Film Museum Berlin," but "she kept the Hemingway material close by, feeling it belonged in the United States."

Also see "Letters Project" story on p. 3.

Membership Meetings Planned

The 2003 membership meeting of The Hemingway Society will be held in conjunction with the Hemingway round-table discussion at the 2003 MLA Convention in San Diego in December.

The 2004 membership meeting will be held at the Key West 11th International Hemingway Conference in June, 2004.

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McIver (see his book on Key West) reports that in the 1930s Hemingway dined there occasionally with friends or business acquaintances, though he disgruntled the management "with his disdain for their dress code, particularly the absence of socks on his sandaled feet." McIver further states, "He did, however, yield slightly by wearing long trousers, hopefully with a leather belt instead of a rope."

We hope you will enjoy the casual nature of the island as well, and plan your tropical wardrobe accordingly. You will find the hotel sumptuous and relaxing with its Atlantic views and two swimming pools overlooking the beautifully landscaped, palm-strewn lawns. For a "virtual tour" of the property, log on to <<http://planner.plansoft.com/psn/directlink.asp?id=15717>>.

For further information about the conference write to: Gail Sinclair, Site Director, Dept. of English, Box 2666, Rollins College, Winter Park, FL 32789; her e-mail address is <gsinclair@rollins.edu>. Send proposals for papers to Kirk Curnutt, Program Director, Dept. of English, Troy State University, Montgomery, AL; his e-mail address is <kcurnutt@tsum.edu>.

Cuban Trip Highlights Oak Park Program

The June Cuban conference and the annual Hemingway birthday celebration head up activities for the Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park.

The Foundation took several members and guests to Havana May 17-26 to attend the IX Ernest Hemingway Colloquium sponsored by the Hemingway Museum at the Finca Vigía. Several Society members and 20 Cuban scholars gave papers. The Americans included: Susan Beegel, Hilary and Carlene Brennan, Roger Conover, David Martens, Linda and Randall Miller, Steve Paul, Martin Peterson, Ann Putnam, Sandra Spanier, and Robert Young.

Oak Park also plans a trip to Pamplona for the Fiesta de San Fermin July 3-13.

A program titled "Books to Brighten Young Minds" was held on April 27, the second such conference of authors and local luminaries reading to children. On May 4, John Sanford, the son of Hemingway's sister Marcelline, presented a talk on his grandmother's art.

The birthday event will take place on July 20-21. Pete Hays (Univ. of California/Davis) is the featured speaker on the 21st at 7:30 p.m. His title is "Hemingway as Text: How to Read *The Sun Also Rises*. A play written by Betty Jean Steinshour, titled "On Hemingway, Three Views: Willa Cather, Margorie Kinnan Rawlings, and Gertrude Stein was performed.

The Foundation also has scheduled a "Grace Hall Hemingway Award and Tea" for Sept. 27.

Smith-Reynolds Fellowships Awarded

Smith-Reynolds Founders Fellowships of \$1,000 each have been awarded to two candidates, according to Gerry Brenner (Univ. of Montana), chair of the awards committee.

The Fellowship winners are Richard Fantina, an adjunct instructor of English at Florida International University, and Troy Michael Ainsworth, a doctoral student in the Land-use, Planning, Management, and Design Interdisciplinary Program, College of Architecture, Texas Tech Univ. Fantina's project is titled "Ernest Hemingway" Machismo and Masochism"; Ainsworth's project is titled "Ernest Hemingway, Frank Lloyd Wright, and the Masieri Memorial."

These grants are made possible each year by the generosity of many Hemingway Society members, many of whom donated money with their regular Society dues.

Besides Brenner, members of the Founders Fellowship committee are Susan Beegel (Univ. of Idaho), Rose Marie Burwell (Northern Illinois Univ.), Scott Donaldson (Independent), Carl Eby (Univ. of South Carolina/Beaufort), and Lisa Tyler (Sinclair Community C./Dayton, OH).

Anyone Bound for England?

By Morris Buske
(Oak Park Historian)

The name of Ernest Hemingway's maternal grandfather has been the subject of discussion for some time. Grace Hemingway said that her son was named Ernest Miller for his grandfather Ernest Hall and her uncle Miller Hall. Still, a tradition of "Ernest Miller Hall" Hemingway has persisted among a surprising number of writers.

Patsy Hemingway used the name in her well researched *The Hemingways Past and Present*. The name was questioned just before publication of the book (1988) and she slipped in a footnote on page 505, reading "Ernest Miller Hemingway was named for his grandfather Hall. I was under the impression that his [the grandfather's] name was Ernest Miller Hall. The documents I have list him simply as Ernest Hall without the middle name of Miller."

Ernest Hall was born on February 21, 1840, in Sheffield, England. Records of all inhabitants of England supposedly begin in 1840. Still, both private researchers from Oak Park and professionals have failed to find birth or other records in England which document Mr. Hall's name.

Perhaps a clue could be found by looking for records of two of Hall's younger siblings, presumably born in Sheffield: Raphael Gillum, born in 1842, and Alice Matilda, born March 16, 1843.

Any information would be welcomed by e-mail: morrisbuske@webtv.net.

Progress Report on EH Letters Project

The Hemingway Letters Project is off to a strong start, according to Sandra Spanier, General Editor (Penn State Univ.). The most recent contribution to the project, according to Spanier, is a grant from the Howard Heinz Endowment. She is also in the process of submitting a proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and she presented a paper on the project to the International Hemingway Colloquium in Havana, May 17-26, sponsored by the Museo Hemingway in concert with The Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park.

The goal of the long-term effort is to publish a comprehensive, multi-volume scholarly edition of the letters of Ernest Hemingway, aiming to be as complete as possible. The project is a cooperative venture of the Ernest Hemingway Foundation/Society and the Hemingway family, holders, respectively, of the U.S. and international rights to the letters. Hemingway wrote an estimated 8,000-10,000 letters in his lifetime, only ten percent of them ever published.

In the months since start-up funding was made available by Penn State University, where the project will be centered, Spanier has worked to establish a solid infrastructure: setting up the project office, hiring and orienting staff and research assistants, devising accessioning procedures and software to create a searchable and sortable control file database for the central archive of letters that she and her assistants will be amassing, and enlisting a team of expert scholars who will serve the project in various capacities. She has been in conversation with presses interested in the edition and is in the process of seeking to place the edition with a distinguished scholarly publisher.

The project will progress in close consultation with an Editorial Advisory Committee serving as a liaison with the Hemingway Foundation/Society. The committee, headed by Linda Patterson Miller (Penn State Univ./Abington), also includes Jackson R. Bryer (Univ. of Maryland), Scott Donaldson (Independent), James L. W. West III (Penn State Univ.), and Foundation/Society acting president Linda Wagner-Martin (Univ. of North Carolina).

A vital component of the project will be the involvement of an international board of Consulting Scholars. These individuals will serve in a variety of roles, according to their interests and expertise: including as expert consultants on particular places or periods in Hemingway's life, as language consultants (Hemingway sometimes wrote letters or portions of them in Spanish, French, and Italian as well as in English), as specialists in aspects of textual editing and annotation, and as individual volume editors and co-editors. To date, a dozen scholars have agreed to serve, and additional individuals are likely to come on board as the

project proceeds. Spanier says that "in assembling this team, we are striving to engage the talents of both established and emerging scholars, thus hoping to ensure a strong foundation and a vigorous future for this long-term editorial project and for Hemingway studies in general." She states further:

We are preparing grant proposals to seek external funding for the project from agencies and foundations, and I have been working with university development officers to identify and approach potential donors. Already we have secured a gift from the Xerox Corporation of a Document Center with copy, fax, print, and scan capabilities, as well as a software system that is being customized in consultation with library personnel and information technology experts for use in accessioning the thousands of copies of letters that will make up the projects central archive, in enabling far-flung scholars to collaborate on this work, and in managing all phases of the editing process.

The first phase of the project is already well underway. Spanier says that project personnel are at work locating, gathering, accessioning, transcribing, and filing the copies of letters that have been ordered and solicited, as they now are arriving "in a steady stream."

The largest cache of letters is the Hemingway Collection at the John F. Kennedy Library, which has generously donated a complete set of copies of their holdings of more than 2,000 letters to the Hemingway Letters Project. To date, letters have been located in more than forty additional library collections and institutional archives in the United States and abroad, and numerous holdings in the hands of dealers, collectors, and private citizens have been identified. "We have sent authors queries to be run in major newspapers," Spanier says, "and already we are receiving responses from individuals holding Hemingway letters who are willing to share copies with the project."

Mariel to Direct "A Moveable Feast"

In a cover story in the Spring 2003 edition of *Magical Blend* magazine (their "Natural Beauty & Health Special" issue), Ernest Hemingway's granddaughter, actress and author Mariel Hemingway, said:

I'm going to be directing a movie of my grandfather's book, *A Moveable Feast*. . . . Billy Bob Thornton is my producing partner. I'm so happy about it. We're in the process now. We should be in pre-production by the spring.

In regards to Mariel's recent book, *Keeping My Balance*, about her life as a regular yoga practitioner, interviewer Susan Dobra asked, "Did you think a lot about your grandfather while you were writing?" According to Dobra, Mariel laughed and said, "I tried not to. . . . People said, 'You really should try writing fiction.' And I said, 'You have no idea. I need therapy from writing this one.'"

—Randall Scott Davis
(Colorado Springs, CO.)

Sunny's Suitor, Robert St. John, dies at 100

By Mimi Gladstein

(Univ. of Texas/El Paso)

The notice on CNN (Feb. 10, 2003) that Robert St. John had died two days before at age 100 reminded me of an interesting interview I had with him in 1988.

Madelaine Hemingway Miller, in her memoir *Ernie: Hemingway's Sister "Sunny" Remembers* (1975), writes about graduating from Oak Park High School and going into nurse's training where she fell in love with a young patient named Robert St. John. He was then working as a rewrite man for a Chicago newspaper and influenced her to quit the nurse's training and go to college.

She wrote to her brother Ernie and asked for his opinion of St. John, and he responded that he thought that any man who worked where St. John did (a Hearst newspaper) "must be a good guy and just might be worthy of his kid sister." However, Bob and Sunny soon fell out of love. St. John told me that what broke up the relationship was his fascination with her father. When he would come to pick up Sunny for a date, Dr. Hemingway and St. John would become so engrossed in their conversations, that Sunny was forgotten or waved aside. Once, when she blurted out to him "I think you are more in love with my father than you are with me," he truthfully told her that she was right.

St. John's reminiscences of Clarence Hemingway were warm and admiring. Dr. Hemingway was the St. John family doctor who he remembers as a "very kind, gentle, wonderful man." He recalls his going out to call on patients at all hours of the night. His memory of Grace Hemingway is not equally warm. During his courtship of Sunny, he saw little of her, but they did interact some years later when he was negotiating with her to rent a self-contained apartment over the garage at the Frank Lloyd Wright house. He called her a "poser," a "Sunday artist."

One could easily see why Sunny was infatuated with St. John. Even at 85, when I interviewed him in his Maryland home, he was charming and an incorrigible flirt. He recalled to me an encounter he and Ernest Hemingway had many years later when Ernest told him that he thought he had "one more good book" in him. The reply to St. John's query about the subject matter was that it would be "the story of my father."

Another good story he shared was what he called "an Ernest Hemingway fishing story that has never been told"; at least he claimed he had never seen it anywhere. It had to do with the draining of a reservoir that provided Oak Park with water. When it was drained, they found it full of fish. The Chicago newspapers were full of stories, speculating about the source of the fish; there were no streams

and no underground springs feeding the reservoir. St. John had the answer, which he never told. He recalls seeing Ernest and his friends trudging home from afternoons of fishing on the Des Plaines River. The closer to home they got, the smaller the fish seemed, so Ernest got the idea of throwing the fish over the wire fence into the reservoir. Obviously, some of the fish weren't quite dead, bred, and that is how many years later the reservoir was full of fish.

Hemingway's evaluation of St. John was on target. Among the 23 books he wrote are biographies of both Ben Gurion and Nasser, *The Silent People Speak about Yugoslavia*, *The Man Who Played God*, a novel based on the true story of a Hungarian who worked with the Nazis to rescue a trainload of Jews, *South America, More or Less* and the autobiographical *This Was My World*.

He was beaten up by Al Capone's thugs, wounded by the Nazis in the Balkans, and headed the London bureau for NBC Radio during WW II. He often recounted the story of Miss Dixon, an English teacher at Oak Park High School, who told the Freshman St. John and the Senior Ernest Hemingway that they should drop her course because they couldn't write. How wrong could one woman be?

Books Recent & Forthcoming

Hemingway, Hilary, Carlene F. Brennen. *Hemingway in Cuba*. New York: Rugged Land Press, 2003. [Collection of stories about Hemingway, narrated by his niece Hilary Hemingway; includes 160 archival and contemporary photographs.]

Huntley, Paula. *The Hemingway Book Club of Kosovo*. New York: Tarcher/Putnam, 2003.

Josephs, Allen. *Ritual and Sacrifice in the Corrida: The Saga of César Rincón*. University Press of Florida, 2002.

McIver, Stuart B. *Hemingway's Key West*. Key West: Pineapple Press, Inc., 2002. [Revised and pbk. edition.]

Society Members Saddened

Hemingway Society members who knew Terry Brenner, wife of Gerry Brenner, were saddened to hear of her death April 16. She had been ill during most of 2002 in Regensburg, Germany, where Brenner was teaching for the year.

She attended the International Hemingway Conference in Stresa, Italy, last summer, but she was ill again during this past academic year and died of bronchiectasis, a deterioration of the bronchial tubes. Gerry said that Terry had for 25 years only a 50 percent lung function, brought on by sarcoidosis of the lungs in 1977.

Notes & Queries

"Best Characters" Includes Three from EH

The March/April 2003 issue of *Book* carries an article on the "Best 100 Characters in Fiction Since 1900." Hemingway's Nick Adams is listed No. 21, Santiago is No. 47, and Jake Barnes is No. 53. The panel of 56 mostly authors and editors "were given ballots and asked to rank their favorite characters in order."

Readers may be interested to know that Jay Gatsby is listed No. 1; Leopold Bloom, Molly Bloom and Stephen Dedalus are all listed among the top 10; Peter Pan is No. 40; Benjy and Quentin Compson are Nos. 69 and 97 respectively.

No author had four characters listed. Besides Hemingway and James Joyce, the others with three were Vladimir Nabokov (Humbert Humbert, Lolita, and Charles Kinbote); J. D. Salinger (Holden Caulfield, Phoebe Caulfield, and Seymour Glass); and Graham Greene (The Whiskey Priest, Maurice Bendrix, and Alden Pyle).

Who Are Your Favorite Characters?

The newsletter editor has not suggested a contest for several years. How about this one?

What are your favorite characters in Hemingway works of fiction? Rank your five favorite characters and send your vote via e-mail to the editor (Tod Oliver) at <cmo7798@earthlink.net>. Results will appear in the January 2004 newsletter.

Hemingway Mythology Alive With Cubans

Hemingway enthusiasts have known for some time about the ghosts at the author's home near Havana, Cuba. Here's the latest from a story by Vanessa Bauza of the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, carried in the *San Francisco Chronicle* (July 29, 2002: D5).

So strong is Hemingway's presence [in Cuba] that several years ago a panicked night watchman abruptly quit when he thought he saw Hemingway's ghost—complete with Bermuda shorts and leather sandals—sitting in his overstuffed armchair.

One tour guide laughs at the incident but allows that it adds a page to the book of Hemingway lore.

"Cubans have made Hemingway their own," he said. "He is mythological. To demystify him would take away the spirit of the thing."

—Jack Calkins
(Washington, DC)

Jean Rhys Remembers Hemingway in Paris

Here's a brief extract from an article titled "Remembering Jean Rhys" by Alexis Lykiard in *The Author* (Winter 2002), a journal for the Society of Authors.

... [S]he did tell me that in Twenties Paris she used to see James Joyce often, yet remained in such awe of him that she couldn't remember their exchanging a single word. Hemingway she seems to have fancied from a distance, though Charles Cox [a bookseller friend of both Lykiard and

Rhys] recalls "her saying how beautifully he danced. I got the impression that she meant 'with me'."

Lykiard is the author of a memoir titled *Jean Rhys Revisited* and his article in *The Author* magazine offers further "recollections and reflections" he had accumulated on the late novelist.

—John C. Bird
(West Midlands, England)

Stockholm Film Not of Hemingway in 1920s

I read with great interest Ove Svensson's note on Stockholm's Nobel Museum's incorrect dating of Hemingway's birthday (*The Hemingway Newsletter* No. 45, January 2003). One sentence especially caught my attention: "... a film showing Hemingway in Paris in the twenties."

I sent an e-mail to the museum in Stockholm asking about the film and received a nice note from Ulf Larssen stating that the images of Hemingway were from scenes recorded during the 1950s and just woven into the film of Paris in the 20s.

—William Gallagher
(New York, NY)

McCain's Hero Was Robert Jordan

The New York Review of Books (October 24, 2002) carries a review by Russell Baker of John McCain's *Worth the Fight For: A Memoir* in which McCain reveals that "John McCain's first hero was Robert Jordan, the hero of Ernest Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls*; this in spite of the fact that Jordan was fighting on the side supported by the communists and McCain fought on the other side in Vietnam.

McCain's title is from Hemingway's novel: "The world is a fine place and worth the fighting for and I hate very much to leave it."

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

Biography Carries Story on Key West Home

"Hemingway and Key West" is one of the stories carried by *Biography Magazine* in its March 2003 issue. Included are photographs of tourists watching a sunset and of Sloppy Joe's Bar, "the new version." There is also a list of places for "staying and dining in style."

—Sandy Forman
(Northern Kentucky Univ.)

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First Issue of *Fitzgerald Review* Published

Volume No. 1 (2002) of *The F. Scott Fitzgerald Review* is published, edited by five co-editors: William Blazek (Liverpool Hope Univ. C./Liverpool, England), Jackson R. Bryer (Univ. of Maryland), Michael K. Glenday (Liverpool Hope Univ. C./Liverpool, England), Ruth Prigozy (Hofstra Univ.), and Susan Wanlass (California State Univ./Sacramento).

Subscriptions are \$20 for one issue per year, \$32 outside the U.S. To subscribe, call (800) 877-2693 and transfer to the Publication Center, or go online at < www.boydprinting.com > and click on Enter Subscriptions. The editorial office address is The F. Scott Fitzgerald Review, 49 Sheridan Avenue, Albany, NY 12201-1413.

Fitzgerald Society Headed to Switzerland

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Society will sponsor its 7th biennial international conference in Vevey, Switzerland, June 27-July 3, 2004. Conference headquarters will be at the Hôtel des Trois Couronnes, though other hotels will be available. See *Daisy Miller* for Henry James's take on the hotel and on Vevey, one of the small, beautiful towns along the eastern shore of Lake Geneva.

Kim Moreland (George Washington Univ.) is the program chair. Write to her to request information about the program or to send abstracts of paper and/or panel proposals: Prof. Kim Moreland, Dept. of English, George Washington Univ., Washington, DC 20052. The English Department phone number is (202) 994-6180.

Brenner Honored by Univ. of Montana

In a ceremony on April 26, 2003, the University of Montana presented Gerry Brenner with its "Distinguished Scholar Award." Brenner is a charter member of The Hemingway Society and was elected to its Board of Directors in 1996. He retired from teaching at the close of this academic year.

Brenner's contribution to Hemingway studies was noted by the university, both in his scholarship and in his personal service to the Society. His scholarly contributions include *Concealments in Hemingway's Works* (1983), and he was among the first scholars to see Dante's influence on Hemingway.

Hemingway's Works Now "Electronic"

Simon & Schuster has announced that their catalog of 23 Hemingway titles have been published as electronic books (eBooks). The company even provides a free "reader" to download with the texts. The first step is to go to < SimonSays.com >. Then click on Browse Authors Hemingway.

The newsletter editor found the process to be simple but slow. He did not download a book, but setting up a secure account for purchasing books is easy enough. The cost for downloading Hemingway eBooks is \$9.99 per book, less if ordering more than one title.



The Hemingway Newsletter

Publication of
The Hemingway Society/Foundation

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