

The 46th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature
June 2-4, 2016

The Cultural Heritage of the Midwest A Symposium

Thursday, June 2, 2016

Registration 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

South Lobby

Book Display 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

105B

Session A

12:30 – 2:00 PM

Criticism: F. Scott Fitzgerald's Midwest

Heritage

Moderator: Ross K. Tangedal (Mercyhurst University)

"Beyond Region: Layers of Separation in Fitzgerald's 'A Night at the Fair'"

Jeffrey Swenson (Hiram College)

"The Fundamentals of Amory: F. Scott Fitzgerald, Booth Tarkington, and Midwestern Youth"

Ross K. Tangedal (Mercyhurst University)

"A Tale of House Slippers: The Correspondence of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Louis Bromfield"

Hannah Biggs (Rice University)

Fiction

Willy

Moderator: Scott Emmert (University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley)

"The Mender"

Brittany N. Krantz (Nacogdoches, TX)

"Variations of Bluestem Valley"

Joshua Preston (University of Minnesota, Morris)

"None of the Above"

Michael Cocchiarale (Widener University)

"Evangalina Watches Cockroaches"

Dawn Comer (Defiance College)

Poetry

105AB

Moderator: Joyce Brinkman (Zionsville, Indiana)

"American Presidential Prose Poems"

Wesley Bishop (Purdue University)

"Poetry for Medical Survival"

Joanna White (Central Michigan University)

"Cover the Sky With Crows"

Deonte Osayande (Wayne County Community College District/Detroit)

"Detroit Ekphrasis"

Mary Minock (Madonna University)

Session B**2:15 PM – 3:45 PM**

Criticism: Multicultural Books for Children by Midwestern Writers

105AB

Moderator: Janet Ruth Heller (Michigan College English Association)

"The Portrayal of Jewish Culture and Family Structure in *The Passover Surprise*"
Janet Ruth Heller (Michigan College English Association)

"Mirror Images: The Importance of Reflections in Literature for Young Children"
Brynne Barnes (University of Phoenix)

Criticism: Willa Cather

Willy

Moderator: Jeffrey Swenson (Hiram College)

"'We'd Never Have Got Through if I Hadn't Been So Strong': Self-Made Women in *My Ántonia*"
Kristin Schroll (Hiram College)

"Barbed Wire in the Sunflowers: The Limits of Nostalgia in Cather's 'The Best Years'"
Allan Benn (East Stroudsburg University)

Memoir

Heritage

Moderator: Stephanie Amanda (Michigan State University)

"Misery Be Damned"
Kevin Drzakowski (University of Wisconsin, Stout)

"Leaving the Church"
Mary Minock (Madonna University)

"Seeing the Elephant"
Philip Jude Weitz (Doane College)

"Other Roads Taken"
Edward Morin (College for Creative Studies)

Session C**4:00 PM – 5:30 PM**

Criticism: Resurrecting Neglected Texts

105AB

Moderator: Patricia Oman (Hastings College)

"Stratton-Porter's *A Daughter of the Land*: Standing in the Shadow of Cather's *My Ántonia*"
Susan A. Schiller (Central Michigan University)

"Modernism, Machinery, and the Middle West: *A Hoosier Holiday* and the 'Revolt from the Village'"
Rachael Price (University of Arkansas)

"An Abandoned Farm is a 'Funny Farm': Farce and Satire in Irvin S. Cobb's *The Abandoned Farmers*"
Hannah Biggs (Rice University)

"Lansing's Most Beloved Forgotten Author: Belle K. Maniates"
Patricia Oman (Hastings College)

Roundtable: "What's the Difference between Legal Justice and Literary Justice?"

Heritage

Moderator: James Seaton (Michigan State University)

James Seaton (Michigan State University)

Brian Gilmore (Michigan State University College of Law)

Mae Kuykendall (Michigan State University College of Law)

Poetry about Midwestern Families
Moderator: Janet Ruth Heller (Michigan College English Association) Willy

“Family Reunions,’ ‘Inheritance,’ ‘Mother-in-Law on the Phone,’ and Other Poems”
Janet Ruth Heller (Michigan College English Association)

“From Mothers to Daughters: Familial Legacies in the Midwest”
Andrea England (Western Michigan University)

“An Apparently Impossible Adventure: The Midwest as Falling Camelot”
Laura Madeline Wiseman (University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

Editorial Committee Dinner Meeting **5:30 PM**

Marcia Noe, chair
Robert Beasecker
Nancy McKinney
Bob Dunne

Mary Obuchowski
Philip Greasley
James Seaton
Jeff Swenson

Marilyn Atlas
Roger Bresnahan
Sara Kosiba
Scott Emmert

Tricia Oman
Bill Barillas
Andy Oler

Location TBA

Friday June 3, 2016

Registration 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM
Book Display 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM South Lobby
105B

Session D **8:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

Criticism: Gender, Androgyny, and the Inscrutable Body in
Sherwood Anderson’s *Winesburg, Ohio* 105AB

Moderators: Kristin M. Distel (Ohio University) and Aaron Babcock (Ohio University)

“The Woman of Sin’: Misreading and Negating the Body of Kate Swift”
Kristin M. Distel (Ohio University)

“Quite a Special Thing’: Transgressions, Transformations, and the Triumph of the Androgynous Self in
Winesburg, Ohio”
Aaron Babcock (Ohio University)

“Sense and Midwestern Silence: Social Resistance, Conventional Gender Construction, and Grotesque
Masculinities in Sherwood Anderson’s *Winesburg, Ohio*”
Samuel Stinson (Ohio University)

Poetry: Memory and Remembering Heritage
Moderator: Jeffrey Hotz (East Stroudsburg University)

“Memories of a Midwestern Father”
John Beall (Collegiate School; New York, NY)

“A Father to His Kid”
Jeffrey Bean (Central Michigan University)

“Split-Level: Made in the Midwest”
D. R. James (Hope College)

“The Weight of Their Work”
Cecil Sayre (Indiana University)

Session E**10:15- 11: 45**

Criticism: Midwestern Poets

Heritage

Moderator: Scott Emmert (University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley)

"A Career Begins: Name and Voice in Ted Kooser's *Official Entry Blank*"
Jeffrey Hotz (East Stroudsburg University)

"Love and Lovers in Arroyo's *Same-Sex Seances*"
Glenn Sheldon (University of Toledo)

"Nature Mysticism in Theodore Roethke's Poem, 'The Rose'"
Edward Morin (College for Creative Studies)

"'Once More, The Round': Theodore Roethke's Last Word"
William Barillas (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

Criticism: Richard Wright and Toni Morrison

Willy

Moderator: Doug Sheldon (DePaul University)

"Richard Wright as Midwestern Writer"
Jon Lauck (University of South Dakota)

"'Whose House Is This?': Unhomeliness in Toni Morrison's *Home*"
Joshua M. Murray (Kent State University)

"The Craters of Our Childhood Are Etched on Our Faces: Geography Lessons in Toni Morrison's Eleventh Novel, *G-d Help the Child*"
Marilyn Atlas (Ohio University)

Criticism: The Short Fiction of Ernest Hemingway

105AB

Moderator: Marcia Noe (University of Tennessee, Chattanooga)

"Ernest Hemingway's 'Indian Camp': The Paradox of Realism"
Drew Lindsay (The School of the Art Institute of Chicago)

"Hemingway as Craftsman: Revising 'Fathers and Sons'"
John Beall (Collegiate School; New York, NY)

"A Dominated and Emasculated Dr. Adams?: Re-Reading Hemingway's 'The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife' and 'Now I Lay Me'"
Donald A. Daiker (Miami University)

"'There Was a Terrific Gun Report beside Ernest's Head and I Thought He Was Killed': Pauline Pfeiffer's *Safari Journal* as a Source for Hemingway's 'The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber'"
Dennis B. Ledden (Butler, Pennsylvania)

Awards Luncheon**12:00 NOON – 1:30 PM**

Red Cedar Rm.

2016 Mark Twain Award presented to Michael Martone

2016 Mid-America Award presented to Donald Pizer

Founders Recognition Award presented to TBA at the Luncheon

2015 Writing Prizes

Session F**1:45 PM – 3:15 PM**

Fiction

Willy

Moderator: Dawn Comer (Defiance College)

"Chimera"

Elizabeth Daniel (Defiance College)

"Sometime in Connecticut"

James Marlow (Mattapoisett, MA)

"Prisoner"

Jane Holwerda (Dodge City Community College)

"Brave Enough to Write Real Stories for Today's Teens and the Adults in their Lives": Readings from *They Said She Was Crazy* and *Flowers for Rodney*

Kristine E. Brickey (Red Cedar Writing Project, Michigan State University)

Criticism: Writing the Rural in Contemporary Midwestern Short Fiction

105AB

Moderator: Sara Kosiba (Troy University)

"Sociocognitive Dissonance: Assault and Dialogue in Bonnie Jo Campbell's 'Playhouse'"

Doug Sheldon (DePaul University)

"What You Done Is Devilry': Country Noir, Violence, and the Contemporary Midwest"

Andy Oler (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)

"Publishing from Flyover Country: The Design and Distribution of Contemporary Midwestern Literary Magazines"

Patricia Oman (Hastings College)

Criticism: Literature and Two Michigan Cities: Lansing and Detroit

Heritage

Moderator: Jeffrey Hotz (East Stroudsburg University)

"Pain and Odium: The Odyssean Wanderings of Winfield Payne"

Kenton Butcher (Kent State University)

"Alternative Possibilities for Race Relations in *The Dollmaker*"

Charles Cunningham (Eastern Michigan University)

"Midwestern Sensibilities: Detroit's Economic, Political, and Cultural Life in Literature"

Denise R. Ervin (Detroit, MI)

Session G**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

Criticism: Representing Home and Region in Contemporary Midwestern Short Fiction

Heritage

Moderator: Andy Oler (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)

"Writing Home: The Contemporary Midwestern Short Story Cycle"

Jennifer J. Smith (Franklin College)

"Sports and Civic Identity in Michael Czyzniejewski's Chicago Stories"

Michael Cocchiarale (Widener University)

"The Midwestern Grotesque: How *Winesburg, Ohio* Has Influenced the Modern Midwestern Short Story"

Sara Kosiba (Troy University)

Criticism: Near and Beyond the Borders of the Midwest
Moderator: Jeffrey Swenson (Hiram College)

105AB

"Still Looking for Sherwood: From Winesburg to Troutdale, Anderson's Renewed, Provocative Imagery Juxtaposed in Two Blue Ridge Stories"
Marilyn J. Bossmann (University of Cincinnati)

"Midwestern Metropolis: Place, Homeland, and the Immigrant Mind in Rølvaag's *The Boat of Longing*"
Kristin A. Risley (University of Wisconsin, Stout)

"The Space and Place of Western Minnesota Writers"
Joshua Preston (University of Minnesota, Morris)

"Kent Haruf's *Plainsong* Trilogy"
Jane Holwerda (Dodge City Community College)

Poetry

Willy

Moderator: Mary Catherine Harper (Defiance College)

"Housing for Wrens: Selected Poems"
Edward Morin (College for Creative Studies)

"Leave the Casket Open"
Mary Catherine Harper (Defiance College)

"Pestiferous Questions"
Margaret Rozga (University of Wisconsin, Waukesha County)

"Spin the Globe"
Glenn Sheldon (University of Toledo)

Mentoring Café

5:15 PM

An informal discussion: How to launch a successful academic career
Facilitated by Sara Kosiba, Curtis VanDonkelaar, and Ross Tangedal

105AB

Executive Advisory Committee

6:00 PM

Corniche Room

Roger Bresnahan, secretary-treasurer
Philip Greasley, recording secretary
Robert Beasecker, bibliographer
Marc Van Wormer, conference planner
Marilyn Atlas, awards coordinator
Marcia Noe, editorial committee chair
Laura Julier, website manager
Mary Obuchowski, corporate board
Dawn Comer, president
Jeffrey Swenson, vice president/president-elect
Scott Emmert, past president & conference chair

Mary Catherine Harper, 2013–2016
James Marlow, 2013–2016
Jeffrey Hotz, 2014–2017
Jennifer Holly Wells, 2014–2017
Andy Oler, 2015–2018
Mary Minock, 2015–2018

Patricia Oman, 2016–2019
Douglas Sheldon, 2016–2019

Session H

7:30 PM

Winesburg, Indiana: A Reading and Discussion
Moderator: CJ Hribal (Marquette University)

105AB

"Amanda Patch"
Michael Martone (University of Alabama)

"The Processed Cheese Product Man"
Sean Lovelace (Ball State University)

"Acknowledgements by Marny Vanderroost"
Jim Walke (Ann Arbor, MI)

"Jackie and Julie Patch"
CJ Hribal (Marquette University)

Saturday, June 2, 2016

Registration 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Book Display 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

South Lobby
105B

Annual Business Meeting

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

All are invited. A continental breakfast will be served.

105AB

Session I

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

President's Panel: Sensing the Midwest in the Work of Michael Martone
Moderator: Dawn Comer (Defiance College)
Respondent: Michael Martone (University of Alabama)

Heritage

"Metafiction and Meta-biography: Michael Martone Winking"
James Gorman (Otterbein University)

"Real or Not Real?: Michael Martone, the Midwest, and Memory"
Curtis VanDonkelaar (Michigan State University)

In The Valley of the Shadow of the North: Year Seven (screenplays)
Moderator: Patricia Oman (Hastings College)

Willy

"25 Words or Less, Act II"
Matthew L.M. Fletcher (Michigan State University)

"Nothing But the Funk"
Brian Gilmore (Michigan State University)

"Taking a Blind Man to the Airport"
Paul Stebleton (Lake Ann, MI)

Criticism: Travel, Immigration, and New Homes
Moderator: Scott Emmert (University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley)

105AB

"Donald Ogden Stewart's and Legion, Ohio's Haddocks Go to Paris in the 1920s"
Guy Szuberla (University of Toledo)

"Discovering the Urban Midwest and the Search for Bulgarian National Identity in Aleko Konstantinov's
'To Chicago and Back'"
Daniela Koleva (University of North Dakota)

"Picturing Pilsen: A Chicago Latino Neighborhood, A Visual Narrative of the Streets"
Gary Cialdella (Kalamazoo, Michigan)

"Bich Minh Nguyen in the Midwest: Vietnamese Refugee, Immigrant, Asian American, All-American"
Sheng-mei Ma (Michigan State University)

Session J

10:45 AM -12:15 PM

Roundtable: Lessons & Landmarks: *Dictionary of Midwestern Literature* Volume 2
Moderator: Philip Greasley (University of Kentucky)

Heritage

Philip Greasley (University of Kentucky)
Robert Beasecker (Grand Valley State University)
William Barillas (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)
Marcia Noe (The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga)

Criticism: Finding Time in the Midwest: New Approaches to Thinking about Place 105AB
Moderator: Michelle M. Campbell (Purdue University)

“Crossing Time Zones: Bringing Midwest History into the Composition Classroom”
Rachel Bonini (Purdue University)

“Time Is the Fourth Dimension of Space: Paul Gruchow’s Theory of Time and Place”
Michelle M. Campbell (Purdue University)

Imaginative Responses to Physical and Spiritual Challenges Willy
Moderator: Mary Catherine Harper (Defiance College)

“And Then the Words Came”
Joyce Meier (Michigan State University)

“Where Am I Who?”
Jane L. Carman (Lit Fest Press / Festival of Language)

Session K 12:30 PM -2:00 PM

The Festival of Language: A Reading eXperiment 105 AB
NOTE: Audience participation is encouraged but not required

Moderator: Jane L. Carman (Lit Fest Press / Festival of Language)

Jane L. Carman (Lit Fest Press / Festival of Language)
Dawn M. Comer (Defiance College)
Mary Catherine Harper (Defiance College)
Nate Maxon (Central New Mexico Community College)
Michael Martone (University of Alabama)
Margaret Rozga (University of Wisconsin, Waukesha County)
Bill Yarrow (Joliet Community College)