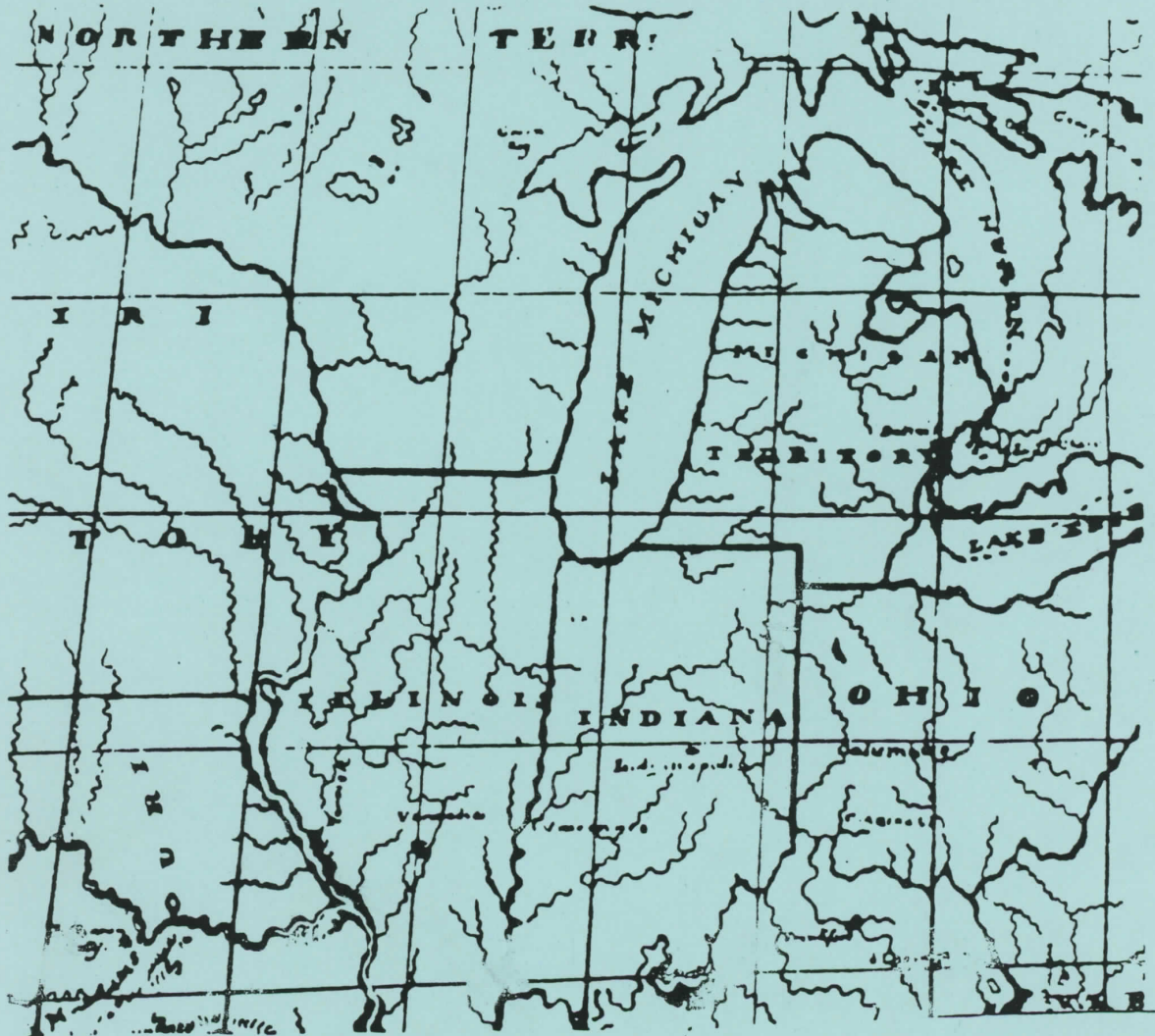


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SSML Newsletter



The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature

The Center for the Study of
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Founded 1971

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Spring 1989

Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature

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Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature
Newsletter

Volume Nineteen, Number One

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Note: The illustrations by E. W. Kemble are from "Royalty on the Mississippi", an excerpt from The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, slightly bowdlerized in The Century Magazine XXIX (February, 1885).

The Nineteenth Annual Conference:
Introductory Remarks

Eighteen years ago some twenty like-minded people from half a dozen or so Midwestern schools gathered here at MSU to begin what was to become the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature. Now we continue in that tradition, exploring, creatively, critically, historically, and culturally whatever it is that we perceive to be Midwestern, in the literature that came out of this region between the mountains, the region that Sherwood Anderson called his own MidAmerica, to influence and direct and provide much of the substance of the mainstream of American literature, culture, thinking, and language, and yes, even politics, for better or worse, in our time, and for, I suspect, a time as far into the future as it's possible to foresee.

The program this year continues in the tradition established 19 years ago, as it explores, in all the varied splendor reflected in the interests of the members, the literature and culture of Sherwood Anderson's MidAmerica and ours.

Dave Anderson



"AND DOGS A-COMING."



THE SWORD-FIGHT FROM RICHARD III

The Nineteenth Annual Conference

The Society's Nineteenth Annual Conference, with its concurrent symposium, "The Cultural Heritage of the Midwest" and "The Midwest Poetry Festival," was held at the Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, on May 18-29, 1989. More than 100 members took part, with about 40 papers presented and 40 poetry and prose readings.

At the Awards Dinner on Friday evening, May 19, the Mark Twain Award for distinguished contributions to Midwestern Literature was presented to Dudley Randall of Detroit, poet, and The MidAmerica Award for distinguished contributions to the study of Midwestern Literature was presented to James C. Austin, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Emeritus. Citations appear on following pages.

At the Annual Convivium on Saturday, May 20, winners were announced of the Midwestern Heritage Award for the best paper presented and for the Midwest Poetry Award for the best poem read. Each winner received a cash award of \$250.00, provided through the generosity of Gwendolyn Brooks.

Winner of the Midwestern Heritage Award was Kenneth A. Robb of Bowling Green State University for "Mary Hartwell Catherwoods' Two Beaver Island Stories." Winner of the Midwest Poetry Award was Maril Nowak of the Community College of the Finger Lakes for "Dependable Imperfections." Both award-winning works will appear in MidAmerica XVI (1989).

Honorable Mention essays, unranked were "Great Lakes Maritime Fiction" by Victoria Brehm of the University of Iowa, and "The Poetry of Paul Engle: Iowa Poet of the Heartland," by Robert Ward, the University of Northern Iowa.

Honorable Mention poems, unranked, were, "Inquiry into Simply Responding in the Negative" by Jeff Gundy, "What Matters" by Martha Vertreace, and "Fifteen Crows in an Iowa Winter" by Robert Ward. Judges of both contests lamented giving only one award in each group.

New officers elected for 1989-1990 are:

Paul Miller, Wittenberg University, President
Marcie Noe, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Vice President
Frederick Stern, University of Illinois at Chicago, Executive Advisory Council
Bruce Baker, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Executive Advisory Council

Pat Anderson will assume duties as Librarian/Archivist.

The 1990 Conference, the twentieth, will be held in East Lansing in mid-May. Special programs are planned, and an early announcement will be forthcoming.

The Mark Twain Award for 1989, presented to
Dudley Randall, Poet

Dudley Randall was born in Washington, D.C. on January 14, 1914; he moved to Detroit as a young man and graduated from Wayne State in 1949, after military service in World War II. He received a Master of Arts in Library Science from the University of Michigan. A career professional librarian at the University of Detroit, Mr. Randall has published ten volumes of poetry. He founded the Broadside Press in 1965, and he was Poet in Residence at the University of Detroit until his retirement in 1979. He received Wayne State's Thomkins Award in 1962 and 1966 and the Kumba Liberation Award in 1973. More recently, Contemporary Michigan Poetry, 1988, has been dedicated to him.

His works in all their variety speak positively not only to the Black urban experience, the subject of his best works, but beyond that to the Midwestern American experience and ultimately the universal human experience. And yet, of their very essence, too, is the Midwestern Michigan experience, the place out of which his works come.

Kay Rout read selections from Mr. Randall's poetry.

The MidAmerica Award for 1989, presented to
James C. Austin, Scholar, Poet, Jazz Musician

James C. Austin, known to most of us as Jim, is, in every snort and adenoid, to borrow from H.L. Mencken, a Midwesterner. Born in Kansas City, MO in 1923, he grew up in Cleveland and has spent much of his professional career in South Dakota and Southern Illinois at Edwardsville, where he directed the American Studies program. He has had visiting Professorships and Fulbrights to France and the Phillipines, and he served in the war as we, or the black-and-white war, as my students, call it.

His books focus on humor and literary journalism, including Fields of the Atlantic Monthly, Artemus Ward, Petroleum V. Nasty, Bill Arp, Popular Literature in America, and American Humor in France. A member of the Society since its beginning, Jim is one of those who gathered on that October day in 1971 to inaugurate this organization.

For a long career of distinguishing contributions to the study of Midwestern Literature. I'm pleased to present the MidAmerica Award for 1989 to Jim Austin.

Mr. Austin responded with comments and read the following verse, written for the occasion.

MIDAMERICA

The fat belly
Of the Central States
The Guts of America
Full of
Pigs corn
Cows wheat
Fodder and fertilizer and

2

The fat belly
Of Monsanto, the Argonne National Laboratory

General Motors, General Dynamics
General Delusion

3

In the sun
In the sleet
In fun
In heat
Big fat belly

4

The guts of America
God gave us
And his bowels
Runneth over

5

Where
When
Where else
A blue jay croons
A mockingbird answers
A cardinal communes

6

He gave us
Twain, Dillinger,
Lincoln, Daley,
Basie,
And the Wright brothers

7

He gave us
Spoon River
Winesburg
Main Street U S A
The Big Two-Hearted river
Columbus Ohio The Day the Dam Broke
And "Where the dark fields of the republic rolled
on under the night"

The guts

8

As W D Howells
Would say
With a
Compassionate
Smile
How vulgar

9

Fat belly

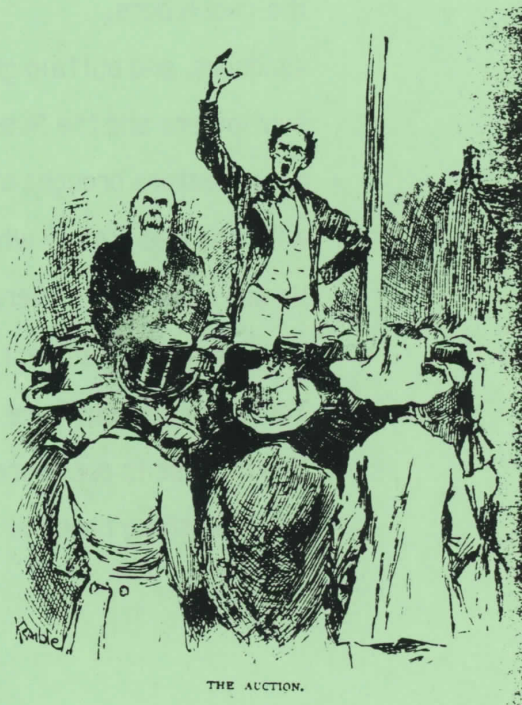
10

Where
When
A catbird answers
Where else

James C. Austin
Southern Illinois University
at Edwardsville



"ALAS, OLE POOR BROTHER!"



THE AUCTION.

On Attending the Symposium on the Cultural Heritage of the Midwest, 1989

Michigan State University is not my Midwest.
The grass is too green.
A river runs through it.
The river has water in it.
My Midwestern streams were dry.
There are too many trees.
My Midwest had no Magnolia trees.
My trees didn't bloom.
Too many of the walks do not intersect at right angles.
It's hard to tell which way north is.
There isn't enough sky.
Where are the wheat fields,
corn and soybeans,
the cockleburrs,
sandburs, and buffalo grass,
sunflowers and the Russian thistles
my ancestors brought over from Russia
with the Red Turkey wheat in the 1870s?
No one here wears overalls or seed corn caps.
This is not my Midwest.
Too much happens here.
My Midwest is out there
where nothing happens.

Elmer Suderman
Gustavus Adolphus College

In Memoriam: Thaddeus Hurd

Thaddeus B. Hurd, 85, of Clyde, Ohio, Life Member of the Society, local historian, and resource person for Sherwood Anderson scholars, died on March 12, 1989, at the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo, of pneumonia after bladder-cancer surgery.

Thad, son of Sherwood Anderson's boyhood friend and rival, the late Herman Hurd and the late Jennie Baker Hurd, was born in Clyde on October 23, 1903. He graduated from Clyde High School in 1920, attended Oberlin College, 1920-1922, taught in the Clyde Public Schools, 1922-1923, and then attended Cornell University, graduating in 1927 with the degree of Bachelor of Architecture. He received his Master of Architecture degree in 1929.

As an architect Thad worked for various firms and on both public and private projects. In 1955 he returned to Clyde and started his own firm. He retired in 1967.

Thad's energy, imagination, and determination in the service of Clyde were unlimited. Not only did he teach his fellow citizens to know and appreciate Sherwood Anderson, but he developed a strong sense of community pride in them. He fought, often alone, to save the nineteenth-century buildings on Main Street; he took countless visitors on tours of Clyde as Winesburg; he organized Sherwood Anderson programs in Clyde beginning in Anderson's centenary year, 1976. He saved and led the restoration of Clyde's 1882 town hall; most recently he established the Clyde Museum in the gem-like Grace Episcopal Church; and he secured the replacement of the landmark copper eagle on the town hall tower.

Thad received many awards and citations for his contributions to Clyde and Sandusky County, and he contributed to historical journals, to video and film productions. Members remember his sound but delightful contributions to the annual symposium.

Thad delighted in repeating a bit of Clyde and family folklore: Herman Hurd, Thad's father and son of the town grocer (Hern of Hern's grocery in Winesburg, Ohio) and

Sherwood Anderson were reportedly rivals for the hand of young, lovely Jennie Baker. Jennie chose Herman, and Sherwood went to Chicago and on to the literary fame that Clyde has finally come to appreciate.

Thad will be remembered and missed. Following is Thad's "Fun in Winesburg," reprinted from Midwestern Miscellany XI (1983) in his memory.

Dave Anderson



THE GREAT SOUTHERN HOTEL

Fun in Winesburg*

Thaddeus B. Hurd

For the past year and a half, I have been writing the "100 Years Ago" column for *The Clyde Enterprise*, the weekly newspaper in Clyde, Ohio. From the century-old pages of the *Enterprise* comes a vivid picture of life in this small, thriving Midwestern town. It was truly another world, and the pages of the *Enterprise* give us a glimpse of our Midwestern cultural roots as they grew in that time and place.

Clyde, where I grew up, and where I now live, is a good place to study life in Midwest America a hundred years ago. The files of *The Clyde Enterprise*, founded March 21, 1878, and still published, are almost complete. Further, in 1884 a young boy of seven named Sherwood Anderson moved with his parents to Clyde. Here he spent his boyhood days, and in later years wove his memories of the town and its people into his writings, especially in his books, *Winesburg, Ohio* (1919), *Poor White* (1920), and his posthumous *Sherwood Anderson's Memoirs* (1942).

The *Enterprise* chronicled the outer life of the town, Sherwood's writings the inner life of its people. Together, a Midwestern town of a hundred years ago is well portrayed. Reading Sherwood, one may feel that life in the town, his fictional Winesburg or Bidwell and the real Clyde, was only frustration and tragedy. The *Enterprise*, however, tells of many happy things, of "Fun In Winesburg," events that brought pleasure to the daily lives of the townspeople. Our commercialized entertainment of today was unknown. People enjoyed doing things together. My dad, Herman Hurd, who lived to see television, often used to say, "We made our own good times."

Clyde a hundred years ago was a growing village of about 2500 souls. Two railroads, completed in 1852, crossed here, one east-west and one north-south, and a village was growing up at their crossing. A third one opened in 1882, bringing coal from West Virginia to Lake Erie. Their passenger and freight depots were soon the hub of village life, so well portrayed in *Winesburg, Ohio*, and *Poor White*. New brick store buildings, called "blocks," began to line Main street, and more were building. The adjoining residential streets, laid out in the 1850's, had been planted with maple trees, now reaching full height of 50 to 60 feet. Comfortable homes of white wood or red brick, each surrounded with broad lawns, many with white wood picket fences, now lined these tree shaded streets, where the fictional George Willard walked with the banker's daughter Helen White.

A rich agricultural countryside, a Main Street of busy retail stores, and small but prosperous industry were bringing a new comfort and leisure to this Midwestern Amer-

* Reprinted from Midwestern Miscellany XI (1983)

ican town. The pioneer residents who had lived in log cabins now liked to boast of their elegant new homes with carpets on the floors, homes warm and cozy in winter with coal fired parlor stoves, cool in summer with high ceilings and open windows now barred to insects with the newly available wire screening. Kitchens were bursting with food from gardens and nearby farms, and my dad used to tell how the aroma of sizzling steaks was wafted from kitchens as he and my grandfather Hurd walked home to noonday dinner from Hurd's Grocery on South Main street. It was a life of abundance, comfort, and leisure never before known.

Clyde had a strong New England background, and churches loomed large in the town's life. The Protestant churches were Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, United Brethren, Baptist, Seventh Day Adventist, Universalist and a new Episcopal Society. A Roman Catholic church, ministering to the recent German and Irish immigrants, was growing. All had lay activities, often to raise money for church support.

Leading in the secular social life of the town were the fraternal organizations, the lodges. These were men's organizations, some with women's auxiliaries. Each had its lodge hall, on the upper floor of a Main Street business block. Some were purely social. Others offered insurance benefits to members.

Also prominent in the social life of the town were the literary and educational groups. The town's young people were now getting a fairly good education, eight years of elementary school and four years of high school. Their parents had not been so fortunate. They felt their lack of education and made efforts to fill the void by participation in these literary and educational clubs and societies, which met regularly to share knowledge their members were garnering from reading and study.

Commercial entertainment in this world without movies, radio, or television was limited to stage performances, both theatrical and musical, and lectures. They included both traveling professionals and amateur home talent. Clyde had a large public hall where these events took place. It was called Terry's Opera Hall, or the Opera House, though to my knowledge real opera never graced its shallow stage. It was located on the third floor of Will Terry's block, over the first floor furniture and undertaking business, on South Main Street, eastside. Professional events were brought to town by a business organization called the Clyde Opera Company. Amateur events were produced by local groups. During fall, winter, and spring there were usually two or three events each week in the hall, most of them well patronized.

Also prominent in Clyde activities was the McPherson Guard, the local unit of the Ohio National Guard. It occupied a large hall, called The Armory, or Armory Hall, on the third floor of Kline's Block, directly across South Main Street from Terry's Opera Hall. Here the Guard drilled and held its meetings and social events. Though the hall had no stage, it was also used by outside groups for various activities.

Both Terry's Opera Hall and Armory Hall were busy with many locally produced

events other than theatricals and musicals. Clubs and church groups held fairs, carnivals, and socials. Dancing clubs and other local groups held frequent dances. A popular local orchestra frequently put on public dances on Saturday nights.

Another popular event was the birthday or wedding anniversary party. These were usually in homes. Crowds of friends and relatives would descend unannounced on the hapless birthday victim for a surprise party, bringing food and presents. Wedding anniversary parties were usually given by the couple themselves and were highlights of the social season.

In a quieter vein was visiting. Afternoons and evenings were the popular times. An evening every week at grandma's was mandatory, and to neglect it made for hard feelings. Also, with the new mobility of train travel, visits running for days or weeks by friends and relatives from distant places were much enjoyed.

With no radio or television, the quiet evening at home was often spent in reading. Clyde did not have a public library, but Main Street stores sold books which people bought and loaned to each other. Newspapers and magazines came into the homes, and the *Enterprise* regularly reported on the stories and articles to be found in national magazines each month.

Not everyone went in for church socials and literary societies. Another element had fun at the seventeen local saloons. These were an anathema to the church people, who actively opposed them. Clyde ladies had marched on the saloons during the statewide Temperance fervor in 1874. In 1882, they formed a Clyde unit of the Women's Christian Temperance Union which worked to counteract the saloon's evil influence. News of the saloons is hard to come by, since the editor was a strong Temperance man and suppressed mention of them in his paper. Only rarely did they break into print, a burglary or a shooting. Yet seventeen saloons in a town of 2500 indicates that what they offered had a large appeal.

Strictly hush-hush was another social activity, prostitution. Again, information is hard to come by. It broke into print only when it tangled with the law. So far, I have documented only two houses in Clyde, though by tradition there were more.

Now I want to give you a sampling from of 1882 of Fun In Winesburg, news items that portray pleasurable aspects of life in Clyde a hundred years ago. I have rephrased them for brevity and added a few words to clarify what was unsaid but understood by Clyde readers.

JANUARY 1882

Clyde Lodge, Knights of Honor, will elect officers next Tuesday evening.

The Episcopal ladies' entertainment at Terry's Opera Hall Tuesday netted \$46.88 for the church.

A paper titled, "Crimes, The Responsibility and The Remedy," was read at a meeting of the Delfan-Telian Club December 19.

"Hazel Kirke," a comedy drama from Madison Square Theatre, New York, will be presented January 24 at the Opera House. Admission is 50 cents.

Net Dennis put a revolver ball through his hand Monday evening while shooting rats at Guisbert's saloon.

The Knights of Pythias ball is tomorrow evening at Armory Hall. Lodges from Sandusky, Toledo, and Cleveland will attend as bodies, accompanied by their ladies.

The Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a concert by the Slave Cabin Jubilee Singers Wednesday evening in Terry's Opera Hall.

A "sheet and pillow case" dance is planned for the Opera House January 31. Each guest is to be dressed in two sheets, a pillow case and a masque. Gould and Cleveland will furnish the music.

The Clyde Political Senate, for political and general discussion, was organized last Friday in Armory Hall.

FEBRUARY 1882

Homer Smallets, 18, whose mother keeps a saloon near the cemetery, had a foot cut off by an I.B.&W. freight train yesterday near Lawrence's Mill.

"East Lynne" plays at the Opera House Friday evening. Admission is 50 cents, reserved seats 75 cents.

St. Mary's Catholic Fair is in progress in Terry's Hall. Proceeds are to pay off a small church debt and benefit a fund for a new church to be built this summer.

MARCH 1882

The Delfan-Telian Club will celebrate its first anniversary March 6 in Terry's Opera Hall. Addresses, essays, declamations and music are on the program, also a debate on the application to American politics of the old maxim, "To The Victor Belong The Spoils." Admission is 10 cents to all.

The Clyde Fire Department celebrates its ninth anniversary tomorrow evening with a ball at Terry's Opera Hall.

C. E. Ellis has been manager of the series of "Old Folks Club Dances" at Terry's Opera Hall this winter. At the closing dance last Wednesday evening he was presented with a gold watch inscribed with his birth date, March 8, 1832.

Capt. Charles L. Dirlam and wife celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Friday evening at their home. The carpets were taken up and there was dancing to Bullard's Orchestra. They received many gifts.

Gould and Cleveland's orchestra will give another of their Saturday Night Dances at the Opera House this Saturday evening. Admission is 25 cents.

APRIL 1882

A sociable at the Methodist Church Wednesday evening netted \$39.20.

The entertainment put on by the ladies of the Baptist Church at Terry's Opera Hall last Friday evening had a record attendance. Admission was 15 cents. There was a

variety of performances to please everyone, including fine music. The program ended with several tableaux.

Dr. F. Brown was given a surprise party by his friends last Thursday evening on his birthday. Gifts included a hanging lamp, a chromo and other items.

The new Smith Law closing saloons on Sunday was rigidly observed in Clyde last Sunday.

MAY 1882

Charles E. Perry, 26, died May 7 of quick consumption. He was manager of the Clyde Opera Company since its organization 4 1/2 years ago, and brought high class entertainment to Clyde.

Cases in Mayor's court include the village vs. Mary Hunter, Lizzie Wilson and Kate Bartow - living in a house of ill repute for unlawful purposes.

Memorial Day will be Tuesday May 30. Eaton Post, Grand Army of the Republic, is in charge. Order of the procession to McPherson Cemetery at 2 p.m. is: McPherson Guard, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Odd Fellows, American Legion of Honor, the Mayor and village council, Fire Department, Eaton Post G.A.R., old soldiers of the Mexican War and the War of 1812, superintendent and teachers of the public school followed by school children with flowers for veterans' graves, and citizens on foot.

The Eighth Annual Commencement of Clyde High School will be Thursday June 8 in Terry's Opera Hall. There are 10 in this year's class, 2 gentlemen and 8 young ladies. An admission of 15 cents will be charged to keep away the noisy element. The Alumni Banquet will be Friday June 9.

The editor recommends W. A. Hunter's Turkish Baths in the rear of Hunter's Elevator. Turkish baths are 75 cents for gentlemen, 50 cents for the ladies. Common tub baths are 25 cents.

JUNE 1882

H. E. Southland's hardware store has screen doors and window screens for sale, something entirely new.

About 70 friends visited Mrs. Anna Lemmon at her home on Cherry street last Wednesday evening on her 67th birthday. They bought and served a bountiful supper and gave her an elegant easy chair for her declining years.

Clyde Methodists will hold their Summer Festival next Wednesday evening in the lecture room of the church. Strawberries and ice cream will be served.

The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle of Clyde met Friday evening June 30 at the home of Dr. J. T. Everett. Mrs. Everett read a long poem she had composed titled "McPherson."

JULY 1882

The ladies of the Baptist Church will hold a raspberry and ice cream festival in Terry's Opera Hall tomorrow evening.

Monticello Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, worked in the third degree Monday night with visiting brethren from Fremont and elsewhere. Refreshments were served in the waiting room. The lodge is in a very prosperous condition.

A. G. Soden of Toledo sent a telegram to M. Kiefer here saying to meet him with Stricker, a mutual friend, at the noon train Sunday. The telegraph operator garbled the message and it came out "stretcher." Kiefer contacted undertaker W. C. Terry who met him at the station with a comfortable stretcher, and also called Dr. Griffin to meet him at the train. To their surprise and relief, Mr. Soden and Mr. Stricker stepped briskly from the train in the best of health. The telegraph operator has an account to settle with the doctor and the undertaker.

AUGUST 1882

The new Clyde Baseball Club plays Bellevue there next Monday, and Norwalk plays here next Wednesday.

The Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist Sunday Schools are holding a picnic tomorrow at the Fair Grounds.

SEPTEMBER 1882

Forty-six veterans of the Eighth Ohio Regiment, Civil War, held a reunion here last Friday at the Armory. Noon dinner was served at the Nichols House hotel. To their surprise, the veterans found that the citizens of Clyde had quietly paid for all their expenses here.

"The Blue and The Gray," the best American military drama ever produced, will play here next week at Terry's Opera Hall under auspices of Eaton Post. G.A.R. Local talent will fill a number of roles in the cast. Admission is 25 cents, reserved seats 35 cents, at Tiffany's drug store.

OCTOBER 1882

The Ladies Shakespearian Club of Clyde will meet next Monday evening with Mrs. R. B. Alexander on Cherry street.

The Clyde Fair opened Tuesday, October 3, with splendid weather. All available space on the grounds is filled with exhibits. A feature this year is Professor Frank Stockey, the rope walking hero of Niagara Falls. In 1879 he walked over the Falls for 27 consecutive days. He ends his act by sliding down an inclined rope on his head.

Gould and Cleveland's dances at the Opera House during the Fair had a very large attendance, taking in \$120 Thursday and \$100 Friday.

A house of bad repute in the west part of town was raided a week ago Saturday by the Marshal and special deputies. It had been operating less than a week. In Mayor's court, one man was fined \$10, another and a boy let go. The women were let off on payment of costs, on condition that they leave the county. No names were made public. The Mayor felt it was best for the village to handle the case quietly.

NOVEMBER 1882

The mammoth jaw of a whale will be shown here Saturday. It is 22 feet long and has 44 teeth. Admission is 10 cents, in the vacant store room first door south of E. D. Harkness's store, North Main street.

The Clyde Local Music Circle meets tomorrow evening in Delfan-Telian Hall over A. M. Clark's grocery.

The Townsend Players will present "Othello" at the Opera House tomorrow night.

At the free birthday party dance that Erastus Gould, the famous Clyde fiddler, gave for himself Monday evening at Armory Hall, his friends surprised him with the gift of a handsome upholstered patent rocker.

Miss Alice Nettleton of Medina is here visiting her sister, Mrs. H. T. Wilder.

Rip Van Winkle will play Clyde Opera House November 29.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of Clyde was organized last Friday afternoon at the Methodist Church. All protestant churches of Clyde are represented: Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, United Brethren, Universalist and Grace Episcopal Society. They plan to establish a free public reading room here where young men and boys may pass their leisure time without the contaminating influence of the saloons.

John B. Bush, Justice of the Peace, was 61 last Thursday. Friends and relatives gave him a surprise party at his residence on Duane street. They brought and served a bountiful dinner and presented him with an easy chair.

DECEMBER 1882

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Stark returned Monday from Hudson, Michigan, where they spent Thanksgiving with their daughter, Mrs. Hattie S. Russell and family.

Professor Wm. H. Sprague, of Sprague's Law and Business College, will give a course on "Commercial Paper." Lectures are Tuesday and Thursday evenings at College Hall in the Squire Block, South Main street.

Last Friday evening, about 20 uniformed members of Eden Encampment, I.O.O.F., of Bellevue, visited Earl Encampment of Clyde, traveling in sleighs. After lodge work, they gave an exhibition drill. All then enjoyed a bountiful supper in the waiting room.

The 15th or crystal wedding anniversary of A. D. Ames and wife, the former Maud Holgate, was celebrated last Thursday evening at their home on East Buckeye street. About 100 guests, some from Shelby, her home, attended. The Ames orchestra played. Dinner was served at 10. The Enterprise is please to print here a list of all presents received and their donors.

Ladies intending to receive callers on New Years Day are asked to notify the Enterprise of the place and who will be receiving. The Enterprise has New Years Day calling cards for sale.

Clyde ladies are holding a grand charity ball in Terry's Opera Hall Friday evening, December 29, with music by the Fremont Reed Band. The proceeds are for relief of the poor this winter. Tickets are \$1.50 per couple.

Christmas Tree Sunday School programs at the churches are: Methodist Episcopal Saturday evening at 7 o'clock; Grace Episcopal Sunday evening; Baptist Monday evening, Christmas Day.

* * * * *

In closing these notes from 1882 *Clyde Enterprise*, mention should be made of its editor and publisher, Henry F. Paden. He was born in 1835 in Fairfield county, Ohio. When only 12, he began working in a print shop in Findlay, Ohio. Three years later, he got a job on *The Register*, Sandusky, Ohio, and advanced to the position of city editor. He then attended Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, and in 1856 went to work for the Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark Railroad, later the B. & O. For 15 years he was a conductor, and for five years a superintendent. In 1877 he moved to Clyde, his wife's home area, and in March 1878 started *The Clyde Enterprise*. He was elected mayor of Clyde in May 1882 and in June 1884 sold *The Enterprise* to the Jackson brothers, whose descendants still publish it.

Henry lived next door to my grandfather, T. P. Hurd. Dad remembered him as a small gentleman with a twinkle in his eye, who used to say, "Good Morning, Herman," as he shook dad's hand and squeezed it so hard it hurt. Henry and his wife, the former Mary Almond of rural Clyde, had five children: Alexander, Carrie, Frederick, Jeanette, and Clifton. Dad and Jeanette never married. I remember Jeanette as a buxom, matronly lady prominent in Clyde social and church affairs. Cliff, who studied for the Episcopal ministry and then went into the movies, changed his name to John Emerson and married Anita Loos, author of *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. Cliff for many years was president of Actor's Equity Association. He befriended his former Clyde neighbor, Sherwood Anderson, in both Chicago and New York.

Henry was active in organizing the Episcopal Church in Clyde and in building the church edifice on West Buckeye street. He was a member of Perserverance Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Sandusky, Ohio, and active in the affairs of Monticello Lodge in Clyde. He was a strong Temperance man. His church, lodge, and temperance views were prominently reflected in his paper.

Henry died March 1, 1889, while still mayor of Clyde, and is buried in the town's McPherson Cemetery. The following December, a beautiful stained glass window in his memory was unveiled in the chancel of Grace Episcopal Church, 124 West Buckeye street, Clyde, by his widow Mary. It cost \$300 and was the gift of his many friends in Clyde and other places. In later years, the church building was abandoned for services and fell into disrepair. In 1974 it was purchased by E. Arthur Fiser of Clyde who has beautifully restored it and is using it as a custom jewelry shop. Here you may still see this memorial to Henry Paden, who in the pages of *The Enterprise* so faithfully chronicled Fun in Winesburg, the happy times in Clyde, the Ohio town immortalized by Sherwood Anderson in his book.

Clyde, Ohio

William Dean Howells, William Howard Taft, George Harvey,
and the Continuity of American Prose Fiction

David D. Anderson

On Friday, March 1, 1912, William Dean Howells became seventy-five years old; on the next evening, March 2, he was the guest of honor at what is still the most distinguished and spectacular literary event in America literary history, with the greatest gathering of wisdom, talent, money, and imagination under one roof at one occasion since, with apologies to John F. Kennedy, Thomas Jefferson lived alone in the White House.

The occasion, a dinner in the great ballroom at Sherry's in New York, was not merely to observe Howells's seventy-fifth birthday, however, but it was to pay tribute to Howells as America's most distinguished man of letters, already designated, with no pun intended, the Dean of American Letters. The dinner was hosted by George Rinton McClellan Harvey, Editor of Harper's Weekly, newly-embarked on a career as a Maker of Presidents; the chief speaker was Howells's fellow Ohioan, President William Howard Taft (in diffidence to whose Presidential schedule the event was held on March 2 rather than March 1), and in attendance were 400 of the most distinguished men and women of letters in America. The dinner was served at fifty small tables; at the head table Colonel Harvey presided, with Mr. Howells at his right hand and President Taft at his left. Speakers, in addition to Colonel Harvey, the President, and Mr. Howells, were Hamilton W. Mobie, editor and critic, Winston Churchill, novelist, Basil King, novelist, William Allen White, editor, Augustus Thomas, playwright, and James Barnes, actor, each representing a dimension of American letters to which Howells had contributed. Barnes ended the program with an appearance as Silas Lapham, in old-fashioned clothes, greeting, in verse, his creator and the audience.

The event was covered extensively in 86 column inches on the first and eighth pages of the New York Times on Sunday, March 3, together with a complete guest list, which included dignitaries ranging from Charles Francis Adams, George Ade, and Mary Austen, to Walter Hines Page, Ida M. Tarbell, Mary Roberts Rinehart, Edwin Markham, Abraham Cohan, and George Sylvester Viereck, the latter two, perhaps significantly, the only non-Anglo-Saxon names on the list.

So celebrative was the gathering, so unusual the event, and in retrospect so convenient was the timing of the observance that what was said at the event, especially by Howells, has been virtually ignored, and the dinner has taken a symbolic significance that none of the participants, including the honored guest, the President, or the President-maker could foresee. Conveniently, in Howells's old age, at the point where Woodrow Wilson, with Harvey's support, was becoming a serious candidate for the Presidency, while both William Jennings Bryan and President Taft himself were already fading in prominence, and in retrospect, with World War I on the European Political horizon, with Picasso exploring cubism, with the Armory Show in the near future, while Proust's A la Recherche du temps perdu and Joyce's Dubliners in preparation, with Pound already calling himself an Imagist, with obscure poems by obscure Midwesterners appearing in Reedy's Mirror, with Poetry in the planning stage and The Little Review almost in sight, with Sherwood Anderson increasingly unhappy in the front office of an Elyria, Ohio, paint factory, Howells's seventy-fifth birthday observance has been seen frequently as the symbolic end of one American era and the beginning of another.

To traditional historians it has been seen as the end of the nineteenth century, the end of America's innocence, and the beginning of the twentieth century, the last event of the old world before the beginning of America's maturity, of American sophistication; to cultural historians it has been seen as the last great flowering of

Anglo-Saxon Protestant America; to literary historians it has marked the end of American gentility as Howells began, reluctantly, to give way to a rapidly emerging modernism. Howells, the first lifelong president of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, had become; it seems, no longer relevant. However, still ahead for Howells were New Leaf Mills (1913), The Leatherstocking (1916), and Years of My Youth (1916), each worthy to stand beside A Modern Instance (1882), The Rise of Silas Lapham (1885), and A Hazard of New Fortunes (1890) not only as testaments to Howells's dedication to truth but as examples of the critical ethic at the heart of his realism. But there was no anticipation of Howells's future accomplishments at the dinner, nor was there any suggestion of an ultimate place for Howells in American literary history other than that which was to be defined for him by Sinclair Lewis in Stockholm in 1930. Even Everett Carter, Howells's most conservative and sympathetic critic, reads Howells's speech as an explanation of his past rather than an attempt to suggest not only what was to come, but why it was needed, in his own work to come and in the continuity of American letters. There is no suggestion of Howells's role, in those last years, as a bridge between himself and Twain of the nineteenth century, and Anderson, Hemingway, and even Lewis of the twentieth.

The remarks of the other leading speakers, particularly those of Colonel Harvey and President Taft, reprinted in The North American Review, edited by Harvey, eight years later, just after Howells's death, were respectively, exercises in clever triviality - Harvey's - and in pious condescension - Taft's, each of whom spoke in terms more reminiscent of a literary obituary rather than either a testament to Howells's life of literary pioneering and significant work, an appreciation of his role in directing the course of American literature in his time, or a recognition of his role as a critical realist as he called into question the values of the age that had made Harvey an influential editor and Taft the President of the United States. First Harvey spoke:

The first realization that springs from a glance of your birthday party, sir, is that of your own amazing versatility. One needs only to recall the titles of your books to paint the picture. The unique gathering itself, for instance, might be designated with exactitude as A Modern Instance. You might find yourself primarily among Literary Friends and Acquaintances. Behold, sir, with gratification and delight the Heroines of Fiction and rest assured that not one is A Counterfeit Presentment (2).

The cleverness, with increasing strain, continues:

[wives without husbands and vice versa at the gathering] affords a vivid reminder of No Love Lost. . . . [soon] we shall hear Tales of Ohio. . . I am assuming A Fearful Responsibility and I plead for the full exercise of The Quality of Mercy. You will be confronted presently by An Imperative Duty, while on your right, if you but turn your head, you will perceive A Little Girl Among the Masters. . . . [and] somewhere in the room A Pair of Patient Lovers. . . . (2).

Finally Harvey introduced one who "is, with one exception, the most distinguished native of Ohio now living. . . ., the President of the United States"(3).

Taft's remarks, while undoubtedly well-intended, were neither clever nor perceptive:

I have traveled from Washington here to do honor to the greatest living American writer and novelist. I have done this because of the personal debt I feel for the pleasure he has given me. . . .

Like Shakespeare, like Burns, like Lincoln, Mr. Howells is not a university man, but he began his literary education on a country newspaper. . . . on the occasion of my graduation from Yale in 1881 Mr. Howells received the honorary degree of doctor of laws. . . .

Born in Ohio, in a "Boy's Town" on the beautiful river, he formed what was there an unusual ambition to succeed as a man of letters. . . . (4).

The nature of Howells's achievement, after this condescendingly brief introduction, was, to President Taft, clear: Howells was not a practical man, but he

certainly was moral:

Mr. Howells, in his long and useful life, has been content to live in literature. He has attempted to play a part in no other sphere. By taste, by ability, by imagination, by the genius of taking pains, he finds himself now five years beyond the age of the psalmist, representing the best and highest of American literature. Everything that he has written sustains the highest standard of social purity, and aspiration of refinement and morality, and of wholesome ideals, and he has added to American literature a treasure of literary excellence the enjoyment of which will make coming generations grateful (5).

In Taft's emphasis on Howells as moralist, there is no suggestion of Howells the critical realist who had pointed out in forceful fiction the social evils of his time: of the dramatic demand for social and economic justice for industrial workers in Annie Kilburn (1889); of the rejection of social complacency in A Hazard of New Fortunes (1890), of Howells's impassioned response to the Chicago Haymarket affair; and the rejection of the philosophy and practice of Gospel of Wealth in The Quality of Mercy (1892) and The World of Chance (1893). He seemed, indeed, in Taft's remarks, to be the "gentlest, sweetest, and most honest of men . . . [with] the code of a pious old maid," as Sinclair Lewis portrayed him before the Swedish Academy on December 30, 1930, as Lewis became the first American writer to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature.

When Howells rose to speak, one wonders if he had indeed heard what had gone before as he spoke, in well-wrought terms, of what can best be described as the continuity of American literature. First he remembered, as one must at the age of seventy-five: "Some fifty-two years ago. . . I sat with the great Hawthorne on the hill behind his house in Concord. . . (6) To the backward glance the light of the past seems one great glow, but it is in fact a group of stellar fires. . . (7) I knew Hawthorne and Emerson and Walt Whitman; I knew Longfellow and Holmes and Whittier and Lowell; I knew Bryant and Bancroft and Motley; I knew Harriet Beecher Stowe and Julia Ward Howe; I knew Artemus Ward and Stockton and Mark Twain; I knew Parkman and Fiske.

Names refulgent still, however the fire, never to be returned, seems beginning to die and of some of them; names such as we have hardly the like of."(8).

Bub Howells's tribute to the past was, if both deep-felt and dutiful, nevertheless fleeting, as he went on:

Hardly the like of? I say this, but I say it askingly and at the worst wistfully in fear of your response to a question which I should ask myself courageously rather than categorically. . . . I make haste to declare; yes, we have many like them. . . . Literature, which was once of the cloister, the school, has become more and more of the forum and incidentally of the market place. . . . in turning from the vain endeavor of creating beauty and devoting itself to the effort of ascertaining life it is activated by a clearer motive than before. . . (8).

It is well to honor and remember those who have gone before, Howells said:

Let us love them, let us honor them; we cannot worship them too much, but let us remember their limitations and consider the potentiality of the artists who now are and are to be. Let us recognize the fact that in the present vast output of literature the pure gold is not less in quantity because the mass of dirt and dross is so immeasurably greater than in the days of another sort of mining. I myself believe that there is gold greater in quantity and that possibly in a critical analysis the report of the assayer will declare as high a percentage of the genuine metal. . . .

The great men I have named could not do just the fine things, the brave things, the true things that are done now by the men I will not name lest I miss some in the long count. . . . Once we had a New England literature, now we have a national literature. . . . our novelists and novelettists are from every part of the country; and each is devoted wittingly or unwittingly to the representation of the America that he knows best because he has lived it most (10).

Howells concluded with a survey of the nameless poets, novelists, and playwrights who were breaking ground in search of, to carry through Howells's metaphor, the gold

that lay buried under the dress of contemporary America, Harvey's America and Taft's America, and then he concluded with a tribute to his friend Mark Twain, two year in his grave.

Howells received a standing ovation, and then the program continued: James Barnes, in his disguise as Silas Lapham spoke to Howells and the audience in doggeral in thanks and tribute for having given his persona life; Winston Churchill spoke on Howells's "honest workmanship"; Hamilton Wright Mobie spoke impersonally of the influences on Howells's work; Augustus Thomas spoke of the pleasure he received in reading Howells years before in Harper's Weekly, which drew a wry coment and laughter from Harvey; tributes were read and acknowledged, and the party was over. President Taft went back to Washington, to insurgency by Theodore Roosevelt and defeat and ultimate vindication in the Chief Justiceship; Harvey went on to his kingmaking and rejection by Wilson, and then in 1922, in a smoke-filled room in his suite in the Hotel Blackstone in Chicago, with the nomination of another Ohio Republican he found his president-making fulfillment in what led to his appointment to the America ambassadorship to the Court of St. James.

And Howells went back to the eight years left to his life, and to his increasingly uneasy chair and the works that explored his Ohio youth, even as another Ohioan, a half century younger, was exploring the Ohio town as it had been at century's end. And then Howells was in his grave, his work and his cause ignored, himself eulogized as a man who was "greater than anything he wrote;" and Sinclair Lewis went to Stockholm and ridiculed Howells, and Lewis is in turn himself ridiculed and the work - the literature of Howells, who made us moderns, willingly or not - continues to endure.

Blue Jay Feather

Mary Kyle Michael's first chapbook, reflecting a lifetime of experience, has just been published. Like the feather in her title poem "Blue Jay Feather," her poems are plain and unpretentious, yet they are delicately, painstakingly crafted, and richly suggestive in meaning. Shaped into free verse that nevertheless belongs to the dominant tradition of sturdy Midwestern realism, Michael's poems recall the verse of Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology, especially in their short, incisive sketches of her pupils at Tippecanoe High School, Tipp City, Ohio, where the poet taught for many years.

But to call these poems realistic is not to do full justice to them. Like the imagist poems of Amy Lowell, they suggest--without being overtly symbolic--much more than they state, much more than their images of everyday reality make explicit. Among my favorites in this surprisingly varied collection of short poems, none more than a page in length, are the following--"The Leaves," a fine poetic tribute to autumn; "High Heels," a poem of grief, written in memoriam; "Two Years," a poem that simultaneously laments a death and sings of life; "The Sycamores," which captures the sense of the familiar places which ultimately breeds love; and the contrasting poems "Debbie" and "Phil," which encapsulate the poet's justifiable pride in teaching some students and her sense of failure with others. Finally, "To MAK" stands as a memorable thumbnail sketch of a dedicated, fulfilled, successful teacher whose values and rewards are nevertheless not much understood or appreciated by others. "The Sycamores," a topographical nature poem, will serve as a representative example of her poetry:

I used to hate the sycamores.
Coming home on drab winter days
as the car climbed the hill above them,
I was glad to leave their ugliness--
their blotched, rococo branches
that spread across the bare brown hill,
the dark tangled roots where
the swift stream eroded the bank--
but the twisted patterns became familiar.
I've changed my mind about the sycamores.

Not all of these poems are equally successful, but none falls into bathos or sentimentality. A few are too recherche or private in their allusions, e.g. "Paper Boy," with its strained allusion to Gay's Beggar's Opera, and "Webster's Seventh." But all are worth reading, including one of the departures from free verse, a light-hearted limerick about Melanie, "who never committed a felony!"

Paul W. Miller
Wittenberg University

Women Poets and the Midwestern Literary Tradition

David D. Anderson

Sylvia Griffith Wheeler, ed. In the Middle: Ten Midwestern Women Poets. Kansas City, Mo: BKM Press, 1985. Poems, statements, and criticism by Sylvia Wheeler, Faye Kicknosoway, Joan Yeagley, Diane Hueter, Sonia Gernes, Alberta Turner, Janet Beeler Shaw, Patricia Hampl, Lisel Mueller, Roberta Hill Whiteman, Cary Waterman, Dorothy Selz, and Patricia Pyle.

One of the oldest and most important traditions in the evolving history of Midwestern literature is the prominent role played by women poets. Of the 152 poets whose work was published in William T. Coggeshall's Poets and Poetry of the West (Columbus 1860), fifty-five are women. The first of them and one of the earliest Western poets in the collection is Julia L. Dumont, born on the Muskingum River in October, 1794, who from her home in Vevay, Indiana, was a regular contributor of verse and stories to the Literary Gazette of Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Mirror, and The Western Literary Journal, and the Ladies' Repository, both of Cincinnati, until her death on January 2, 1857. The list includes others who gained national recognition, including the Carey sisters, Alice and Phoebe, who went from their birthplace (Alice in 1820, Phoebe in 1825) in Hamilton County, Ohio, to prominence and, in 1850, residence and literary celebrity in New York. Too, there are those who, like Sarah Laura Smith, born in Detroit in 1811, published verse in the Cincinnati Gazette and a substantial volume that includes the haunting "the Ohio", before her sudden death in her twenty-first year.

The fifty-five women poets in the collection have in common the subject matter of their time, their place, their experience: a wondrous, sometimes threatening natural environment, the majesty of rivers, plains, virgin forest; giving nurturing life; the beauty of flowers, the depths of love, the majesty of God. Their verse is regular, perhaps even predictable, but deeply felt in their awareness and acceptance of and faith in their dreams of the West.

Unfortunately too much of the older poetic tradition to which Midwestern women have contributed is almost forgotten, as are most of the works and the women who

wrote them. But In the Middle, an anthology of the works of ten contemporary Midwestern women poets, edited with a critical preface by Sylvia Wheeler, in which each women's poems is prefaced by a brief biography and photo and a critical statement, one senses a continuation of concerns and a continuum of sensibility as these very contemporary women address place, experience, feeling in terms and forms at once modern, American, and Midwestern, at the same time that they echo the awareness, the wonder, and the depth of feeling of those women who had known the endless variety of the West when it was younger and uncluttered, not yet the old Northwest, not yet the new Midwest, but no less evocative of response as it excites the poetic imagination.

In her excellent introductory essay Sylvia Wheeler sees in the poems of each of the contributors four recurrent counters or counterparts, each colored, as she points out, by the regional and feminine perspectives of the poets. They are "landscapes," "relationships," "animals," and "myths," themes that recur in the poems. Of landscape, Wheeler writes:

In particular, the landscape poems reveal a Midwestern "pragmatism," a coming to terms with the closed frontier, despite its seeming promise of space; and a populist point of view can be seen But most intriguing is to see the Midwest from a feminine perspective where women continue as caretakers of the land and its people, as transmitters of the culture, as storytellers, preservers of history. And in bringing women from from the past to the Midwestern present by way of emotional identification, [some] further identify and enrich their values, their gender, by way of region. (4-5)

Although Wheeler points out that many of the poets resist being labeled Midwestern women or Midwestern poets, terms which presumably reek of provincialism, a Midwestern sensibility is evident in each of the poets, at least in the works anthologized here, a sensibility almost as often found in the works of the same poet, a reminder, perhaps, of that urban-rural relationship that fascinated Sherwood Anderson and Carl Sandburg when the century was young and that remains part of the Midwestern psychological reality even yet.

Each of the poets provides a brief biographical statement that suggests the wide

variety of backgrounds and origins represented by the ten, and each provides, too, a brief statement that blends biography, attitudes, and work. Thus, Faye Kicknosway of Michigan writes, "Being a Midwestern poet forces the poet into an exterior landscape," for her, a landscape of close relations and Midwestern vignettes; Joan Yeagley stresses diversity in her perception of the region and her state, a diversity obvious in her work; Diane Hueter, from her refuge in a wind-swept Kansas, reflects the life of that place; Sonia Gernes of Indiana and Minnesota writes that until she moved to Seattle to study for her M. A. and Ph. D. that she realized "how important the Midwest is to me as a writer," an importance particularly evident in "Plainsong for an Ordinary Night;" Janet Beeler Shaw of Wisconsin writes that "what I know is the drone of icadas, the high whine of wind off the plains, hickory nuts dropping on the roof all night, long ground shadows over corn stalk stubble, the flat, gray light of St. Louis, Cleveland, or Chicago," the stuff of "Missouri Bottomland," of "Dowry," of "Self;" Patricia Hampl of Wisconsin writes that "A nagging disadvantage, which I associated with the Midwest, has somehow turned into a source, a buoyant possibility," that of her "Ice Age" and "St. Paul: Walking."

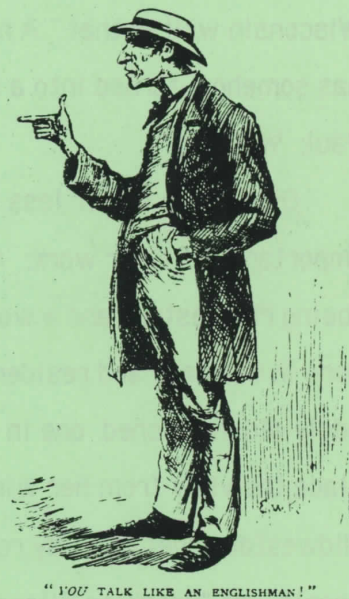
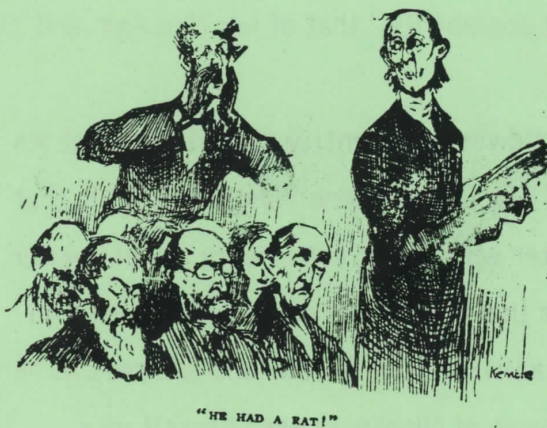
Others are either less certain of their Midwestern identity deny it or reject its importance in their work: Alberta Turner of Ohio, born in New York State, feels that "being Midwestern and a woman doesn't matter very much" in her work; Lisel Mueller, born in Germany and resident in Illinois sees that the idea of regionalism seems an oddly old-fashioned one in this age;" Roberta Hill Whiteman of Wisconsin sees as her place the view from her window; Cary Waterman of Minnesota sees herself as a Midwestern poet only "by reasons of geography," and much of her work focuses on people, yet "Breaking Silence" evokes the upper Midwest as few other poems in the collection manage to do.

The concluding essay, "On Poetry of Place," by the late Dorothy Selz, wisely says that "the sense of place is something, something very precious . . . [but] it is not everything in poetry," that "expression becomes poetry, not because of places, not

because of the deep emotion which evoked it, but because of the fact that it fulfills our cultural expectations of what constitutes poetry [expectations that are] as widely pervasive as our language." A sense of place, however, it is clear, is not only the point at which, according to Flannery O'Connor, every writer must begin, but it remains, in our mind and emotions, as Emerson insisted more than a century ago, the only universal.

The collection is valuable, the poetry good, the essays interesting, the idea and the editing intelligent and Patricia Pyle's bibliography useful. Sylvia Wheeler deserves our thanks for giving us the collection, and it is deserving of wide distribution, wide readership, and serious appraisal.

Michigan State University



Announcements

Conference on the Culture of the Ohio Frontier

The annual Conference on The Culture of the Ohio Frontier was held in Columbus on May 5-7, 1989, under the chairmanship of Tony Stoneburner and Tony Lisska, both of Denison University. Programs were held at the beautifully restored Great Southern Hotel and the Thurber House. About 20 presentations included papers by SSML members Paul Miller, Eugene Pattison, Bill Baker, Jim Hughes, and Dave Anderson. Next year's program will be held at Put-In-Bay, South Bass Island, Ohio in early May. For details, contact Eugene Pattison, Alma College, Alma, MI 48801.

Ray Lewis White

Ray Lewis White, distinguished Professor of English at Illinois State University and recipient of the Society's MidAmerica Award for 1987, has edited Sherwood Anderson: Early Writings, Kent State University Press, 1989.

Tom Page

Tom Page, of Springfield, Illinois, has published The Name of the Place: Poems, John Brown Press, 1989.

Frederick Manfred

Recently published is The Selected Letters of Frederick Manfred, 1932-1954, edited by Arthur R. Hirsebue and Nancy Owen Nelson, The University of Nebraska Press, 1989. Fred received the Society's Mark Twain Award in 1981.

Gwendolyn Brooks

Gwendolyn Brooks, recipient of the Mark Twain Award for 1985, was recently awarded the \$40,000 Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The award was made at the Chicago Poetry Festival.

Sherwood Anderson EARLY WRITINGS

edited by Ray Lewis White

There is only so much truth to the statement that Sherwood Anderson (1876-1941) became a great writer in 1919. When *Winesburg, Ohio* appeared in 1919, Sherwood Anderson had long been a published author. He had made his living by writing since 1900, when he became an advertising-agency solicitor and copywriter.

Anderson's fortuitous early discovery of the joys of writing led him to create in the most unpromising forum--in essays of the profession of advertising--the dramatic situations and interesting character presentation necessary to successful fiction.

In presenting this generally forgotten and sometimes obscure material, collected from various periodicals and magazines issued from 1902 into 1916, Ray Lewis White had added to the Anderson canon several hitherto unknown essays and stories. In notes he explains the few historical and cultural

allusions unlikely to be commonly remembered. White has woven the essays and stories into the texture of Sherwood Anderson's life as he grew from a dashing young man-about-town to a respectable middle-class husband and father and then to an unconventional, colorful, and fascinating literary figure.

Knowledge and understanding of what Sherwood Anderson wrote first will lead to greater comprehension and appreciation of what he wrote as a mature, gifted, and often inspired and inspiring American author.

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April



Ray Lewis White is Distinguished Professor of English at Illinois State University. His previous books on Sherwood Anderson include Sherwood Anderson's Memoirs: A Critical Edition, and Sherwood Anderson: A Reference Guide.

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The Selected Letters of Frederick Manfred, 1932-1954

Edited by Arthur R. Huseboe and Nancy Owen Nelson

"As the 'story' of a novelist of the West confronting constantly the inhibitions and prejudices of eastern publishing, Manfred's letters are important. For readers of Manfred's novels (and the number of readers increases steadily) his letters are extremely revealing of the man behind the novels—the artist."—John R. Milton, author of *The Novel of the American West*.

The chronicler of "Siouxland," Frederick Manfred has won international acclaim for a series of novels including *This Is the Year* (1947), *Lord Grizzly* (1954), *Riders of Judgment* (1957), and *Conquering Horse* (1959). His *Buckskin Man Tales*, in particular, are so vivid and fast-paced that Wallace Stegner has likened the reading of them to riding on a runaway stagecoach. Now the intense man who carved out his own literary domain is revealed in this collection of

letters—the first by a major living writer of the American West to be published.

The Selected Letters of Frederick Manfred, 1932-1954 traces the development of a midwestern writer who struggled with illness, isolation, poverty, and critical neglect before winning lasting fame with the publication of *Lord Grizzly*. Arthur R. Huseboe and Nancy Owen Nelson have selected 271 letters showing the many shades of Manfred's spirit: the tireless researcher, the friend of the Sioux, the champion of the worker, and the visionary. To his correspondents, some of them, like Sinclair Lewis, famous, Manfred confides his political and religious concerns, his passions, his career decisions (he changed his name from Feike Feikema to Frederick Manfred), and his battles with editors and publishers to present without compromise his own creative vision.

These lively letters illuminate Manfred's novels up to 1954 and reveal the man behind them while recording his view of three decades of American life from the Great Depression to the Eisenhower era. In their introduction, Arthur R. Huseboe and Nancy Owen Nelson review Manfred's turbulent early career and later critical reception.

Arthur R. Huseboe, a professor of English and chairman of the Humanities Division at Augustana College, is the author of *Herbert Krause* (1985), *Sir George Etheredge* (1987), and many other works. Nancy Owen Nelson, an instructor of English at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn, Michigan, has published articles in *Western American Literature* and other journals.

May. viii, 421 pages. 14 black and white photographs.
\$35.00 Cloth ISBN 0-8032-2344-7.

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ANNUAL MEETING

School of the Ozarks

Point Lookout, Missouri

October 26 - 28, 1989



THE OZARKS' CHANGING FOLK TRADITIONS

FORM FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 1989 ANNUAL MEETING

If you would like to participate in the program for the annual meeting, please submit this form by June 15, 1989.

Jim Vandergriff
2110 S. Delaware
Springfield, MO 65804

OR

Virginia Scott
P.O. Box 247
Chadwick, MO 65629

Please indicate what kind of presentation you would like to make -- 20-minute paper for a panel (send 200 word summary), playing or singing in a music session, setting up a folk art display, or other appropriate activity.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone: Home _____ Office _____

I hereby do _____ do not _____ give the Missouri Folklore Society permission to make an audio or video tape of my presentation for scholarly or research purposes. This agreement includes the stipulation that anyone wishing to use the recorded material for commercial purposes must get permission in writing from me.

(signature)

(date)

DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPATION

(You may continue your description on the back of this sheet.)

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

zip code 77843-4238

Department of
Modern and Classical Languages

The Fantastic Imagination
in
New Critical Theory Conference

CALL FOR PAPERS:

Conference on *The Fantastic Imagination in New Critical Theory*, Texas A&M University, February 28 to March 4, 1990, seeks papers on what opportunities and/or challenges the fantastic poses for a particular modern critical approach, as exhibited in a case study. Panels will be organized on semiotics, Bakhtin studies, deconstructionism, feminism, Marxism, psychology and anthropology. Featured speakers will include Michael Holquist, Eric S. Rabkin, Daniel Rancour-Laferrriere, George Slusser and Darko Suvin.

Address inquiries and abstracts (by May 15, 1989) to

Brett Cooke,
Department of Modern & Classical Languages
Texas A&M University,
College Station, TX 77843

409-845-4762.

THE POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION IN THE SOUTH
THE AMERICAN CULTURE ASSOCIATION IN THE SOUTH

CALL FOR PAPERS Annual Meeting

5, 6, 7 October

Sea Turtle Inn
Atlantic Beach, Florida

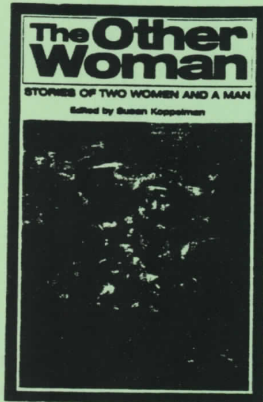
Founded in 1971 as regional affiliates of the national Popular Culture Association, PCAS and ACAS draw membership largely but not exclusively from eleven southeastern states. Our annual conference is interdisciplinary, and we welcome serious examination of all aspects of popular and American culture. Membership dues are \$15 per year and include subscriptions to the semi-annual journal *Studies in Popular Culture* and the *PCAS Newsletter*.

We invite papers, discussion panels, and special topics or theme sessions on any aspect of popular or American culture. Past conferences have included discussions of such subjects as advertising and marketing, sports and soap operas, mystery and fantasy, women's and Afro-American studies, art and music, politics and pornography, and folklore and religion.

Anyone interested in presenting a paper, organizing a theme or topics session, or a presentation in another form should send a title, an abstract, and any particulars to the PCAS Program Chair before 1 May 1989. Requests for information and questions should be addressed to the Program Chair:

Dr. Elizabeth Bell
PCAS Program Chair
Department of English
University of South Carolina--Aiken
Aiken SC 29801

Two compelling short story collections by Susan Koppelman, whom the National Women's Studies Association calls "femina prolifica"...



THE OTHER WOMAN

Stories of Two Women and a Man
Edited by Susan Koppelman

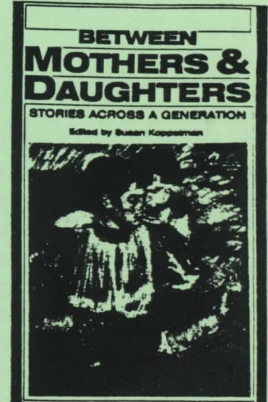
From "The Quadroons," by Lydia Maria Child (1842) to "A Perfectly Nice Man," by Jane Rule (1981), THE OTHER WOMAN traces the theme of men's betrayal of women in love, and the unique responses

of those betrayed. Contents include: "Chayah," by Martha Wolfenstein (1905); "Turned," by Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1911); "Gal Young 'Un," by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings (1932); "A Happening in Barbados," by Louise Meriwether (1968).

BETWEEN MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS

Stories Across a Generation
Edited by Susan Koppelman

Conflicts, competitions and cooperation between mothers and daughters are themes explored in these stories. From Caroline W. Healey Dall's "Annie Gray" (1848) to Ann Allen Shockley's "A Birthday Remembered" (1980), BETWEEN MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS captures enduring and enriching qualities of women's lives. Contents include: "The Fire," by Helen Rose Hull (1917); "Everyday Use," by Alice Walker (1973); "Recuerdo," by Guadalupe Valdes (1976).



Spanning over 100 years of short fiction, the 18 stories in each volume illuminate the quality of women's relationships with other women, a subject male writers have ignored or distorted. Mothers, daughters, friends, lovers—they are all to be found in these pages—sometimes in love, sometimes at war with each other.

Each volume contains an Introduction and Biographical Notes by the editor. **Susan Koppelman**, a nationally known authority on the short story, has spent the last ten years researching "lost" women writers. The writers, from the well-known to those names that will be unfamiliar to contemporary readers, represent the diversity of American ethnic and racial identities and lifestyles. Recommended for courses in American literature, women writers, marriage and the family, mothering, women and work, racism, and sexism.

THE OTHER WOMAN ISBN 0-935312-25-0 • 256 pages

\$9.95 paper

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS ISBN 0-935312-26-9 256 pages

\$9.95 paper

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	Koppelman	The Other Woman	

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Please send all orders directly to The Feminist Press at The City University of New York, 311 East 94 Street, New York, NY 10128

AMERICAN CULTURE ASSOCIATION

PAPER CALL
1990

EUDCATION: BUSINESS AND CULTURE

Central to the origination of the Education Area were concern for the escalated evolution of "the mechanisms by which corporate consumers of education services access and consume those services" and the development of a network of interested persons to predict and participate in the evolution of education. Those very globally conceived concerns have proved self serving in the dissemination of a few cogent ideas about how the education and corporate communities are interacting in transforming the mechanisms and vehicles of our culture. Premium will be placed on papers which focus on the confluence of education, culture and corporate consumption of education.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL PAPERS IS

SEPTEMBER 1, 1989

Send All Papers to:

Dr. Thomas R. Oaster
School of Education
University of Missouri-Kansas City
5100 Rockhill Road
Kansas City, MO
64110-2499

CALL FOR PAPERS

THE NORTHEAST POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting to be held:
OCTOBER 20 - 22, 1989
CORTINA INN
KILLINGTON, VERMONT

Papers and panels in all areas of
Popular Culture Studies are welcome.

Please send abstracts (not to exceed 250 words) and panel proposals
(including names and addresses of participants) by June 15, 1989.

Send to:

Dr. Roy M. Vestrich
English/Communications
Leavenworth Hall
Castleton State College
Castleton, Vermont 05735



WORLD WAR II STUDIES
at
TORONTO '90

It's not too early to show your steadying influence by planning now for a presentation at the 1990 P.C.A. Toronto meeting.

We welcome any topic dealing with the popular culture relating to the era of World War II both in the United States and worldwide. Since we will be in Canada next year, a session on Canada and the war would be particularly appropriate.

Here in St. Louis, there are six sessions and 22 papers ranging from studies of contemporary war-era film to the Hitler Youth program, from American juvenile literature to the popular conception of the veteran after the war.

Join us next year with an even more exciting program.

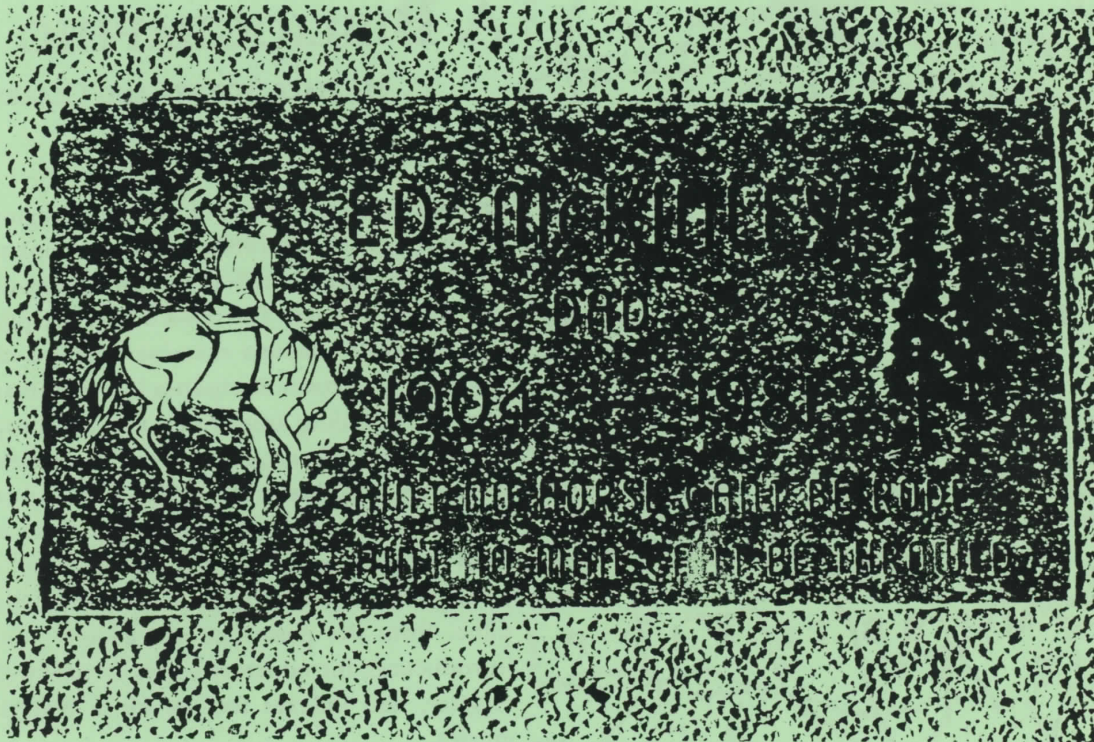
PAPERS SOLICITED ON WORLD WAR II-

Though any popular culture topic dealing with the war and war years will be considered, particularly encouraged are such themes as:

- POPULAR LITERATURE (James Jones, Norman Mailer, Herman Wouk, etc.)
- CARTOONS and the COMICS (Bill Mauldin, Superman, Blackhawk)
- PHOTOGRAPHY and ART: (Robert Capa, David Duncan, Margaret Bourke-White)
- MUSIC and MUSICIANS: (The Andrews Sisters, Glenn Miller, Frank Loesser)
- THE WAR THROUGH "MODERN" EYES: (War and Remembrance, The Dirty Dozen)
- HISTORICAL WRITING: (Eisenhower, Churchill, Morrison, Walter Lord)
- TEACHING ABOUT WORLD WAR II: (History, English, Other Disciplines)

Send any ideas, individual paper proposals, session themes, to: M. Paul Holsinger, Department of History, Illinois State University, Normal, IL.

CALL FOR PAPERS



The "Cemeteries and Gravemarkers" Permanent Section of the American Culture Association is seeking proposals for its paper sessions scheduled for the ACA's 1990 Annual Meeting, to be held March 7-10 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Topics are solicited from any appropriate disciplinary perspective. Those interested are encouraged to send a 250-word abstract or proposal by September 1, 1989 to the section chair:

Richard E. Meyer
English Department
Western Oregon State College
Monmouth, Oregon 97361
(503) 838-1220, Ext. 362

REGION AND REGIONALISM IN THE UNITED STATES

A BIBLIOGRAPHIC GUIDE

MICHAEL STEINER AND CLARENCE MONDALE



Responding to the revival of interest in regions and regionalism in the 1970s and 1980s, this sourcebook updates much of the theoretical and bibliographical information in older classic reference books. The book is interdisciplinary in its coverage. Separate chapters examine concepts of region and regionalism in sixteen disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, including American studies, anthropology, architecture and planning, art, economics, folk studies, geography, history, linguistics, literature, philosophy and religion, political science, psychology, and sociology. While emphasizing the "new regionalism" of the past two decades, attention is also given to how these ideas have developed, discipline by discipline, from the past. The sourcebook contains a general introduction, introductory essays for every chapter and subchapter, and indexes for the more than 1,600 annotated entries.

Michael Steiner is Professor of American Studies, California State University, Fullerton. Clarence Mondale is Professor of American Civilization, George Washington University.

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MPCA

MACA

Oct. 26-28, 1989

ANNUAL MEETING

Midwest Popular Culture Association
Midwest American Culture Association
Sheraton Inn
Lansing, Michigan

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

The annual joint meeting of the Midwest Popular Culture Association and the Midwest American Culture Association will be held at the Sheraton Inn of Lansing, Michigan, October 26-28. Participation of all kinds is invited: papers, discussion panels, performances and presentations on any subject in popular and/or American culture. Past presentations have covered a variety of indoor and outdoor entertainments, the electronic media, the printed word, advertising and propaganda, cooking and eating habits, icons, rituals, heroes and heroines, fundamentalism, televangelism, philosophy, psychology, ways of life, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to academic subjects. Tours of surrounding interesting places.

Special Invitation to Students

The MPCA/ACA will provide special assistance of \$50 to help cover expenses to the *first 20 students* who apply from outside the Lansing/East Lansing area. This money may be used to defray housing, food and other expenses. No registration fee for students; faculty \$25. Students must send copy of student I.D. to the Conference Chairs along with their proposals for presentations.

Anyone interested in participating should send title and a 50-word abstract before September 1, 1989 to

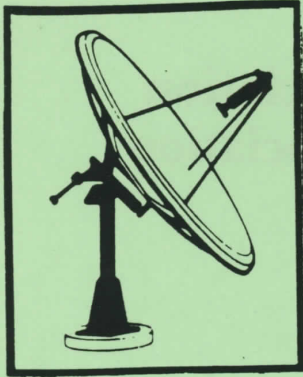
Garyn G. Roberts/Gary Hoppenstand
Department of American Thought
and Language—229 EBH
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1033
517-355-2400/517-353-9918/517-355-5169

Each participant should make his/her housing plans by calling the Sheraton Inn Lansing (517-323-7100). Plans are being made right now for less expensive student housing also. Rates at the Sheraton are \$45 + 4% + 2% for a single, \$55 + 4% + 2% for a double, \$60 + 4% + 2% for a triple, and \$65 + 4% + 2% for a quadruple.

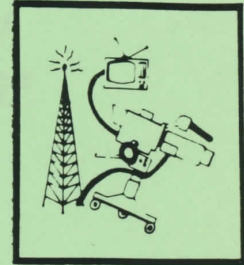
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Please Post

Call for Papers



Television and The New Video Technologies



Popular Culture Association

Twentieth Annual Convention

March 7-10, 1990

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Royal York Hotel

Topic areas may include (but are not limited to): Cable Television, Criticism, Effects, Entertainment Programming, Government Regulation, HDTV, History, Industrial and Medical Video, Instructional and Education Television, MMDS, Music Videos, News and Information Programming, New Technologies and Developing Media (ex. videocassette and videodiscs, satellite technology, DBS, low-power TV), Personnel, Public TV, SMATV and "Private Cable," Self-Regulation, TVROs.

Minimum submissions are 500-word abstracts. Submit three copies of abstracts no later than October 1, 1989, to:

Dr. William Rugg
PCA National Area Chair for
Television and the New Video Technologies
School of Journalism and Broadcasting
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-0195

Membership in PCA by conference time is required.
Author (or delegate) must attend the conference to
present the paper.

DEADLINE: October 1, 1989

CALL FOR PAPERS

CEA TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
The Buffalo Hilton on The Waterfront
Buffalo, New York

April 5-7, 1990

Conference Theme

**"Where We Are And Where We Are Going: English Scholarship
and Pedagogy in The Decade Before The New Century"**

Invitations are open to submit paper abstracts and session proposals on the various dimensions and facets of the above topic. Proposals are due by September 15.

Completed papers are due on November 15. Papers should be planned for reading in 15-20 minutes.

Participants will be needed to serve as session chairs and respondents.

Program participants must be CEA members and registered for the Conference.

Considerations for Program Selectivity

- (1) Only one paper proposal abstract per person will be considered.
- (2) Relevance to Conference theme is important.
- (3) Useful curricular/classroom application should be evident.
- (4) Topics/themes of broad interest and consequence will be given preference.
- (5) Papers read at CEA regional meetings should not be submitted unless extensive revisions are made.
- (6) Significance of major/minor literary figures should be indicated.
- (7) Panels should include names and addresses of contributors and abstracts of presentations if members wish to submit a completed panel.

All correspondence about the program should be directed to:

Keith Odom
CEA Program Chair 1990
Department of English, P.O. Box 32872
Texas Christian University
Fort Worth, Texas 76129