

Dear Hemingway Friend,

This spring, we celebrated our first successful year of preservation work on the Ernest Hemingway Collection under the *Save America’s Treasures* grant. All of my father’s letters that are housed at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library written from when he was nine years old in 1909 to the time of his death in 1961 have been conserved at the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover, Massachusetts. This preservation task included almost 2,500 letters, each one individually assessed and treated.

However, our current funding is not nearly sufficient to complete all the critical preservation work that is needed. For that reason, we ask you to join the Friends of the Hemingway Collection to support our work and enhance this extraordinary collection.

Among the items requiring preservation are Ernest Hemingway’s fishing logs detailing the number and weight of fish caught on a particular day; his personal collection of bullfighting material including postcards, schedules, programs and ticket stubs that he accumulated as background when writing *Death in the Afternoon*; several large movie posters of his novels; and a newsstand poster announcing *A Farewell to Arms*.

There are wonderful ephemera from Sylvia Beach’s bookstore, “Shakespeare and Company”, where Hemingway borrowed and purchased books and met other authors living in Paris.

The collection also includes 27 boxes of letters from Hemingway’s contemporaries such as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, James Joyce, Maxwell Perkins and Charles Scribner, among many others. Many of these letters are highly acidic and have rips and tears or glue that has migrated onto other letters. Please consider donating the funds to preserve a box of these letters received by my father. A typical archival box of letters costs \$4,500 to conserve.

If you are not a member of the Friends of the Hemingway Collection, please consider joining now. Your donation and membership will help preserve the collection and support programming that examines American literature and the creative process as personified by Hemingway's legendary career. If you are a member, I am asking you to make a special donation to aid us in preserving the collection and to expand our literary educational programming.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Patrick Hemingway

The Friends of the Hemingway Collection was founded in 1990 by Patrick Hemingway, son of the Nobel-prize winning author, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis to provide financial support and resources to preserve and make accessible the Ernest Hemingway Collection at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum.

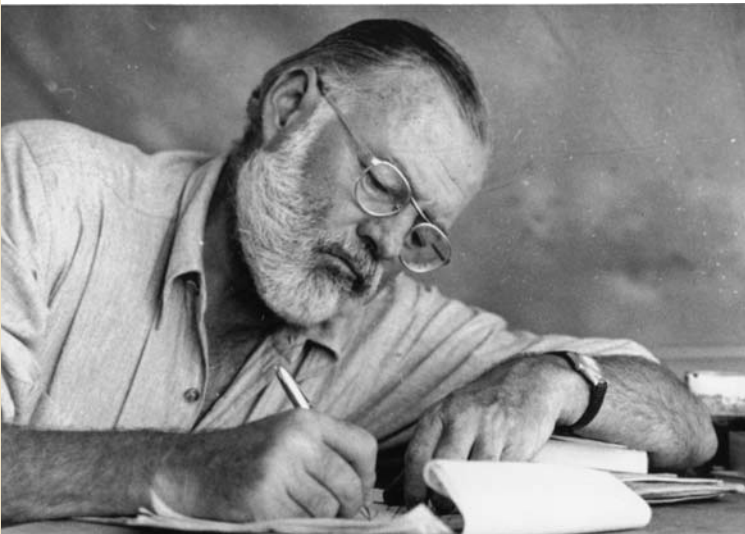
Tax-deductible donations and bequests may be made to: Friends of the Hemingway Collection, John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, Columbia Point, Boston, MA 02125. Web Site: www.jfklibrary.org

Masthead photo by Earl Theisen, courtesy of Earl Theisen Archives.

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The Friends of the
**Hemingway
Collection**
Newsletter

2005

FALL



JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

Collection Undergoes Major Preservation Work

With the support of a Save America’s Treasures grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Kennedy Presidential Library celebrated its first successful year of preservation work on the Ernest Hemingway Collection. All of Hemingway’s letters that are housed at the Library written from when he was nine years old in 1909 to the time of his death in 1961 were conserved at the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover, Massachusetts. This preservation task included 2,500 letters, each one individually assessed and treated. Among the items that NEDCC conserved was the diary of Agnes Von Kurowsky, Hemingway’s Red Cross nurse at the hospital in Milan where he convalesced after his WWI injuries. She is the woman on whom the character Catherine Barkley of *A Farewell to Arms* was loosely based.

Her diary entries describe her first encounters with her new patient, “Mr. Hemingway,” who arrived at the hospital on July 17, 1918, only to celebrate his 19th birthday four days later. Agnes writes of the birthday party she and the other nurses and patients threw for him: “Mr. Hemingway’s birthday, so we

all dressed up and had gelati on the balcony and played the Victrola.” The Library houses several collections that compliment Hemingway’s, including Mary Welsh Hemingway, a journalist and Ernest’s fourth wife; Hemingway scholars E. R. Hagemann and Paul Smith; and several oral histories.

Kennedy Library staff have also concentrated preservation efforts on the impressive collection of books from Hemingway’s private library. The collection includes an unnumbered and unbound press copy of James Joyce’s *Ulysses* with Hemingway’s signature on the cover page as well as a draft of Ezra Pound’s *Cantos* published by Three Mountain Press printed specifically for Hemingway on handmade watermarked paper. Hemingway’s handwriting is scrawled along the margins throughout his



Hemingway’s personal book collection in custom made boxes.

personal copies, providing a glimpse into his analysis of other authors. Each book in his personal library has been cleaned and precisely measured for a custom made, acid free box

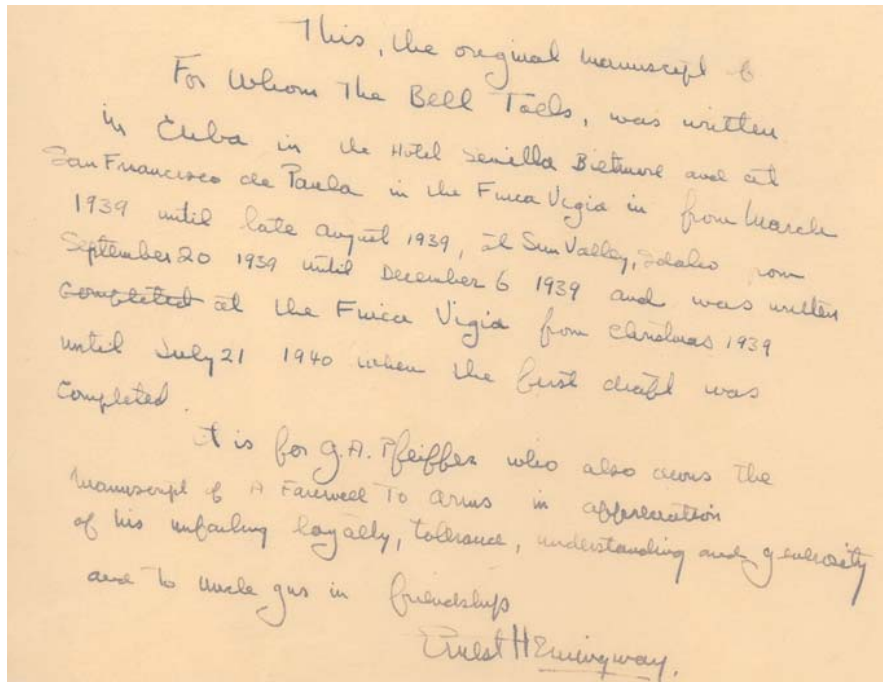
to ensure its preservation. Preservation efforts have also been directed toward Hemingway’s considerable collection of non-print materials. In the process of cleaning, cataloging, and rehousing the diverse objects, staff have revisited some of the wonderful pieces that comprise



the Collection: a sterling silver baby spoon with “EH” engraved in the curved handle, a lock of Ernest Hemingway’s hair cut in August of 1947 that has surprising tints of red

blended with the shock of white that we have come to recognize as Papa’s, and the Al Valore Militare Medal, the Italian medal of honor, awarded to Hemingway on June 8, 1918 for his heroism at the battle of Piave. As an added bonus, Patrick Hemingway, while at the Library this spring, worked with staff to fill in the history of some of these artifacts.

10th International Colloquium on Ernest Hemingway in Havana, Cuba



File folder in Hemingway's handwriting that documents the creation of *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.

In late May, the Kennedy Library's Ernest Hemingway Curator, Susan Wrynn, traveled to Havana, Cuba for the Ernest Hemingway Colloquium at the Ambos Mundos hotel. Hemingway rented a room without a number on the fifth floor of the Ambos Mundos whenever he stayed in Cuba during the 20s and 30s and he made this very same room his writing workspace after he returned from the Spanish Civil War before purchasing the Finca Vigia in 1939. The conference, which celebrated the 65th anniversary of the first edition of *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, was attended by more than 50 scholars from Cuba, the United States, and as far away as Italy.

Wrynn's presentation offered an overview of the Hemingway holdings at the Kennedy Library, highlighting items related to the novel, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. As with so many of Hemingway's writings, the Library's Collection is extraordinarily comprehensive. It includes the manuscript/typescript version, the

typescript, a carbon typescript, second, third, and fourth carbon, second and third carbon inserts, galleys, carbon typescript fragments, and a file folder with a note by Ernest Hemingway. The folder is of particular importance to the collection. On the cover, Hemingway writes, "This, the original manuscript of *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, was written in Cuba in the Hotel Sevilla Biltmore and at San Francisco de Paula in the Finca Vigia from March 1939 until Late August 1939, at Sun Valley, Idaho from September 20, 1939 until December 6, 1939 and was written at the Finca Vigia from Christmas 1939 until July 21, 1940 when the first draft was completed."

Wrynn also provided the conference with an update on the preservation activities that are taking place on the Ernest Hemingway Collection housed at the Kennedy Library, as well as the Library's future role as the repository of an archival master copy of the images that are now currently being scanned by the

staff of the Finca Vigia, Ernest Hemingway's home in Cuba.

The second presentation was by Nestor Alvarez from Cuba's National Center for Conservation, Restoration and Museology who spoke about the conservation of the Ernest Hemingway documents currently underway at the Finca Vigia. They have conserved approximately 1700 pages, which includes deacidification, flattening, and minor repairs with Japanese paper. Copies of these documents, through a collaborative project with the Social Service Research Council (SSRC), will eventually come to the Kennedy Library.

The final preservation presentation was by Suyin Morales from Cuba's National Council of Cultural Patrimony (NCCP), who discussed the scanning that is currently underway on the Hemingway materials at the Finca Vigia. Seven hundred seventy pages have been scanned to date, primarily letters written by or to Ernest Hemingway. Gladys Rodriquez, the Hemingway Specialist from the NCCP, said that the document scanning effort was just starting and will include, in addition to the correspondence, 3,000 photographs, 900 maps, and 9,000 books with Hemingway marginalia.



Hemingway Curator Susan Wrynn (second from left) and Cuban paper conservation staff in Cuba.

2005 Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award Ceremony

On April 10, 2005, the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum celebrated the 29th Hemingway Foundation PEN Award, America's best-known prize for distinguished first book of fiction, and the 30th L. L. Winship PEN New England Awards, honoring a book of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry with a New England milieu or by an author who hails from one of the six states. Patrick Hemingway, Ernest's son, was in attendance with his wife, Carol Hemingway; his daughter Mina Hemingway, and her husband, John Rothstein; and his nephew and his wife, Sean and Colette Hemingway. As per tradition, Patrick Hemingway presented the PEN Hemingway award to the winner.

Chris Albani, honored as the winner of the PEN Hemingway Award for *Graceland*, delivered a powerful reading from his novel, the coming of age story of a Nigerian Elvis impersonator who can neither sing nor dance and by the age of 16 is caught between the allure of crime and his dream of going to America. Albani spent three years in jail as a

political prisoner in Nigeria and wished to capture in his book the casual violence and vigilantism that is rampant in the country.

Richard Russo, the keynote speaker and Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Empire Falls*, elicited a big laugh from the audience when he began his remarks by observing that not only is PEN a great and brave organization but also a kind one, since they had raised the oversized projection of Ernest Hemingway in all his Papa grandeur that adorned the space above the podium before he began his talk. Russo noted, "They didn't make all of us on the stage read in front of an enlarged Ernest Hemingway, which I think is kindness itself. I was a little worried." Russo's talk was titled *Beginnings*, a particularly fitting topic since the Hemingway Award applauds a first novel, an author's beginnings. Threaded throughout a speech that was filled with wonderful family anecdotes was Russo's awareness of his constant battle between optimism and cynicism and how beginnings make their mark



PEN Hemingway award winner Chris Albani and Patrick Hemingway

within these two opposing forces.

Also presented at the ceremony were three L. L. Winship/PEN New England Awards. The winner for fiction was Edward J. Delaney for *Warp & Weft*. Swanee Hunt was honored with the non-fiction award for *This Was Not Our War*. Kevin Goodan's *In the Ghost-House Acquainted* won the poetry award.

The 2005 ceremony was a particularly special one because it marked the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Hemingway Room at the Library by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Patrick Hemingway. Since then, thousands of scholars, researchers, and students have visited the Library and made use of the largest-known collection of Hemingway material.

Hemingway Salon

A. E. Hotchner will be speaking about his old friend, Ernest Hemingway, at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum on Monday, November 28, 2005 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Edited by Hotchner, the new book, *Dear Papa, Dear Hotch: The Correspondence of Ernest Hemingway and A. E. Hotchner*, explores their relationship. The moderator for this Kennedy forum will be Justin Kaplan, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for his biography, *Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain*. To make a reservation, please call 617.514.1643. For additional information, please visit our website at <http://www.jfklibrary.org/calendar.html>.

2005 Hemingway Grants

Each year the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation provides funding for grants to aid academic and scholarly research in the Hemingway Collection. This year we are pleased to honor three recipients:

J'aime L. Sanders	of the University of South Florida for "The Philosophical Bases of Hemingway's Literature and His Life;"
E. Stone Shiflet	of the University of South Florida for "Letters from the American Man: Hemingway's Depression-era Journalism;"
Nurieva Elvira Vasilovna	of the Tomsk State University of the Russian Federation for "Hemingway's System of Activity."

Applications for the 2006 grants are available at <http://www.jfklibrary.org/ehgrants.htm>. The due date for 2006 applications is November 1, 2005 and awards will be announced by December 15. The grants are for the 2006 calendar year.