Around the Circle

FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE—After the last ALA conference in Baltimore, I had a sense of intellectual exhilaration—excitement, active joy, heightened curiosity—call it whatever you will; it seemed to be a wonderful conference. And, most importantly, a number of Twainians shared similar attitudes.

I received a letter from one senior, very well respected Twainian saying that it was the best conference he had EVER attended. And the thanks for that should go to the Mark Twain Circle members, especially those who attended. Congratulations to our new Honorary Members: Howard Baetzhold, Alan Gribben, and Ham Hill!

The Mark Twain Circle has given me a new set of meanings for the word "colleague." In the first fifteen years of my teaching, at three different schools, I thought of colleagues only as the people in my department whom I saw every day. Their interests were quite diverse: we somehow made departmental and university governance work—wall or badly—and even then we competed or argued over the allocation of resources.

As an old-time medievalist, I reverted to habit and looked up word origins to learn that the meanings for "colleague" include "selected to serve together."

Now for Twainian colleagues, it seems to mean a group of highly individualized folks who are enjoyable conversationists, astonishingly knowable, eager and open thinkers. Some are ambling, affable encyclopedias; some are in other ways equally intense, curious, complex thinkers. The phone calls are fun, precise, efficient. I particularly remember a call from Tom Quirk inquiring about manuscript insertions of "whisky" or "jug" in Huckleberry Finn. The question was actually predictive; he suspected/thought a certain phrase was inserted, and he needed quick corroboration. He was on target, and an example was offered to confirm his theory.

Please plan to join your colleagues at the Mark Twain Circle suite at the Chicago MLA convention. We shall have breakfast and cocktail hour presentations, an open business meeting of the Executive Committee, and a celebratory initiation of some new honorary members.

Vic Doyno
SUNY Buffalo
President, MTCA
Mark Twain Circle Sessions
MLA 1995

2. "Re-membering the Nation, Re-membering the Past: Emancipation Anxieties, Lincoln's Proclamation, and Huckleberry Finn," George Uba (California State U, Northridge)

A105B. Saturday, December 30, 12:00 noon-1:15 p.m.; Columbus Hall B, Hyatt Regency, Chicago. "Mark Twain and Religion." Presiding: Joseph McCullough (U of Nevada, Las Vegas).
1. "The Innocents Abroad: Twain's Quest for the Historical Jesus," Anthony Berret (Saint Joseph's U)
3. "Religious Satire to Tragedy: Evolution of Theme in Mysterious Stranger Manuscripts," Joseph Celsis (U of Nevada, Las Vegas)

Breakfast with Mark Twain sessions;
Mark Twain Suite:
1. "Maybe We've Both Got the Bulge Somehow: Conversational Confusion in Twain's Narrative Structures," Thomas Wilmer

Cocktail Hour Sessions; Mark Twain Suite:
2. "The War Between Twain and Webster," Andrew Jay Hoffman

MT at SAMLA
(Revised Program)

Nov. 3-5, 1995. At the annual convention of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association (Marriott Marquis; Atlanta; Nov. 3-5), the Mark Twain Circle will sponsor a session titled "Mark Twain as Letter Writer" (Marriott Marquis, Salon B; Saturday, 9:45-11:00 a.m.). Presentations:
1. "Mark Twain's Unsent Letters"—Alan Gribben (Auburn U, Montgomery)
2. "Unpublished Mark Twain Letters"—Rayburn S. Moore (U of Georgia)
3. "Writing Metaphor in the Mark Twain-Howells Letters"—John Bird (Winthrop U)
4. (Title to be announced)—Jeff Melton (Auburn U, Montgomery)

Calls for Papers

1996 ALA. The American Literature Association will return to San Diego in 1996 for its annual conference. The ALA conferences are much smaller than the MLA, with more time for casual conversations. Often the Twain sessions are on a modern-style riverboat. Spectacular setting.

Please send your paper proposal, abstract, working draft, essay, or tape or video recording to Vic Doyno, before Nov. 1. One session will focus on Mark Twain and the act/act of writing, and one session will have an open call.

1996 MLA. Please send your paper proposal to Vic Doyno by Feb. 15, 1996. Open call for papers. The Mark Twain Circle will probably have a social event at both this conference and the ALA. The MLA conference features a Mark Twain Circle Suite, where we meet and often have breakfast and/or cocktail-hour presentations with a great deal of conversational response.

1996 Cancún. A conference on the topic of Romanticism is planned for late 1996 at Cancún, Mexico, under the auspices of the American Literature Association. Cir-
Personal Note. Mark Twain scholar James D. Wilson author of A Reader’s Guide to the Short Stories of Mark Twain, coeditor of The Mark Twain Encyclopedia, Past Executive Director of the Mark Twain Circle has temporarily relocated to Houston, TX while undergoing a bio-chemistry protocol for malignant melanoma. He expects to be there until about Thanksgiving. Anyone wanting to get in touch with Jim can reach him at: 7490 Brompton Ct., Apt. 215 Houston, TX 77025 His telephone number during his stay in Houston is (713) 600-5801.

American Humor Studies Association

MLA 1995 Sessions: Wednesday, December 27, 3:30-4:45 p.m. “American Humor Pop-top-ics”: Harriet Beacher Stowe, Negro Mercenars, and Click and Clack as American Discourse,” Presiding: Cheri Louise Ross (Penn State-Harrisburg) 1. “She had no concep-fully air of a man’; Stowe’s American Humor,” Karen L. Kilcup (U of Hull, England) 2. “Trying to be Mencken and Still Mat-
ter: George Schuyler’s Fall from Grace,” Siva Vaidhyanathan (U of Texas, Austin) 3. "Radio in Reverse: Click and Clack’s Car Talk," Judith Y. Lee (Ohio U) Respondents: Brian Bott (U of Colorado, Boulder) and Robin Bott (U of Colorado, Boulder)


ion of Masculinity," Peter Murphy (Empire State C) 3. "Sexual Humor and Credibility," Lynn Sykes (Purdue U, Calumet) Respondent: Nancy Walker (Vanderbilt U)


Index to the Mark Twain Circular and “About Mark Twain” Volume 8 (1994) This index updates the ongoing index in the Mark Twain Circular and “About Mark Twain.” Each item is listed by its initials (see below) followed by the page number on which the item appears. Items listed in the annotated “About Mark Twain” section are indicated by “AMT” followed by the month and page numbers (e.g.: Blair, Walter AMT 8/10”). Both authors and subject matter are listed; Cicle business, calls for papers, and con-

ference information are not indexed.

The April/June issue, pages 6-8, con-

contains Everett Emerson’s “Additions to Bibli-

goies in The Mark Twain Encyclo-

pedia.” Subjects in this list are indexed by an EB before the month and page number.

Volume 8

January/February (J/M) No. 1 (contains index of ’92 Circular) April/June (A/J) No. 2 (contains Additions to Bibliographies in the Mark Twain Encyclopedia, indexed below) Oct./Dec. (O/D) No. 4 (Mark Twain Circle Directory appears pages 2-10)

Aldrich, Thomas Bailey EB A/J 6 Anti-Imperialist League AMT A/J 9 Arnold, Matthew EB A/J 6-7 Ashcroft, Ralph AMT A/J 8 Athon, William A/J 3 Baetzhold, Howard AMT J/M 7 Beard, Daniel Carter EB A/J 7; AMT J/M 8 Berret, Anthony AMT J/M 9 Boyer, John AMT J/M 10 Bradly, Laura AMT J/M 7 Branch, Edgar J/M 2-3 Brent, Linda J/M 5 Britton, Wesley J/M 6-7 Budd, Louise AMT J/M 7 Buntline, Ned J/M 1 C "Chatto and Windus" EB A/J 7 Child, L. Maria J/M 4-5 Civil War J/M 4-6, AMT J/M 10 Clemens, Cyril A/J 6 Clemens’ family AMT J/M 3, 9 Clemens, Olivia “Livy” Langdon AMT J/M 10 Clemens, Samuel (son of Cyril) A/J 5-6 Condon, Garrett AMT J/M 10 Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court, A AMT J/M 10 Dix, James M. J/M 4 D Davis, Chester AMT J/S 8 De Quille, Dan AMT J/M 10 Dickens, Charles EB A/J 7 Dolanski, Carl AMT J/S 7; AMT J/S 9 Dorris, Michael AMT J/S 7 dreams J/S 3 Edison, Thomas J/S 3 Elmira, N.Y. AMT J/S 8 Ensor, Allison A/J 4-5 Erdrich, Louise AMT J/S 7 “Extracts from Adam’s Diary” EB A/J 6; J/S 3 F Fishkin, Shelley Fisher A/J 3; AMT J/S 7-8, 9 folklór EB A/J 7 Freud, Sigmund AMT J/M 10 G Germany, German language EB A/J 7; AMT J/M 7 Gilded Age, The AMT J/S 7 Gold, Charles AMT A/J 9 Greeley, Horace J/M 5 “Grangerfords” EB A/J 7 H Harte, Bret AMT A/J 9 Haiwathi, George AMT J/M 8 Hill, Hamlin AMT J/S 7 Hoffman, Andrew AMT J/M 10 Holmes, John AMT J/M 10 Houghton, Bill AMT J/M 10 Howe, Lawrence AMT J/M 10; AMT J/S 8 Howells, William Dean AMT J/M 10 Huckleberry Finn, Adventures of J/M 4, 7 AMT J/M 9; EB A/J 7; AMT J/S 7, 8 humor, MT and AMT J/A 9; J/S 3
Whole Family, The (H. James) AMT J/S 7
Winkler, Karen AMT J/S 8
Wonham, Henry AMT J/S 9

XYZ
Yellan, Jean Fagon J/M 4-6
Zwick, Jim AMT J/A 9

Wesley Britton
Sherman, TX

---

**Media Update**

Since my article "Media Adaptations of Mark Twain and His Works" appeared in the *Mark Twain Encyclopedia*, new productions have been issued, and other items I had overlooked have come to my attention. This list supplements that article and seeks assistance in locating further information.

**Movies**

1. Anyone interested in specific information on Hollywood studio versions of Mark Twain's works should consult the *Magill's Survey of Cinema on Line Directory*. For each film, Magill's provides production and casting credits, plot synopsis, and in many cases extended reviews and short bibliographies of reviews. The information is detailed and well-organized; the reviews are unevenly insightful.

2. According to the January/March 1995 issue of the *Mark Twain Circular* (pg. 8), Clyde V. Haupt's 1994 *Huckleberry Finn on Film: Film and Television Adventures of Mark Twain's Novel* (1970-1993) (Macfarlane and Co.) discusses eleven American versions of *HF*, including historical and production background, plot summaries, comparisons of the films with the original text, analysis, and critical and box-office reception to the films.

3. In 1980, Signet paperbacks issued a tie-in edition of *Life On The Mississippi* to coincide with the PBS T.V. movie of the book. The dustjacket front text is by Mark Twain, the back by John Voight, Jr. Eight pages of photographs from the film are included.

4. The recent dustcover of the 1944

**Television**

Disney continues to be the studio most interested in Mark Twain, and has issued several well-crafted family-fare, made-for-cable films. In 1991, the Disney Channel broadcast "Mark Twain and Me" (starring Jason Robards as Twain) -- a romanticized retelling of Mark Twain's relationship with Angelia Dorothy Quick. The film is now available on videocassette. The same network aired in 1992 "Return to Hannibal," a speculative narrative of Huck and Tom as adults helping Jim in a legal jam, with the King and Duke appearing as minor characters in this minor effort.

In August and September 1994, the Learning Channel network aired two high-quality Twain documentaries. The first was a well-crafted one-hour episode of the "This Century" series hosted by Tom Brokaw, and its original program was produced in 1989 by NBC for its "America: A Look Back" series. The show emphasizes Twain as a cultural figure and observer of his times. The hour is illustrated by photographs of styles and fashions of the nineteenth century. The film has a quick pace, touching on many points and ignoring Twain's literary works. Still, the film's visual details and appropriate background materials make this one of the more useful media documentaries to date.

The second Learning Channel project documents "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," examining the novel from a variety of standpoints with commentary by Justin Kaplan, James Cox, Victor Doyno, Garrison Keillor, John Wallace, and Nat Hentoff. (The last two speaking at the 1993 Hartford Mark Twain Conference.) The hour-long documentary serves as an excellent introduction to the
novel, with scenes from many Huck Finn movies including the rarely seen silent versions as well as newer re-enactments and readings from the book. “An installment series,” the film was produced by Dale Minor and Gordon Hyatt for Discover Productions, earning a Cikonite Award for film documentaries.

The film, narrated by Donald Sutherland, contains much useful material for the classroom, although its editing and organization are occasionally confusing, and the ending (last fifteen minutes) seems to drift. It is most useful in pointing to the variety of interpretations, highlighting the novel’s key scenes, and analyzing the novel’s significance for modern readers. (More detailed analysis of using media materials to teach HF will be in the upcoming Mark Twain Work in the Classroom, edited by James Leonard.)

In 1995, the History Channel’s Civil War newsmagazine series episode “Vicksburg: Siege and Battle” included two quotes about Life on the Mississippi describing the city.

Valerie Fulton’s “An Other Frontier: Voyaging West With Mark Twain and Star Trek’s Imperial Subject” is an overblown Marxist analysis of “Star Trek,” with limited Mark Twain’s appearance in two episodes of that series. The article is available in the May 1994 Postmodern Culture 1:3 (n.3), and on the Mark Twain Electronic Media Project.

One episode of Bonanza featured a young Sam Clemens (played by Howard Duff) in a fictional adventure set in Virginia City. Writing for the Enterprise, Sam helps the Cartwrights win a land dispute, choosing the pen-name “Mark Twain” at the episode’s end. Twain is briefly quoted in a later episode of Kung Fu: The Legend Continues (featuring Robert Vaughn and Patrick Magee).

CD-ROM, VCR, and Audiotexts

In the July/September 1994 issue of the Mark Twain Circular, Joseph Towson’s review of the CD-ROM “Mark Twain’s World” [pp. 3-5] lists the videos included on that disc (including the 1909 Edison film of Twain himself). In the same issue (pp. 5-6) James Leonard discusses the educational merits of the videotape/filmstrip “Uncle Mark.” A posting on the Mark Twain Forum listed a 1993 Virtual Mark Twain, which “stands the threat to the public’s craving for new types of entertainment.” A creation of Color Concepts and Images, “American Humor and Satire” is a six-episode anthology of readings including works by Twain, Harte, Artemus Ward, and many others. It is available from Filmic Archives for $44.95.

In 1995, R. Kent Rasmussen wrote an insightful, detailed, and useful review of the following audiobooks for the Mark Twain Forum: Mark Twain’s America (1988) “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” (1977, 7 cassettes), “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” (1979, 6 cassettes; 9 hours); and “Roughing It” (1986, 12 cassettes, 18 hours). Each of Ruchard’s readings was released by Books on Tape, Newport Beach, California.

Rasmussen also reviewed Mark Twain Gift Set (Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court, and The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County). Much of this material, issued by Mind’s Eye, Petaluma, CA (7 cassettes), was listed separately in the Mark Twain Encyclopedia media entry.

Actor Norman Dietz has issued nine Mark Twain titles on Recorded Books, including part of volume novels such as “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.”

Further information about these books is available on the Mark Twain Forum.

Musical Adaptations

Originally released in 1986, the soundtrack of the Broadway show The Apple Tree featured ten songs based on The Diaries of Adam and Eve. Goddard Lieberson, unquestionably the most important and influential producer of Broadway soundtracks, oversaw the cast of Alan Alda, Jim Henson, Danny Thomas, Crystal Fairy, John Travolta, and castings of three shows: Huckleberry Finn, The Lady and the Tiger” by Frank R. Stockton, and Passion of Jules Feiffer.

Fiddler on the Roof veterans Jerry Beck and Sheldon Harnick wrote the music at Elmira College’s “Mark Twain: A Musical Biography” (1989), with William Perky and Bernadette Wilson, is now available on audio-cassette and video. Produced by the Mark Twain Arts Council, the show is more musical production than biography, with many inaccuracies and distortions of Twain’s life. In 87 minutes, the well-staged show emphasizes Twain’s early connections and his “hobby for livin’” and the children—a local production with a local emphasis.

Allison Ensor’s detailed explanation of Jerome Kern’s “Mark Twain: Portrait for Orchestra” is in the April/June (Vol. 8, No. 3) issue of the Mark Twain Circular pages 4-5.

George Stern, Music Associate of America (242 King St., Englewood, NJ 07631) for information about the 1995 CD of Paul Allan Levi’s “Mark Twain Suite” performed by the New York Choral Society.

Kevin Bochynski—to whom I am deeply indebted for much of this information—discovered an old T.V. Guide which listed a film of Roughing It with James Daly as “an elderly Mark Twain” and Andrew Prine as the younger Sam Clemens. Robert Saudek Associates produced it. We know nothing more about it. Does anyone know more? Does anyone have information about “The Great Rocky Mountain Chase,” in which Sam Clemens and Mike Fink have a contest? Do you know the airdate of the Mark Twain/Lerhar report on the Mark Twain Project? Word has it a “Rifflemen” television episode featured Twain playing pool with Lewis McCann and telling his son about his 1936 misadventures by. The teleplay series Voyagers had an episode featuring a young Sam Clemens helping a black slave escape Hannibal on a raft, supposdely inspiring Huck Finn. Rumors have it a recent Babylon 5 episode featured a take on the “War Prayer.”

Dates to Circle

Nov. 3-5, 1995. SAMLA Annual Convention; Atlanta. Mark Twain Circle session: “Mark Twain as Letter Writer” (Marriott Marquis, Salon B; Saturday, 9:45-11:00 a.m.). Brief business meeting following papers. See “Around the Circle” (above) for more details.

Dec. 27-30. Modern Language Association Annual Convention (Chicago), featuring Mark Twain Circle conference sessions, breakfast sessions, and cocktail hour sessions. See “Around the Circle” (above) for more details.


Jeremy@agsn.unsw.edu.au

MTC July-September 1995 p. 8

MTC July-September 1995 p. 9
sentimental "moral sense," or merely the product of training by society?

COLLINS, BRIAN. "Review: Greg Schambost, ed., Critical Essays on 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' (1995). Western American Literature 29.1 (Spring 1994): 76-77. The selections are carefully chosen, though regrettably some appear in abridged form. "What is most striking about this particular anthology is the way the essays resonate with one another," particularly on "the anatomy of American hypocrisy that lies at the center of TS."

HOLSTEIN, SUZY CLARKSON. "All Grown Up! in the True West, or Huck and Tom Meet Sam Shepard." Western American Literature 29.1 (Spring 1991): 41-50. A comparison of Sam Shepard's True West and HF: Lee, the older brother in the play, is like a grown-up Huck: he, too, has "lit out," but still admires respectability like that of the Grangerfords, and like Huck is "pursued by deep, haunting loneliness." Escape to an imagined West is elusive for both.

RASMUSSEN, R. KENT. "Mark Twain A to Z: The Essential Reference to His Life and Writings." New York: Facts on File, 1995. MT's works are summarized, important persons and places identified, themes and ideas explored in a remarkably thorough and coherent study that one prominent MT scholar finds "impossible to overstate:" it leaves another wishing "our alphabet had more than twenty-six letters." While discussing the misadventures of Osip Gabrilowitsch or the fictional Hadleyburg and naming possible models for it, Rasmusen is firmly in command of his material and gives the details a reader needs. The index and chronology of MT's life are excellent. The $45.00 price ($39.95 until Dec. 31, 1995) is a bargain. After a reader or a library has bought TS, HF, and GT, Mark Twain A to Z should be next.


ABOUT THE CIRCULAR. The Mark Twain Circular was launched in January 1987 by Thomas A. Tenney (Editor of the Mark Twain Journal), who edited the first issue, then passed the Circular baton to the present editor. An individual who pays dues to the Mark Twain Circle and/or subscribes to the Mark Twain Journal receives one subscription (four issues per year) to the Circular.

ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; the membership has since grown to approximately 400. Current officers are: President—Vocor Doyon; Vice President—Michael J. Kiskis; Executive Director—Laura Skanda-Trombley; Executive Committee—David E. Sloan, Susan K. Harris, and Jennifer Raftery. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben, Pascal Covici, Jr., David E. Sloane, Past Executive Directors: Everett Emerson, James D. Wilson, Michael J. Kiskis. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the Mark Twain Journal is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the Journal moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C. under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The Journal tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the 1992 issues (to be mailed in summer 1994) rather than the 1994. Although the Mark Twain Circle and the Mark Twain Journal are separate entities, Circle members enjoy a reduced subscription rate for the Journal (see coupon below for prices). Most back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at $5.00 each, postpaid ($2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones, and some are badly reprinted. An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

To: Prof. Laura Skanda-Trombley Bosn, Director, Mark Twain Circle SUNY, Potsdam Potsdam, NY 13676

Please enroll me as a member of the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA and subscribe to the MARK TWAIN CIRCULAR. I enclose a check for $10.00 ($11.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to "Mark Twain Circle of America."

To: Mark Twain Journal Box 18344 Charleston, SC 29402

Please enter my subscription to the Mark Twain Journal for the year(s) circled: 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996. Please enroll me as a member of the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA and subscribe to the MARK TWAIN CIRCULAR. I enclose a check for $10.00 ($11.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to "Mark Twain Circle of America."

(attach name) (attach name)

(attach return address) (attach return address)

(attach city, state, zip code) (attach city, state, zip code)

Libraries: $18.00/year, no discount Foreign: Add $2.00/year for postage
LIBRARIANS: Please note in your computer that the *Mark Twain Circular* provides publication information on the *Mark Twain Journal*. This may help reduce avoidable claims.

FULFILLMENT NOTICE: Both 1992 issues (30:1 and 30:2) and the Spring 1993 issue (31:1) of the *Mark Twain Journal* were mailed to subscribers in early September 1994. We hope to mail the Fall 1993 issue (31:2) and possibly the Spring 1994 issue (32:1) soon; we ask libraries not to claim these before December 1995. We're doing our best to catch up!

SERIAL LIBRARIANS: The *Mark Twain Circular* is entered selectively in the annual bibliographies of the Modern Language Association and the Modern Humanities Research Association, and in the *American Humanities Index*, the *Literary Criticism Register*, *American Literary Scholarship*, and "A Checklist of Scholarship on Southern Literature," which appears annually in the *Mississippi Quarterly* (Spring issue).

Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

Thanks to student assistant Truyen Nguyen for his work in preparing this issue of the *Circular*.

James S. Leonard, Editor
*Mark Twain Circular*
English Department
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409
leonard@citadel.bitnet
leonard@citadel.edu
Ph: 803-953-5138
Fax: 803-953-7084

"Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Charleston, SC 29409
 Permit No. 779