



Mark Twain Circular

Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America

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Mark Twain at MLA 2003

The Mark Twain Circle will sponsor the following sessions at the 2003 Modern Language Association annual convention in San Diego:

Session 63. Mark Twain and the Marketplace

Saturday, 27 December; 5:15-6:30 p.m.

Manchester Ballroom E, Manchester Grand Hyatt

Chair: Ann M. Ryan, Le Moyne C

1. "Consuming Angelfish," Peter Stoneley, Queen's U
2. "Trademark Twain," Loren D. Glass, Towson U
3. "Floating Capital: Race, Drift, and Desire on Twain's Mississippi," Stephanie Susan LeMenager, U of California, Santa Barbara

Session 223. Theorizing Humor, Reading Mark Twain

Sunday, 28 December; 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Madeleine A, Manchester Grand Hyatt

1. "Mark Twain and the Failures of Humor Studies," Bruce F. Michelson, U of Illinois, Urbana
2. "Mark Twain and the Humor of Failure," Gregg Camfield, U of the Pacific
3. "Mark Twain and Philosophic Drollery in *Letters from the Earth*," Roger D. Lund, Le Moyne C

Call for Papers

Papers are invited for the ALA session "Mark Twain: Autodidact." As opposed to his several apprenticeships, Clemens was also a more or less self-taught philosopher, historian, dramatist, businessman, etc. He was also a self-styled Westerner, Yankee, ambassador-at-large. Papers 10-12 pages on any aspect of this topic are invited. Send abstract or completed paper to Tom Quirk, English Department, 107 Tate Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211.

Tom Quirk, President
MTCA

Elmira in 2005

**Jane McCone, Director
Center for Mark Twain Studies
at Elmira College**

It is not too early to begin making plans to attend the Elmira 2005 International Conference on the State of Mark Twain Studies! This summer the Conference Planning Committee met at Quarry Farm for a long weekend to work. The Committee members are Jane McCone, Gretchen Sharlow, Mark Woodhouse, Michael Kiskis, Charlie Mitchell, Tom Quirk, Linda Morris, Kerry Driscoll, and Peter Stoneley. We have planned for a larger number of sessions than previously held at the Elmira conference, a number of discussion groups, and several special speakers. Mr. David Baldacci and Mr. Ron Powers have agreed to come and

ALA 2004

**Tom Quirk, President
Mark Twain Circle**

Plans are afoot to arrange a trip to the Mark Twain Papers at Berkeley during the 2004 ALA conference. The number of visitors will need to be limited to 25, but transportation will be provided. Details will be published in the *Circular* prior to the convention.

speak, and we are on Hal Holbrook's calendar for our Picnic at Quarry Farm. Several special tours are being arranged for spouses, guests, or others wishing to go. Evening events and programs are being prepared. Mark your calendar for August 4, 5, 6, 2005 to be in Elmira, New York.

Call for Papers

The Center for Mark Twain Studies at Elmira College announces the First Call for Papers for Elmira 2005: The 5th International Conference on the State of Mark Twain Studies, August 4-6, 2005.

To see the full Call for Papers, go to the Elmira College Web Site, from Quick Links select Mark Twain Connection, then 2005 Conference; or go directly to this web address:

http://www.elmira.edu/academics/MarkTwain/2005_Conference.shtml

Further inquiries may be sent to jmccone@elmira.edu. Printed copies of the call are available upon request 607-735-1941.

Current Bibliography

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Loos, William. "The Most Humane of Humans: Mark Twain and John Harrison Mills." *Western New York Heritage* 5.4 (Fall 2002): 14-21.

Twain, Mark. "A Murder, A Mystery, and a Marriage." *The Atlantic Monthly* 288.1 (July-August 2001): 54-64.

Essays in Collections

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