



Mark Twain Circular

Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America

Volume 11

January–March 1997

Number 1

President's Column

Michael J. Kiskis
Elmira College

Since I last wrote for these pages, the Circle has had its measure of success—but also a good deal of heartache. That mix, of course, makes up each of our lives. And those of us who are familiar with the struggles of the Clemens family (as well as our own) know well the variations of enjoyment and pain that are possible in daily living. In the October–December *Circular* we noted the passing of James D. Wilson; this February we lost another good and close friend with the death of Pascal Covici. Both will be (are) deeply missed. At the Mark Twain Circle's MLA program to honor James M. Cox, I asked for a moment to recall Jim Wilson. Professor Cox, I know, was pleased to have that moment come out of his time. As you read this, I ask for another moment now to recall the benefits we all shared by having Pascal as a friend and teacher.

It seems appropriate, however, to ease our sorrow with some bit of celebration. The MLA program I just mentioned was certainly one of those. We had a crowd of about 25 share in our joy (as well as our wine and hors d'oeuvres) at naming Jim Cox our most recent lifetime member. It was a highlight of an MLA program that offered two panels on topics related to Twain studies. We are now planning the program for the American Literature Association meeting in Baltimore this May (two panels) and are

looking deeper into the year at the major conference that will be held here in Elmira in August as well as our continued presence at MLA, this time in Toronto, in December.

Clearly, you are all working very hard to keep Twain studies alive and lively, and Mark Twain would, I think, be so pleased to see us talk so much. I am going to keep talking a bit now. After all, part of what the Circle is about is the opportunity to encourage talk. And, increasingly, we come to recognize that our present work is part of an extended conversation. Of course, at times I suspect our talk is a lot like Jim Blaine's grandfather's—at times like Sandy's—at times a bit like the recording angel's—at times like Satan's, at times like Adam's and like Eve's. We are often self-centered and not so very much interested in the scholars and scholarship that have preceded us. We criticize. We argue. We blather.

When I was a child, my grandparents lived upstairs in the same house (a two-story wood frame a couple of blocks from what was once a raging carpet mill). When their children (my mother and her brothers and sisters) were young, my grandparents gathered them around the kitchen table to translate and record family history. Chance meetings, courtships, arguments. Comings and goings.

Births and deaths. Marriages and funerals. The "old country." From these fits of storytelling emerged a long line of relations. My aunt can still tell some of the stories. Most are lost now. And she is the sole remaining key to that past. I own scores of old photographs of people who will remain unidentified. I have citizenship papers. Records but no stories to unite them. And as I get older I understand the loss.

But there are different kinds of loss. Some are physical. Some are emotional. Some are intellectual. Some a strange hybrid. As a collective of Twain scholars and enthusiasts, we are protecting a history from sliding away. We are asking questions of the historians, of the interpreters who have come before. We are seeing their work as one panel of a variegated story. And as we read, write, and talk we are the

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most recent participants in a conversation that began in the 1850s when young Sam Clemens put pen to paper. We are, genuinely, sitting at a leaf-crossed kitchen table waiting, listening to and challenging the storytellers. We note our ancestors with a critical yet respectful eye, and we can do nothing more honorable than to understand the value of the work that we do and how it stands on the shoulders of all that has come before.

Tribute to Pascal Covici

Pascal Covici, Jr.—outstanding Twain scholar, Past President of the Mark Twain Circle, Life Member in the Circle, friend to Twain studies and to Twainians—died on February 9. His daughter Anna has given me permission to reprint the following material from the newspaper obituary.

—J.S.L.

COVICI, PASCAL JR. Born September 2, 1930. Passed away February 9, 1997. Survived by his wife of 45 years, Joan Fortescue Covici of Dallas; son John Covici of Arlington, Texas; daughter Anna Propp Covici of San Diego, California; and two grandsons, Adam Harvey Covici and Saul Benjamin Propp. He was the son of Pascal and Dorothy Soll Covici, deceased, of New York City. A native of New York City, he graduated from the Horace Mann School, received the A.B. degree from Harvard College in 1952. In 1957 he was awarded the Ph.D. degree in American Literature from Harvard University and joined the English faculty of Southern Methodist University. His lifelong career in teaching and research was spent at SMU. A devoted and caring teacher, he inspired and influenced generations of SMU students. He was chairman of the SMU English Department 1975-79 and held the E. A. Lilly Professorship in American Literature to the present. He served as Faculty Marshal of the University and on many important academic

committees. He was author of scholarly articles and several books, including *Mark Twain's Humor: The Image of a World* and the just published *Humor and Revelation in American Literature: The Puritan Connection*. He was president of the national Mark Twain Circle and member of the American Literature Association, the Modern Language Association, and many other professional organizations, including Phi Beta Kappa. Memorials may be made to the Pascal Covici Prize in American Literature, through Professor Dennis Foster, Chairman of the English Department, Southern Methodist University, Box 0435, Dallas, Texas 75275.

A memorial service will be held later in the Spring. For details contact Professor Marshall Terry, Associate Provost, 209 Perkins Administration Building, Southern Methodist University, Dallas Texas 75275. (214) 768-3454, e-mail mterry@mail.smu.edu.

Wesley Britton
Sherman, TX

I was much sorrowed when I heard the news about the passing of the fine Twain scholar, Pascal Covici, Jr. I feel moved to share some of my experiences with him and perhaps shed a little light on his contributions to Mark Twain studies and our Mark Twain community as well.

I met Pascal shortly after seeing his name in the first membership list of the Mark Twain Circle. I was organizing graduate student lectures in Denton, Texas at the time, and noticed Pascal lived in nearby Dallas, so I invited him to come to speak at the University of North Texas. I recall his wife's description of him so I'd recognize him in the parking lot—"Oh, you can't miss him. He's very tall, very distinguished, very professorial."

When he graciously came to our get-together, Pascal gave me an autographed copy of the third printing of his book, *Mark Twain's Humor: The Image of a World*

(SMU Press, 1962), which I later came to see as the linchpin of his published thoughts on Twain, American literary history, and—perhaps his second literary love—John Steinbeck. (He wrote the introduction to *The Portable John Steinbeck*.) As a scholar with a historical bent myself, I appreciated Pascal's linking of Twain to earlier names, notably Franklin and Hawthorne. He was among the first to discuss Twain in the context of Old Southwest Humor and was among the first to analyze the techniques of Twain's humor. Pascal's studies are still useful for both literary scholars and classroom teachers, and *Mark Twain's Humor*, in particular, should have a long shelf life.

I also remember Pascal as a gifted lecturer, notably that lecture he gave back in Denton, where he pulled together historical themes and the depth of his understanding of American literary humor, presiding over a day of Twain events both enjoyable and illuminating. I remember his voice forced to cut through the bad acoustics at our Mark Twain Circle dinner in Washington D.C. when he served as our president, and his energetic presence at the first gathering of Twain scholars at Elmira College in 1989. I seem to be repeating the word "first"—an indication of how integral Pascal was to modern Twain studies.

As a result of our shared interest in literary history, Pascal invited me to do a paper on Carlyle, Dickens, and Twain for one ALA session a few years back, a privilege that led to one of my first publications and other Twain projects that developed from my always warm association with Pascal and his very special wife, Joan. So I feel a personal debt of gratitude to Pascal and want to wish his family well—they are a class act but will miss so much with his passing. As will we all.

Two Twainians Remembered

Shelley Fisher Fishkin
U of Texas, Austin

The scholarship Jim Wilson and Pascal Covici

produced earned them a lasting place in our libraries and on our bookshelves; but I suspect that members of the Mark Twain Circle who knew them will agree that it was their warmth and generosity as colleagues that won them a special place in our hearts. Two personal notes:

Pascal Covici was the first person I met at the first Mark Twain Circle gathering at MLA that I attended. He made me feel at home, and refused to let me leave without extracting my promise to get more involved in the Circle. That first conversation set in motion a series of activities and friendships that have meant a great deal to me in the years since. I gather, from comments on the Mark Twain Forum, that the kindness I encountered at that first meeting was characteristic of Pascal's behavior as a colleague.

Jim Wilson's decision to invite me to write the entry on "Racial Attitudes" in *The Mark Twain Encyclopedia*—and his refusal to take "no" for an answer—helped change my life, encouraging me to think more deeply about questions I have been thinking about ever since. I'm sure that his infectious enthusiasm helped shape the research agendas of many of the scholars he involved in that project.

It was a pleasure to work with both Jim and Pascal on The Oxford Mark Twain and an honor to publish their fine essays. They will, indeed, be deeply missed.

MT at ALA

The American Literature Association's eighth annual conference will be held at the Stouffer Harborplace Hotel, 202 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 on May 23-25, 1997 (the Friday,

Saturday, and Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend).

You may preregister or register at the conference. Preregistration conference fees will be \$40 (with a special rate of \$10 for independent scholars, retired individuals, and students). Those who preregister will have a conference program mailed to them at a later date. The hotel is offering a conference rate of \$98 a night (single or double). A welcoming party will be held on Thursday evening, May 22; the first session will begin Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. and a final celebration will follow the last session on Sunday at 5:30 p.m. You can make a hotel reservation by calling 1-800-535-1201 and requesting the American Literature Assoc. rate.

Preregistration fees should be sent to:

Alfred Bendixen
English Dept.
Cal State U at Los Angeles
Los Angeles CA 90032

Further inquiries to:

Professor Gloria Cronin
English Dept.
Brigham Young University
Provo UT 84602
FAX: (801) 371-8623
E-mail: croning@juno.com
or croning@jkhbhr.byu.edu

The Mark Twain Circle will sponsor two sessions at the 1997 American Literature Association Conference:

Panel 1. Saturday, May 24, 1:10-2:30 p.m. **Chair:** Laura Skandera-Trombley (SUNY Potsdam)

Papers:

"Mark Twain and the Printed Word"—Bruce Michelson (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

"Mark Twain's Revisions of Violence in *Huckleberry Finn*"—Victor A. Doyno (SUNY Buffalo)

"Mark Twain's 'Object Lesson' in Democracy"—Kevin J. Hayes (U of Central Oklahoma)

Respondent: James Leonard (The Citadel)

Panel 2. Sunday, May 25, 2:40-4:00 p.m. **Chair:** Michael Kiskis (Elmira C)

Papers:

"The Romantic's Romantic: Twain's *Tom Sawyer* and Mythic Southern Notions"—Jocelyn Chadwick-Joshua (Dallas Institute of Humanities and

Culture)

"Figuring *Tom Sawyer*: The Narrator's Metaphorical Vision, Dead and Alive"—John Bird (Winthrop U)

"Mark Twain's Motivation for Writing *Tom Sawyer*"—Andrew Jay Hoffman (Brown U)

Good News—and Serious News!

Victor A. Doyno
SUNY Buffalo

I wish to offer an unusual point of view and an opinion.

As an ex-president I still

hold the Mark Twain Circle of America in a central place, orbiting pretty near the core of my heart.

First the good news. I have just returned from a brief, exciting research visit to the Mark Twain Project facilities at the Bancroft Library in Berkeley. (One personal goal was to read the letters to Mark Twain for a time period near the composition of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.) All the records and materials were in excellent order, accurately arranged and safely preserved to serve this and future generations of scholars. The primary archival material and background references are unbeatable. We are fortunate to have this scholarly/cultural resource up and, at present, running.

Letters 5 will be going to the printers soon, and we should be able to read the extraordinarily rich volume in May or June. Some of us have been reading as hard and as fast as we can to try to keep up with the flood of information that is now rapidly becoming available. The *Letters* volumes certainly continue to offer information to us at the same level as the prize-winning *Roughing It*.

For one small example, I recommend to all readers the amazing, blistering satirical column that Twain wrote for publication when President Andrew Johnson was leaving office. Before its appearance in an appendix in *Letters 3*, almost NO ONE even knew of the satire! (Well, Lou Budd did know, but who

else? Admittedly, Lou knows almost everything!) The satire had been typeset but then suppressed at the galley stage. Talk about discovering a gem! The annotations are helpful and precise.

Now to the more serious news . . . I recently also learned that the staff at the Mark Twain Project have had extra duties, such as paper stock selection, copy-editing, run-over, and layout work, added to their scholarly and textual responsibilities. Most of us usually think of such work as the duty of the Press.

Twain stands as a *central* figure for nineteenth and twentieth century studies (literary, cultural, political, societal, national and international). He knew many influential and vital people, and he wrote to them. He traveled almost everywhere—usually writing his observations. What knowledge could be more crucial to our national formation?

Now to be blunt. . . I judge that the need for contributions is great and IMMEDIATE. Because of Twain's centrality we are fortunate that the National Endowment for the Humanities will add to our contributions!

Dr. Robert Hirst has the serious duty of raising \$135,500 by July 30, 1997. We can all do the math. If all 435 members of the Twain Circle had identical incomes and expenses, and if each could and did contribute \$320, there would be a wonderful sense of relief! But as we know that would be unrealistic. Many individuals will be able and willing to dedicate a self-determined amount, and that will be a significant personal commitment. Meanwhile a few individuals will, upon reflection, be able to give a larger amount. And all will have a very welcome place in the choir!

It is important that we have a large number of contributors because many institutions consider the number of popular supporters.

Of course, all our contributions are tax-deductible—please think about that when you are laboring over some IRS forms this March or April! All contributors will receive an official acknowledgment, suitable for waving proudly in front of any

major or minor questioner. (Any assets that have appreciated over the years can be donated, and then you do not pay any tax on the gain but do get to deduct the full amount of the gift.)

Many contributors will be recognized in the front of a future volume. It can't hurt to show a grandchild that you have actually supported what you value. "Ah, yes, . . . much better than to be memorialized only in those police blotters!" Or, instead, "If I can't take the money with me, I'll send some on ahead!"

As many of us know, the funding of cultural institutions has recently been under serious attack. If the Twain Project suffers, we, and scholarship, may lose well-trained, knowledgeable staff members who simply could not ever be replaced. Moreover, valuable work will not be done as soon as it should be. OR EVER.

If any author represents "National" and "Humanity," it is Twain. Some of us may be able to help by contributing a continuing, solidly funded, intellectually important financial Endowment, a gift to present and future Twainians! You can call at (510) 642-6480 and speak to Bob Hirst to discuss details.

Please send your contribution directly to Dr. Robert Hirst, marked for the Twain Project (480 Bancroft Library, Univ. of Cal., Berkeley, CA 94720-6000). I cannot guarantee that you will sleep better, but I can guarantee that you will feel better—and probably read better—knowing that you have helped continue a significant project, that you have made a shared commitment to an important goal. Not for any particular individual—but "For Twain's sake!" Please stretch.

Cordially,
Vic Doyno

phone: 716-634-9221 (home)
306 Clemens Hall
SUNY at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14620
or
80 Meadowbrook
Williamsville, NY 14221

The Facts Concerning The Recent Carnival of Smoking in Connecticut and Elsewhere

Everett Emerson
UNC, Chapel Hill

Readers of these pages know that Mark Twain was an avid, dedicated smoker. In his "Carnival of Crime" the narrator tells how his aunt Mary could "stir my torpid conscience into faint signs of life" when she demanded of him "do-stop-smoking." When she arrives for a visit, she implores him "to crush out that fatal habit while it may yet be time." "Promise and live!" But then he kills his conscience and is able to escape from the guilt trip she has made him undertake.

Somebody else is out there reading Mark Twain. Dr. Geoffrey Williams and his fellow physicians, writing in the pages of the *Annals of Internal Medicine* (115 [July 1991], 59-63), argue that aunt Mary's approach is ineffective in causing smokers to quit because it is "controlling, evaluative," and "subtly shaming." They have better ideas about how smokers might be persuaded to give the weed up. The title of their article is the one I stole and placed at the head of this note.

Thus began a debate. A Swedish physician thought he had a better idea. In the pages of *Läkartidningen* (988 [November 1991] 4161-62), Professor Ake Wennmalm, a specialist in clinical physiology at the University of Göteborg, offered his thoughts in an article entitled (in translation) "Mark Twain, the Conscience, and Modern Smoking Campaigns." The cartoon accompanying the article does not need translation. It shows a pipe smoker being addressed by Mark Twain's "shriveled, shabby dwarf," AND by a finger-pointing nurse, while on the smoker's back sits another dwarf, who waives off the challengers.

In Mark Twain's real life nobody could find a way to persuade the man to quit, and as I shall report

elsewhere, the long-term results were very unhappy.

MT at SAMLA Call For Papers

John Bird
Winthrop U

I am happy to issue a call for papers on behalf of the Mark Twain Circle for the 1997 SAMLA Convention at the

Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, November 13-15, 1997. The topic of the session is "Mark Twain at the End of the Century." We are soliciting biographical or critical papers concerning Mark Twain and his works at the end of either the 19th or 20th centuries. Please send either a proposal or a completed 10 pp. (20 minute) paper to me by May 1, 1997:

John Bird
Dept. of English
Bancroft 230
Winthrop University
Rock Hill, SC 29733
E-mail: birdj@mci2000.com
or birdj@winthrop.edu

The Mark Twain Circle sessions at SAMLA have been stimulating and popular; in November 1996, even during the conference's first session, we overflowed our meeting room, listening to excellent papers by Michael Kiskis, Vic Doyno, David Sloane, and Joe Alvarez. We also met informally with other Twainians for much food, drink, and conversation, and we will surely do the same in Atlanta. As chair this year, I'd love to assemble as fine a session as Jim Leonard did in Savannah.

ALA Symposium Call For Papers

Date: October 9-11, 1997
Location: Lake Tahoe, NV
Topic: *The Trickster*

Papers or panels on any aspect of the Trickster, Gambler, or Confidence Man in American Literature. The Symposium will feature an opening celebration, panels all day Friday and Saturday,

formal and informal talks by leading experts in the field, an excursion to nearby Virginia City, NV, and a closing cocktail buffet.

Deadline for Papers: June 15, 1997. Send to the Symposium Coordinator:

Jeanne Campbell Reesman
Division of English, Classics,
Philosophy and
Communication

Univ. of Texas, San Antonio
San Antonio, TX 78249

Ph. 210-458-4374

Fax: 210-458-5366

reesman@lonestar.utsa.edu

Or if you want to propose a session on behalf of the Mark Twain Circle, contact Michael Kiskis, Div. of Humanities, Elmira College.

Mark Twain Forum

Taylor Roberts
M.I.T.

The *Mark Twain Forum* is an Internet discussion group for persons having

a scholarly interest in the life and writings of Mark Twain.

Founded in 1992, the *Forum* has since grown to over 380 members in over a dozen countries. The *Forum* also conducts a regular book review department, and over 30 reviews have so far appeared.

There is no charge to join the *Forum*. To subscribe, simply send a message to <listserv@yorku.ca> containing the single line:

SUB TWAIN-L Your-full-name
For example:

SUB TWAIN-L Mulberry Sellers
More detailed instructions about the *Forum* will be sent to you automatically.

You may also visit *TwainWeb*, the World Wide Web service of the *Forum*, at the following URL:

<http://web.mit.edu/linguistics/www/forum/twainweb.html>

Questions about the *Mark Twain Forum* may be addressed to the coordinator, Taylor Roberts, at <troberts@mit.edu>. Books and audiotapes to be considered for

review may be sent to:

Taylor Roberts, Coordinator
Mark Twain Forum
Department of Linguistics and
Philosophy
Room 20D-219
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Cambridge, MA 02139

Current MT Bibliography

James Leonard
The Citadel

This is the first installment of a new feature in the *Mark Twain Circular*. It may at first

glance look a lot like an old feature: the "About Mark Twain" annotated bibliography compiled by Tom Tenney as a continuing supplement to his *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (G.K. Hall, 1977). That ongoing project continues, but now has its home in the *Mark Twain Journal*. While "About Mark Twain" is intended primarily as a reference resource, including annotations by Prof. Tenney, "Current Mark Twain Bibliography" is intended as a means of giving notice of what's new that Twain fanciers should know about as soon as possible. Where annotations are used, they are in most cases descriptive blurbs provided by publishers (or in some cases, by authors) with value judgments edited out. If you have recently published something that you would like to have included in this list, send it to me by e-mail (leonardj@citadel.edu), or by other means.

Books

Dawidziak, Mark. *Mark My Words: Mark Twain On Writing*. St. Martin's Press, 1996. Hardcover, \$17.95, 160 pages (with index).

A collection of Mark Twain's thoughts and advice on writing (his opinions on style, literary habits, other writers, and the writer's role in society), edited and arranged in nine chapters. A writer's handbook by America's greatest writer.

Hoffman, Andrew. *Inventing Mark Twain: The Lives of Samuel Langhorne Clemens*. William Morrow & Co., 1997. Pp. xviii + 564. Cloth, 6-1/8" x 9-1/4". Index. \$30.00.

This biography of Samuel Langhorne Clemens reveals the importance of events in Clemens's childhood, and portrays Clemens as a man who invented the persona Mark Twain not out of comic necessity, but from a profound personal need. *Inventing Mark Twain* features new interpretations of Clemens' personality ranging from his sexuality to his financial security. Hoffman characterizes Twain as a man he calls "a fool, a tyrant, a philosopher, a humorist, an unschooled literary genius, a confidant of presidents and industrialists, a gladhander, a sham, a self-destructive narcissist."

Horn, Jason Gary. *Mark Twain and William James: Crafting a Free Self*. U of Missouri P, 1996.

Celebrates the creative genius of late Twain by examining his friendship with William James and by emphasizing and demonstrating Twain's philosophical and psychological affinities with James.

Messent, Peter. *Mark Twain* (St. Martin's P, 1997), pp. ix + 235.

An overview of Twain's writings and a close critical analysis of his major texts, siting them in terms of larger issues of realism, fantasy, modernization, and personal and cultural identity. This study focuses on Twain's attitude toward Europe and the American West, and discusses (among other subjects) his representations of boyhood, humor, race relations, capitalist expansion and technology. A comprehensive reassessment of Twain's remarkable body of work.

McWilliams, Jim. *Mark Twain in the*

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1874-1890. Whitston, 1997.

This book is an annotated, comprehensive checklist of references to Mark Twain in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (Missouri's major daily newspaper) from 1874 until 1890. By providing information about his daily activities, the checklist adds to our biographical knowledge of Twain, it tells us what his contemporaries thought of him, and it provides access to material by Twain that has yet to be entered into any bibliography. The book includes many pieces—some previously published, some brand new—written by Twain himself.

Twain, Mark. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Introduction by Justin Kaplan. Textual Foreword and Addendum by Victor Doyno. Random House, 1996. \$25.00.

From Vic Doyno's Foreword: "This Random House Comprehensive Edition offers material that is substantially different from—that expands upon and enhances—what has served as our standard first-edition text. This book contains four significant segments that Mark Twain had originally written for inclusion in *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* but, for various reasons, omitted from the first edition. These passages are here reinstated, for the first time, in their intended narrative places, but set off from the previously available text." The new material is, of course, from the recently rediscovered *Huck Finn* manuscript. The Kemble illustrations are also included.

Articles

Comeau, Robert C. "Reading Poe On Salary: Mark Twain's Use of 'The Raven,' Hop-Frog' and 'William Wilson' in 'The Facts Concerning the Recent Carnival of Crime In Connecticut.'" *The*

Southern Literary Journal 29.1 (Fall 1996): 26-34.

Budd on Twain

Everett Emerson
UNC, Chapel Hill

Most people interested in Mark Twain know that Louis Budd of

D u k e University is a learned authority on their author. The spring 1996 issue of the journal *American Literary Realism* has another contribution from Professor Budd, a substantial addition to his census of interviews with Mark Twain. By using it I learned much that I had not known. I highly recommend it. In the same issue Professor Budd tells the story of his professional life, the result of an extended oral history interview. Both of these deserve reading.

Dates to Circle

May 22-25, 1997. ALA Conference on American Literature; Baltimore, MD. Conference Director: Gloria Cronin, English Dept., Brigham Young U, Provo, UT 84602; croning@jkhbhr.c.byu.edu.

August 14-16, 1997. "The State of Mark Twain Studies" conference at Elmira College (Elmira, NY) sponsored by the Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies:

October 9-11, 1997. American Literature Association Symposium on "The Trickster"; Lake Tahoe, CA. Contact Jeanne Campbell Reesman (U of Texas, San Antonio). See call for papers, above.

November 13-15, 1997. SAMLA Annual Conference; Peachtree Plaza Hotel; Atlanta, GA. See "MT at SAMLA: Call for Papers," above.

December 27-30, 1997. Modern Language Association Annual Conference; Toronto, Ontario.

Everything You Need to Know . . .



ABOUT THE CIRCULAR. The *Mark Twain Circular*, newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle, was launched in January 1987 by Thomas A. Tenney (Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*). James S. Leonard (The Citadel) assumed editorial responsibility with the February 1987 *Circular* and has continued in that capacity until the present. The *Circular* is published four times per year (Jan.-March, April-June, July-Sept., and Oct.-Dec), and is mailed, by the editor, to all members of the Mark Twain Circle. The *Circular* prints news of Mark Twain events and scholarship, directories of members, short biographical articles and critical commentaries, and current bibliography. Subscribers are distributed among 44 states and 17 foreign countries.



ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; the membership has since grown to approximately 400. Current officers are displayed on p. 8. Past Presidents are Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben, Pascal Covici, Jr., David E.E. Sloane, and Victor A. Doyno. Past Executive Coordinators: Everett Emerson, James D. Wilson, Michael J. Kiskis, and Laura Skandera-Trombley. 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 MARK TWAIN JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982, 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 1993 issues rather than the 1996. 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. Joseph A. Alvarez
Exec. Coordinator, Mark Twain Circle
English Department
Central Piedmont Community College
Charlotte, NC 28204

Please enroll me as a member of the **Mark Twain Circle of America** and subscriber to the *Mark Twain Circular*. I enclose a check for \$15.00 (\$16.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to "Mark Twain Circle of America."

(printed name)

(address)

(city, state, zip code)

To: *Mark Twain Journal*
English Department
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409

Please enter my subscription to the *Mark Twain Journal* for the year(s) circled: 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997.

Subscription rates for individuals are \$10 for one year, \$18 for two years, \$25 for three years, or \$30 for four years.

(printed name)

(address)

Libraries: \$18.00/year, no discount
Foreign: Add \$2.00/year for postage

The *Mark Twain Circular* is the Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America.

Mark Twain Circle Officers:

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Elmira College

Vice-President: Shelley Fisher Fishkin
Univ. of Texas, Austin

Executive Coordinator:
Joseph A. Alvarez
Central Piedmont CC

Executive Committee:
David E.E. Sloane
Univ. of New Haven
Victor A. Doyno
SUNY, Buffalo
Laura Skandera-Trombley
SUNY, Potsdam

Editor, *Mark Twain Circular*:
James S. Leonard
The Citadel

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Don't Forget: "The State of Mark Twain Studies" Conference at Elmira College, August 14-16, 1997.

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

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