



VALERIE HEMINGWAY VISIT

Valerie Hemingway was the keynote speaker at our Reading Retreat dinner on April 1. Hemingway spoke of her time as Ernest Hemingway's private secretary and as the wife of Ernest's youngest son Gregory.

Valerie Hemingway met Ernest by chance in Spain in 1959 and travelled through Europe with him and his wife Mary. Ernest was working on *The Dangerous Summer*, which tells of the Spanish bullfighting season of 1959. She later spent time in Cuba with the Hemingways during his final years, when his health had begun to decline. Following his death, Mary asked her to organize Ernest's papers for the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston. She also became a part of the family when she married Gregory.

Valerie told stories from her time with the Hemingways and signed copies of her book *Running with the Bulls*. The dinner was a part of the Museum's annual Reading Retreat. Participants spent the months leading up to the retreat reading three novels. They gathered in Piggott on April 1 to discuss the books. Faculty of A-State served as discussion leaders. The event ended with the dinner, which was open to the public.



Valerie Hemingway (center) with the mentors and participants of the 2017 Reading Retreat.

Young Authors 2017

Young Authors 2017 is now underway! This afterschool program is for Piggott Elementary School 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Students recommended by their teachers participate in a four-week program after school. 6th graders are pictured to the right, and 5th graders are pictured below. 3rd and 4th graders are participating now.



Left to right front row: Taylor Blackwell, Azlyn Pierce, Amber Fenton Back row: Dillon Gibson, Jake Toombs Not pictured: Madison Arenaz, Alyssa Manor



Left to right front row: Aaron Mauldin, Emily Conley, Londyn Morton, Sophia Cluck, Nyla Dees, Hannah McBroome, Kerrigan Collier, Emmah Davis, Morgan Rahn, Leslie Reaves, Ali' Jae Wise, Halli Sanders Middle row: Kaiden Scudder, Macey Powell, Tanner Trout, Keegan Scudder, Rylea Blascoe Back row: Lawson Tompkins, Luke Crader, Jina Clifford, Haley Hanner, Lexy Stone, Morgan Speer

Director's Corner

I'm pleased to share some new details about our 2017 Friends trip to Cuba. As you know, the travel conditions in Cuba are constantly changing. We've been able to take advantage of some of these changes to reduce the price of the trip by \$700. In order to allow more people to take advantage of this improved price, we've moved the trip to later in the summer. Here are highlights of the changes:

- The price has come down \$700.
- The trip will now be from Aug. 2-9.
- We've been able to upgrade our lodging for several of the days.
- We've included prices on optional and excursions and flights on the brochure.
- Flights are still not included to allow you to come from your home airport. The travel agency can book flights at a reasonable price (estimated in the brochure).

Hope you can make it,
Adam

Papa's Upland Bird Hunt and Dinner

On Saturday, March 4, the museum hosted Papa's Upland Bird Hunt and Dinner at Liberty Hill Outfitters in Rector. The hunt celebrated Ernest Hemingway's hunting legacy in Northeast Arkansas.

One of Ernest's favorite pastimes during his visits to Arkansas was quail hunting on Crowley's Ridge. On March 4, twenty hunters from around the country came to Crowley's Ridge to hunt and share a quail dinner. The hunt, a Continental style pheasant hunt, was hosted by Liberty Hill Outfitters. Paragould's Chow at One Eighteen prepared the quail dinner.

This was our first charity hunt, and we had a great time. The folks at Liberty Hill and Chow did a great job in making the event a success. We are also very thankful to our sponsors for their help. This event was sponsored by First National Bank-Piggott, Glaub Farm Management, LLC, State Representative Joe Jett (paid for by State Representative Joe Jett), Olympus Construction, Inc., and Piggott State Bank.

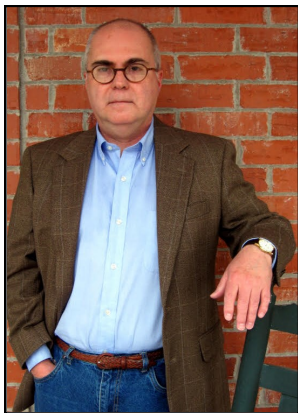
Next year's hunt will be held on February 17, 2018. For information on joining us—or being a sponsor—please contact the museum.



*Pictured above: The hunt participants at
Liberty Hill Outfitters.*

Summer Writers' Retreat—June 5-9

C.D. Albin will serve as mentor for this summer's retreat. Albin was born and reared in West Plains, Missouri. He earned a Doctor of Arts in English from the University of Mississippi and has taught for many years at Missouri State University—West Plains, where he founded and edits *Elder Mountain: A Journal of Ozarks Studies*. He is the author of the story collection *Hard Toward Home* (Press 53, 2016), and his fiction, poems, and reviews have appeared in a number of periodicals, including *Arkansas Review*, *Cape Rock*, *Georgia Review*, *Harvard Review*, *Natural Bridge*, and *Slant*.



**If you can't visit us in person, visit our
virtual tour:**

<http://hemingway.astate.edu/virtual-tour/>

Save the Date

May 10 — Tourism Week Reception, Corning Welcome Center

May 19 — Quilt Show

June 3 — Advisory Committee Meeting

June 5-9 — Summer Writers' Retreat (C.D. Albin, mentor)

June 12 — Ride the Fault Line

July 4 — Museum Closed

Aug. 2-9 — Cuba Trip