

National Convention at Indiana State April 27-29

1978

The Biennial National Convention of Sigma Tau Delta will be held at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana, on April 27, 28, 29, 1978. Hosts will be Delta Kappa Chapter.

Indiana authors will be featured on the program. Jessamyn West will address the delegates after the banquet on Friday, April 28. Mari Evans will speak at the luncheon on Saturday, April 29.

Terre Haute is the birthplace of Theodore Dreiser, and the convention will open with a showing of A Place in the Sun based on his American Tragedy. Professor Tasker Witham, Sponsor, Delta Kappa chapter, has provided this schedule:

Thursday, April 27

3-5 p.m.: Registration in Tiley Memorial Union, with coffee and doughnuts. Instructions for finding rooms and eating places. Delegates will be given maps and may explore the campus on their own.

5-7:30 p.m.: Freetime to change clothes and eat at any of several commercial eating places within half a mile of the Union Building.

7:30 p.m.: Gather at Union Building or at Holmstedt Hall. Welcome from the English Dept. chairperson, James B. Misenheimer (STD from Baylor University.) Introduction of hosts and delegates. Film, A Place in the Sun. Informal discussion of film and informal get-acquainted mixer.

Friday, April 28

8:30-9:00 a.m.: Gather at Union Building for a brief orientation to the Convention program and the ISU campus, chance to compare notes with other delegates. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

9:00-9:50 a.m.: Choice among the following workshops to be held in adjoining rooms of the Normal Suite in Union Building.

- Workshop A in Room C: Dreiser and the Naturalistic Tradition, led by Profs. Dowell, Rusch, and Saalbach, all of Dreiser Newsletter staff.
- Workshop B in Room G: Kurt Vonnegut, film and discussion, led by Charles Nicol, a frequent reviewer of modern novels in prominent magazines.

10:00-10:50 a.m.: In Normal Suite of Union Building, choice between following workshops:

- Workshop C in Room G: The Science Fiction of Philip Jose Farmer, led by Mr. Farmer and Prof. Steven Connelly of ISU, a close friend.
- Workshop D in Room C: Ernie Pyle and traditional journalism cf. with Dan Wakefield and New Journalism, led by Dan McCarthy and Warren Barnard of ISU Journalism Staff.

11-12 p.m.: Tours to places of interest:

- E. McLIN* - Tour A: Banks of the Wabash, Birthplace of Paul Dresser, and Vigo County Historical Museum (the only tour requiring transportation)
- Tour B: Home of Eugene Debs and ISU Library with Cordell Dictionary Collection (one of the best dictionary collections in the world)
- S. McLIN* - Tour C: Early Wheels Museum and Swope Art Gallery

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.: Chance to eat at Union Cafeteria or Ouabachi Grill or at a nearby commercial eating place.

1:00 - 1:50 p.m.: In State Room of Union Building (where STD Business meeting will be held during the following hour)

- Workshop E: The Writings of Jessamyn West, led by Ms. West and Prof. Jane Bakerman of ISU, who has established a friendly relationship with Jessamyn West.

2-3 p.m.: Business meeting

3-4 p.m.: Tours to places of interest (same as 11-12 pm)

3-5 p.m.: Time overlap is intentional; autograph party for Jessamyn West and Philip Jose Farmer (and Mari Evans if she is available at this time), combined with mixer to meet members of Midwest English Conference and Indiana English Conference.

5-6:30 p.m.: free time

6:30 p.m.: Banquet for STD, Midwest English Conference, and Indiana English Conference. Welcome from President Richard Landini, a member of STD. Presentation of STD awards. Words from officials of each of the three organizations present.

8:00 p.m.: Address by Jessamyn West, followed by reception for all delegates to meet guests of honor.

Saturday, April 29

8:30 - 9 a.m. : Coffee and doughnuts in Dreiser Hall (English and Speech building)

9-9:50 a.m.: Choice of workshops to be held in adjoining rooms of Normal Suite in Union Building. Delegates may also attend sessions of Indiana College English Conference or Midwest English Conference held in nearby buildings -- schedule to be announced.

- Workshop F in Room G: Writing Realistic Fiction, led by J. West.
- Workshop G in Room D: Writing Science Fiction, led by P.J. Farmer.
- Workshop H in Room C: Writing Poetry, led by Mari Evans.

10-10:50 a.m. : Choice of workshops in Normal Suite:

- Workshop I in Room G: Writing Humorous Verse, led by Elmer Brooks (ISU prof. of English who has had much humorous verse published).
- Workshop J in Room C: Getting Your Poetry Published, led by Mark Berman.

11:15-12:15 p.m.: Listener's Theatre presentation of poems by Mari Evans

12:15 p.m.: Closing luncheon for STD, Midwest English Conference, and Indiana English Conference. Address by Indiana poet Mari Evans. Closing remarks by officials of the three organizations.

ISU is easy to get to by car or bus. It is located at the intersection of US Highways 40 and 41, about a mile north of Interstate 70. The bus terminal is a block or so from the edge of campus. The municipal airport (Hulman Field) is four or five miles from campus. Taxis and rental cars are available there, and ISU can arrange to meet planes if they know in advance when guests will be arriving. The major transcontinental flights no longer stop at Terre Haute, but Alleghany Airlines has frequent connecting flights with both Indianapolis and Chicago, and less frequent connections with Bloomington and Muncie, Ind. and Danville, Ill. ISU could arrange to meet planes in Indianapolis 70 miles away, but would have to know well in advance, and might have to charge something for this service. Train passenger service is almost extinct, but there is one Amtrak train a day from the east and one from the west; the depot is almost at the edge of campus. There are many large and attractive motels within a mile or so of the campus.

All chapters should plan to send at least one representative to the Convention. At the business meeting, elections will be held for for Central Regent (a six-year term), and five student advisors, each for a two-year term (North, South, East, West and Central.)