

T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY

NEWS & NOTES

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THE 1991 MEETING IN ST. LOUIS

For its twelfth annual meeting the T. S. Eliot Society will assemble at the Hampton Inn, Union Station, in St. Louis, September 27-29, 1991. Only a few steps from the old Union Station, from which Eliot as a young man set forth on his eastward journeys, the hotel affords easy access to the many facilities of downtown St. Louis. The station itself, now a covered mall of shops and restaurants, is a familiar landmark with its "Carcassone" towers and crenellations fronting the Carl Milles fountain monument "The Meeting of the Rivers." As is usual, the Sunday portion of the Society's annual program will take place at the First Unitarian Church (5007 Waterman Boulevard).

HOTEL BOOKINGS AND PRE-REGISTRATION

For reservations at the Hampton Inn, Union Station, members will individually apply to the Inn by telephone (314-241-3200) or to its postal address 2211 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103. In order to secure the conference rate quoted to the Society (\$64 single, \$74 multiple, plus tax; Continental breakfast), members MUST arrange hotel bookings no later than September 1.

Members will also send to the Treasurer of the Society, Dr. Linda Wyman (613-5 Woodlander, Jefferson City, MO 65101) the pre-registration form enclosed with this issue of NEWS & NOTES, if they plan to attend the meeting—whether or not they intend to stay at the Hampton Inn. The Society's pre-registration form should be accompanied by a remittance payable to "The T. S. Eliot Society" for registration and the scheduled Saturday group luncheon and dinner, as rated on the form. The deadline for the Treasurer's acceptance of luncheon and dinner bookings is September 20.

Hotel reservation requests must not be sent to the Treasurer, nor the Society's pre-registration form to the Hampton Inn. The Saturday evening dinner, by invitation of Melanie and Tony Fathman, will take place at the Fathmans' St. Louis residence.

The only part of the annual program open without payment of the registration fee is the T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecture.

THE ELIOT MEMORIAL LECTURE AND PROGRAM OF EVENTS

The T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecturer for 1991, as announced last spring, is Dr. Cleo McNelly Kearns, Vice-president of the Society 1989-90 and formerly editor of NEWS & NOTES. Dr. Kearns's work on Eliot's religious affiliations with the Orient is well known through her book *T. S. Eliot and Indic Traditions: A Study in Poetry and Belief* (1987) and various articles on related topics. She has also written on Eliot's poetry in the Western context. She teaches at the Princeton Theological Seminary, where her focus includes Dante and Milton.

The topic of Dr. Kearns's lecture for the Society is "Apocalypse and Wisdom: The Problem of Tone in *The Waste Land* and *Four Quartets*." The complete program for the 1991 meeting comprises the following events:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

6:45-7:15 p.m. REGISTRATION AND VOUCHER PICK-UP
Hampton Inn, Union Station (assembly room)
Linda Wyman, Treasurer

7:30 p.m. OPENING SESSION
Grover Smith, President
Leslie Konnyu, Founder

SOCIETY MEMBERS' PANEL
Chaired by W. Ronald Schuchard

A. J. Montesi, "The 'Daughters' of T. S. Eliot"
Benjamin G. Lockerd Jr., "United by Strife: The Elements in
Four Quartets"
Joseph C. Baillargeon, "Attics and Basements: In Search of
the Real T. S. Eliot"
Discussion
Coffee

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

9:00 a.m. WELCOME
Hampton Inn, Union Station (assembly room)
Grover Smith

SOCIETY MEMBERS' PANEL
Chaired by Vinnie-Marie D'Ambrosio, Vice-president

William C. Charron, "Eliot's Destructive Dilemma"
Virginia B. Phelan, "Uncorking the Sibyl"
Discussion
Morning coffee

10:30 a.m. INTERVAL OF MUSIC

10:45 a.m. TWELFTH ANNUAL
T. S. ELIOT MEMORIAL LECTURE
Cleo McNelly Kearns, Princeton Theological Seminary
"Apocalypse and Wisdom: The Problem of Tone in *The
Waste Land* and *Four Quartets*"

12:00 noon LUNCHEON *Hampton Inn, Union Station*

2:00 p.m. ELIOT SOCIETY DIRECTORS' MEETING,
First Unitarian Church

6:00 p.m. DINNER *4967 Pershing Place*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

9:30 a.m. ADDRESS *First Unitarian Church*
Rev. Earl K. Holt III, Historian of the Society, "A New Life"

11:00 a.m. FORUM
Kenneth P. Kramer, "The Lotus/Rose: An East-West
Ideogram"

NOTE: The book display arranged by Larry C. Melton may be viewed before and after all sessions held at the Hampton Inn, Union Station.

BROOKER'S "THE PLACING OF T. S. ELIOT" PAYS TRIBUTE TO ELIOT SOCIETY SCHOLARS

By Grover Smith

The publication by the University of Missouri Press of *The Placing of T. S. Eliot*, a 200-page collection of T. S. Eliot Society lectures chosen and edited by Jewel Spears Brooker and dedicated to Leslie Komnyu, asserts in rich measure the Society's ongoing contribution to Eliot scholarship.

The volume—Dr. Brooker's third Eliot book apart from her Eliot section for the DLB Yearbook 1988—contains not only a generous sampling of the T. S. Eliot Memorial Lectures (those of 1984-1989) but a representative group of papers read at the Society's Eliot Centenary meeting of 1988. Dr. Brooker has prefixed to her selections an introductory essay exploring the types of critical emphasis and scholarly method instanced in the collection.

From the division of the book into two main parts, the first presenting chronologically six of the Society's eleven Memorial Lectures to date, the second disposing in diplomatic relation to one another eight Centenary items, one draws a hint that the work has double significance. On one level it confirms the emphasis of Dr. Brooker's Introduction and of her historical end-note "About the T. S. Eliot Society": that is, it shows the work of the Society's members, with relatively high standards of quality, as continuous and on occasion intensive. On another level it compresses both the diachronic and the synchronic; for the time span exhibited is shorter than the life of the Society, and the authority of the papers chosen to represent the Centenary is greater even than was typical of the event. These two levels coexist well enough, for neither displaces the other. Dr. Brooker, perhaps without purposing to do so, has created by means of this compression a shrewd and authoritative point of view, appropriately her own, revealing the Society and its worth in her perspective. The effect, the production of a volume that shows the T. S. Eliot Society as it was in the years of Dr. Brooker's transformation of it (only one paper, the Memorial Lecture of 1989, comes from beyond that time span), implies alike her aspirations for the Society and her accomplishment as its guiding spirit.

The ineluctable fact is that the current ideologies ruling learned publishing in this country would hardly have reconciled themselves, had they been challenged to do so, to the issuance of a mere chronological "papers of the T. S. Eliot Society," proposed, say, by this organization's Board of Directors. It is the Society's incalculably good fortune that Dr. Brooker has put together a collection in which her judgment of value has won through to actual publication.

The Placing of T. S. Eliot is expected to be on view at our annual meeting this year with the publisher's circular for it.

COMING ISSUE OF "YEATS ELIOT REVIEW" RELATES TO T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY

Last summer at the invitation of Russell Elliott Murphy, editor of the *Yeats Eliot Review*, Grover Smith agreed to become guest editor for one issue of the journal this year. Dr. Murphy suggested that papers read at the Society's 1990 meeting might go into the issue, if the guest editor approved and they could be obtained.

The *Yeats Eliot Review* was co-founded in 1974 by Shyamal Bagchee, who in 1990 gave the T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecture. The *Review* began as the *T. S. Eliot Newsletter: An International Survey of Eliot Scholarship*; and though later broadened in response to the increasing pressure of Yeats studies, it remains the only major journal in this hemisphere with Eliot scholarship as an emphasis.

Copies of this specially constituted number of the *Yeats Eliot Review* are intended to come off the press by September and to arrive for our members' inspection in St. Louis. The subscription rate for the *Review* (individuals) is \$10 in the U.S.A. and Canada and \$12 overseas.

LARRY C. MELTON'S BOOK DISPLAY ADVERTISES MEMBERS' BOOKS GRATIS!

Members with Eliot books in print, or books on closely related topics, are alerted to the opportunity of exhibiting them at this year's Society meeting. Larry C. Melton will again be on hand to set up on display tables, this time at the Hampton Inn, Union Station, an arrangement of volumes brought and lent by members wishing to acquaint other Society people with their available book publications.

Any member preferring to mail books to Mr. Melton prior to the meeting may do so (self-insured) by using his postal address, East Central College, P.O. Box 529, Union, MO 63084. Unless left for future years through an understanding with Mr. Melton, all volumes should be reclaimed after the September 28 morning sessions.

As already indicated, copies of *The Placing of T. S. Eliot* and the latest *Yeats Eliot Review*, if published in time, will be included in the display.

SOCIETY PEOPLE

The name of Sanford Schwartz, Society member at Pennsylvania State University, was mistakenly left out of our list, last spring, of members who contributed to *T. S. Eliot: Man and Poet* (Orono, ME, 1990); Dr. Schwartz's essay is entitled "Beyond the 'Objective Correlative': Eliot and the Objectification of Emotion."

Jewel Spears Brooker's *The Placing of T. S. Eliot* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1991) presents the following T. S. Eliot Memorial Lectures: Jewel Spears Brooker, "Substitutes for Religion in the Early Poetry of T. S. Eliot" (1984); W. Ronald Schuchard, "T. S. Eliot: The Savage Comedian and the Sweeney Myth" (1985); Grover Smith, "T. S. Eliot and the Fascination of *Hamlet*" (1986); James Olney, "Mixing Memory and Imagination" (1987); A. D. Moody, "T. S. Eliot: The American Strain" (1988); Leonard Unger, "Actual Times and Actual Places in T. S. Eliot's Poetry" (1989).

The same volume edited by Dr. Brooker includes the following Eliot Centennial celebration lectures (1988): Cleanth Brooks, "The Serious Poet in a Secularized Society: Reflections on Eliot and Twentieth-Century Culture"; Armin Paul Frank, "Some Complexities of European Cultures as Manifest in French and German Translations of *The Waste Land*"; Cleo McNelly Kearns, "T. S. Eliot, Buddhism, and the Point of No Return"; Russell Kirk, "Eliot's Christian Imagination"; Carol H. Smith, "*The Elder Statesman*: Its Place in Eliot's Theatre"; George T. Wright, "Voices That Figure in *Four Quartets*"; Linda Wyman, "Language as Plot in *The Family Reunion*"; Michael Butler Yeats, "Eliot and Yeats: A Personal View." All of the lecturers with the exception of Senator Yeats are members of the Society.

The Fall 1991 number of the *Yeats Eliot Review* (11.2), guest-edited by Grover Smith, consists of papers by T. S. Eliot Society members. Its contents are as follows: Virginia B. Phelan, "Unidentified But Invited: Charles Williams at *The Cocktail Party*"; Jewel Spears Brooker, "From Epithalamium to Rhapsody: Mind and World in Wordsworth and Eliot"; Nancy K. Gish, "Eliot and Moore: Modernism and Difference"; Russell Elliott Murphy, "Demeaning Eliot: The Future of Literary Studies"; Linda Wyman, "'Where the Words Are Valid': The Language of Eliot's Drama";

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Anthony E. Fathman, M.D., "Viv and Tom: The Eliots as Ether Addict and Co-Dependent."



An historical marker authorized by the Kentucky Legislature was recently erected at the birthplace of Robert Penn Warren, Guthrie, Kentucky. Society member Victor H. Strandberg, one of the founders of the Robert Penn Warren Circle two years ago, made a dedicatory speech from the front porch at the Warren homestead.

BOARD ELECTION COMING IN FALL, DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

Under the By-laws of the Society an election must be held in the fall of this year for the place on the Board of Directors occupied for the past three years by Melanie Fathman.

Any member wishing to contest a Board seat must be nominated in writing by at least five members of the Society. Nominations in order to be valid must reach the Supervisor of Elections no later than November 2, 1991. Address: Dr. Jewel Spears Brooker, 501 68th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33705.

A ballot containing the names of all nominees will appear in the Fall 1991 issue of NEWS & NOTES. All members of the Society will be eligible to vote.

Melanie Fathman lectures in art history at St. Louis University, is an authority on St. Louis architecture, and is active in historic preservation. Her membership in the T. S. Eliot Society goes back a number of years, during which she has often conducted tours or arranged banquets for the annual meetings of the Society.

The Board of Directors is composed of the six officers of the Society, who are elected by the Board itself, two permanent members (Dr. Konnyu and Mr. Holt), and additional members elected by the Society as a whole to complete a full roster of twelve. The newest member of the Board is Virginia B. Phelan, chosen by members' ballot in May without opposition.

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE 1992 AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION MEETING

The American Literature Association (ALA) enters upon its third year of organization with a fully participating membership of almost forty American-author societies. Of these the T. S. Eliot Society is one, having taken part at every stage of ALA's development since early in 1989.

For the next annual ALA conference, which will meet at the Bahia Resort Hotel, Mission Bay, San Diego, CA, late in May 1992, a panel of Eliot papers needs to be constituted.

Members of the T. S. Eliot Society (who are automatically members of ALA), may submit Eliot papers for consideration. The Eliot session will probably run to 80 minutes, including a discussion period. Papers will be restricted to 20 minutes' reading time and must not have been read or published previously, nor used elsewhere in a different form.

Papers to be considered should be *mailed* and should reach Vinnie-Marie D' Ambrosio, 11 Fifth Avenue #3-N, New York, NY 10003, by January 6, 1992. Please do not send abstracts or texts of longer papers. Items that cannot be scheduled will be returned if postage is enclosed.

NEWS ABOUT DUES

The membership year for dues-paying members of the Society runs from January to the end of December. Dues for each successive calendar year become payable, however, on the preceding November 1, and notices to that effect are sent out by the Treasurer every October.

At this year's September meeting it may be convenient for any members with 1991 dues still in arrears since last November to bring their membership up to date by handing the Treasurer appropriately a check to "The T. S. Eliot Society." Advance dues for 1992 may also be tendered; otherwise the latter, as explained, will be the subject of a notice to be mailed out in course a few weeks after the meeting. The Society's policy is that new members never previously enrolled may join for 1992 at this year's September meeting without paying dues for 1991. Their status should be indicated at the time of enrolling. The current Treasurer of the Society is Dr. Linda Wyman.

The Treasurer's mailing address is 613-5 Woodlander, Jefferson City, MO 65101. Members at a distance often accompany their remittances with charming (and very welcome) letters about their interest in the Society's activities, with news of their own papers and publications. Last year one really newsy letter mentioned the "enclosed check" but was unaccompanied by it. The good will nevertheless stood out a mile.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor:

I recently heard a discussion of the use of computer networks for ongoing exchanges on matters of bibliographical or more general interest on specified authors in the humanities. Is there, perhaps, a member of the Society who knows how these networks operate and what their real usefulness might be to Eliot readers and scholars? I gather that one needs a modem, an electronic mail address, and of course a group of people interested in communicating in this way.

We might explore this possibility, if only as a means of holding conversations on the location and accessibility of hard-to-find materials relating to Eliot and his period. I myself, for instance, am interested in knowing more about Eliot's work as an editor at Faber & Faber, particularly with respect to his sponsorship — or lack thereof — of younger poets and writers. I'd be happy to share my own sketchy knowledge of these matters *via* networking.

If anyone has the means of exploring this matter further, perhaps he or she could write to the editor with thoughts and suggestions.

Cleo McNelly Kearns



On a tourist map of St. Louis one finds a "riverboat" restaurant Spirit of the River (Burger King). The hypothetical allusion to *Ash-Wednesday*, Part VI, may delight the incautious. Some Lindbergh connection is probable. Still, a chance of getting at the truth might justify a research grant.

One may take more seriously the remark in Anthony Burgess' novel *Any Old Iron* (New York: Random House, 1989), 347, that the "hospital" line in *East Coker* was stolen from a Bach cantata: "Die ganze Welt ist ein Krankenhaus." A musical person may confirm.

THE T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY
 TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
 SEPTEMBER 27-29,
 1991

The enclosed T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY NEWS & NOTES contains the complete program for this year's meeting, which will feature the T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecture by Dr. Cleo McNelly Kearns, papers by other members of the Society, and both a luncheon and a banquet on Saturday, September 28. The headquarters for the meeting are the Hampton Inn, Union Station.

The registration fee for this year's meeting is \$10 (\$15 for husband and wife jointly), or \$5 each for students and retired persons, for those who pre-register before September 20. For those who pre-register after that date or register at the door, these fees are doubled.

The T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecture is open to the public without payment of the registration fee.

The T. S. Eliot Society has made arrangements with the Hampton Inn, Union Station, for the following nightly rates, applicable to any member of the Society who reserves the accommodation no later than September 1: \$64 single, \$74 multiple (plus tax; free Continental breakfast). Those who wish to stay there should call the hotel directly (314-241-3200) to make their own reservations. The address of the Hampton Inn is 2211 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

A "Deli Delight" buffet luncheon has been reserved at the Inn for Saturday, September 28, immediately following Dr. Kearns's Memorial Lecture. The choices of food include Roast Beef, Ham, Turkey, and Salami, Cheeses, Salads, Rolls, Desserts and Beverages, and are inclusively priced at \$11.25, tax and gratuity included. Payment should be made with the pre-registration fee no later than September 20.

For dinner Saturday evening, September 28, the members of the Society will be accommodated for the nominal charge of only \$10 a person, to enjoy one of Melanie Fathman's home-catered repasts, at the new residence of Melanie and Tony at 4967 Pershing Place. Again, please include payment with your pre-registration no later than September 20. The Society owes so much to the Fathmans' past hospitality and bounty that it has the right this year to expectations which Chaucer's franklin himself could scarcely fulfill. ("It snewed in his hous of mete and drynke.")

Please detach and return to the Treasurer, Linda Wyman, 613-5 Woodlander, Jefferson City, MO 65101, the bottom part of this form with your remittance according to the blanks marked. Vouchers for the meals will be distributed at the meeting.

REGISTRATION FOR THE TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE T. S. ELIOT SOCIETY, ST. LOUIS, 1991

Registration fee \$10 before September 20 (H/W \$15), Student or Retired Person \$5
 Registration fee \$20 after September 20 (H/W \$30), Student or Retired Person \$10

REGISTRATION: How many? _____	Amount \$ _____	NAME AND ADDRESS
LUNCHEON (x \$11.25 each)	_____	_____
DINNER (x \$10.00 each)	_____	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____	_____