

INKLINGS AND IDLINGS

The Newsletter of the Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association

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Spring 2015

FROM SITE SUP'T. MARTHA DOWNEY

From bread to ashes to baseball to Lincoln, Barbara Schock has been writing about Carl Sandburg and Galesburg for some time, long enough to have completed her 100th "Sandburg's Hometown" article on our website sandburg.org and on our Facebook page. Congratulations and thank you, Barbara. These 100 articles and those yet to come are a remarkable contribution to all who cherish Sandburg and Galesburg's history.

Josh Mettler resigned from his position at the Carl Sandburg State Historic Site effective Feb. 6. Josh will be working for the Transportation Safety Authority in Hawaii. Congratulations, Josh. That means the Site is now closed until another person is hired to fill that position. Given that Illinois is under a hiring freeze, when that hiring will happen is unknown.

Recently I have been perusing Sandburg's writing for children. *Rootabaga Stories* with Zizzies, Henry, Hagglyhoagly, the Huckabuck family, the Zigzag railroad, and so many other characters are both intriguing and amusing in name. There are Sandburg poems specifically for the young, actually all ages, in "Early Moon" and "Wind Song."

Sandburg also wrote two nonfiction books for young people, *Prairie-Town Boy* and *Abe Lincoln Grows Up*. And Penelope Niven wrote, *Carl Sandburg: Adventures of a Poet*, so that children could read and learn about Illinois' prairie poet. It would be impossible to calculate how many of us and children still today have learned American folk tunes because Carl Sandburg collected and compiled them in *The American Songbag*.

The Association's Songbag Concerts inspired by that book, began in February with Hammer and Pick performing. The schedule for the rest of the Spring Songbag Concert Series follows.

March 28—Brian "Fox" Ellis and Barry Cloyd. 7 p.m. Folk tunes and tales.

April 25—Bob and Kristy Black. 7 p.m. Bluegrass and beyond.

May 30—Sawdust Hill, Sylvia Davidson and Trevor Wheetman. 7 p.m. Folk, country, and Americana.

A Special Songbag Concert During Galesburg Railroad Days

June 28—Chris Vallillo. 2 p.m. Railroad tunes and Sandburg inspired music during the 2015 Galesburg Railroad Days. Seating will be limited, so bring a lawn chair.

2015 Carl Sandburg Festival

The annual Carl Sandburg Festival April 21-25 has a number of exciting events planned. Special guests attending the event include, Jennifer Niven, author and daughter of Penelope Niven; Natasha Tretheway, 19th U.S. Poet Laureate; Marc K. Smith, creator and founder of Poetry Slam; Lonnie Stewart, acclaimed artist and sculptor; Ann Craig, Illinois State Librarian, and others yet to be announced.

It will be thrilling to have Jennifer Niven visit Galesburg for the first time. Her first young adult novel *All the Bright Places* has received wonderful reviews and will be made into a major motion picture starring Elle Fanning. Visit Jennifer's website www.jenniferniven.com to learn more about Penelope Niven's remarkable daughter.

The Big Read book this year is Dashiell Hammet's *The Maltese Falcon*. The Galesburg Public Library has a large number of activities planned beginning with the Kick Off on March 6.

For the latest information and schedule for the Carl Sandburg Festival and The Big Read visit <http://apps.sandburg.edu/Festival/>.

PLACE

By Barbara Schock

(Ed. Note—The 2015 Carl Sandburg Festival is a way for Galesburg to recognize its native son. Barbara Schock's story touches on the evolution of Sandburg's feelings about being recognized in his hometown.)

The *Dictionary of the English Language* lists 52 definitions of the word "place." Every person has a number of definitions of the word in their own lives. The place where one was born, the place where elementary and high schools were located, perhaps college. The place of the first job, wedding, birth of children, etc. One carries these places in memory. Sometimes we talk and write about them. Sometimes we barely recall them at all.

The 3-room cottage at 331 East Third St. in Galesburg became a place for living in 1863 when it was erected. Fifteen years later it was the place where the poet Carl Sandburg was born.

The little house was lived in by a number of families before Adda George, a 70-year-old retired teacher, became interested in it. She had been teaching in Milwaukee at the time Carl Sandburg was working as a reporter for one of the city's newspapers in the early 1900s. She learned he had been born in Galesburg, as she had been. She was 5 years older.

In 1927 Mrs. George returned to Galesburg to care for her aged mother. She began asking various people about the location of Sandburg's birthplace, but nobody seemed to know of its existence or where it might have been. Eventually she learned Mary Sandburg Johnson, Carl's older sister, worked at Cottage Hospital. She contacted Mrs. Johnson who took her to the Berrien St. house. The family had lived there for 17 years. The children had mostly grown up there. It was not the birthplace of Mary or Carl.

Mary seemed to be embarrassed to show the rundown cottage on Third St. to Mrs. George. Once Mrs. George had located the birthplace, she asked the Mayor for permission to put a plaque on the house, and he gave his consent. Mrs. George had the plaque made, put a hammer in her purse, and proceeded to nail it to the front of the house. The owner did not wish to have the plaque there, and she attempted to remove it several times.

Subsequently, Mrs. George secured a boulder to which she affixed another plaque. The rock was

placed on the terrace in front of the little house. The cottage's owner unsuccessfully attempted to remove it.

The years of the Great Depression put a hold on Mrs. George's efforts to restore the birthplace. She was convinced children should learn about Carl Sandburg. The best way to do it was to invite them to visit the place where he was born.

She wrote letter after letter asking celebrities, public figures, historians, and school children to contribute to the restoration of the structure. She also asked the residents of Galesburg to donate. Some people thought it was a waste of time and money. Mrs. George took an option on the property on December 7, 1944 after the son of the owner had advertised it for sale. She had raised only \$700 of the \$1,200 asking price. The balance came from her own financial resources. After the death of Rose Cheneler, the former resident, the Sandburg Birthplace Association took ownership. Mrs. George had been unanimously elected president of the Association. The next step was to obtain more funds and find workmen to restore it.

When Adda George first approached Sandburg about restoring the cottage as a museum, he was of the opinion that it should not be done at all. The dedication, enthusiasm, and persistence of Mrs. George surely convinced him that the project would succeed.

On October 7, 1946 the 88th anniversary of the Galesburg Lincoln-Douglas Debate, the birthplace was opened to the public. More than 3,000 people came to visit the first year. Carl Sandburg was not one of them.

Mrs. George had kept him informed of her plans. She was invited to the Sandburg home in Harbert, Michigan and was given some items to be displayed permanently in the little museum.

Sandburg agreed to visit the historic site in January, 1948, his 70th birthday. Mrs. George showed him through the small rooms. At first, she thought he seemed embarrassed, but he gradually warmed to the idea of the restoration as a museum.

On one of his visits to the Birthplace Sandburg opened a door and discovered an indoor toilet had been installed. Again, Mrs. George was attempting to make accommodations for members of the public

visiting the museum. Carl pronounced it an anachronism.

Mrs. Juanita Bednar succeeded Mrs. George as the president of the Association. She was as much a dynamo as Mrs. George. She had some ideas for enlarging the birthplace site. A house to the west was acquired for a resident caretaker of the property. It was named in honor of Adda George.

Mrs. Bednar wanted to develop a research facility as part of the museum. Sandburg felt the little house should be a simple place of commemoration. She next determined that a garden should be established on the property. It was dedicated June 4, 1966.

During the construction of Interstate Highway 74 a large boulder was discovered. It had been rolled to that location on a Knox County farm during the Ice Age. Mrs. John Sutor, an admirer of Carl Sandburg, gave the giant stone to the Birthplace Association. It was named Remembrance Rock after the one novel Sandburg wrote.

The Birthplace continued to be improved and became a Galesburg attraction. It was visited by several thousand people every year. As a result of all this success and because of his friendship with Adda George and Juanita Bednar, Sandburg decided to have his ashes deposited under Remembrance Rock when the time came. That was done September 1, 1967. About ten years later those of his wife were laid there as well. After the deaths of two of their daughters, their ashes were added to those of the parents.

The place where Carl Sandburg began and was laid to rest is a lovely spot to visit on a sunny spring day or a golden autumn afternoon. The beauty of the flowers, shrubbery, and trees is pleasing. The rhythms of the railroad sounds are there too.

CAVALCADE OF AMERICA & CARL SANDBURG

By Rex Cherrington

Cavalcade of America was initially a radio program sponsored by the DuPont Company. This was usually a drama series but occasionally dealt with music when the subject was the biography of a composer. The broadcasts began October 9, 1935 and could be loosely, though not at all inaccurately, characterized as reparations to society for the enormous profits made by DuPont in World War I.

The Congressional Committee chaired by Senator Gerald Nye had investigated the munitions industry's banking and concluded the profit motive largely accounted for the United States' involvement in World War I. Nye had also served as Chairman of the Public Lands Committee and had discovered how Warren G. Harding's Interior Secretary had arranged the illegal award of oil rights that resulted in large contributions to the Republican Party. This became known as the Teapot Dome Scandal. Nye's appearance marked him as rather like a "Rube" since he was from North Dakota and had a bowl haircut. He soon earned the nickname, "Gerald the Giant Killer."

The findings of the Nye Committee had turned public sentiment against DuPont, and DuPont saw the need to do something to improve its image. Their efforts to improve their image would result in a radio show which offered some wonderful educational entertainment. DuPont sought out stories that emphasized the good and noble sides of humanity. Such titles of episodes in the first year were indicative of the content, "No Turning Back," "The Will to Conquer Distance," "The Spirit of Competition," "The Will to Rebuild," "Faith in Education," "Woman's Emancipation," "Willingness to Share," "Community Self Reliance," "Heroism in Medical Science," "The Will to Explore," "The Humanitarian Urge," "Women in Public Service," "Abraham Lincoln--A True American," "The Artistic Impulse," and "Songs that Inspire that Nation" were some of them. I have found the first and two others on YouTube. I would enjoy hearing them all, I suspect. Many of the shows featured music with the story, often furnished by the orchestra of Don Vorhees. The first four seasons were broadcast on CBS. During the summers of 1936 and 1937 a Special Summer Music Series was introduced.

From the fifth season on, the program was broadcast on NBC and was carried on that network until the end of its radio broadcasts. Carl Sandburg, the champion of the people, was the narrator of the broadcast on December 7, 1942, the one-year anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The show was entitled "The Road to Victory" in which Sandburg describes his meetings with Americans from all walks of life. It would seem a very high honor to be chosen to star in the show that commemorated the first anniversary of the commitment our country made by entering World War II. This episode had more characters than any other Cavalcade episode. There were 73

characters, though actors would, through the use of different voices, play more than one character. It is thought there not many more than a dozen actors. The musical score was composed by Ardon Cornwell and played by the orchestra conducted by Donald Vorhees. The content of the show was based upon various works of Carl Sandburg adapted by Norman Rosten. A vocal performance was given by the Delta Rhythm Boys.



This somewhat rare photo dated November 24, 1942 was produced by NBC for DuPont for press release notifying the public of the upcoming episode of *Cavalcade of America* entitled, tentatively, as "Victory's Road" but later presented as "The Road to Victory" on December 7, 1942. This particular copy of the photo had been released to the *Cleveland News*. Photo courtesy of Rex Cherrington.

The radio broadcasts of *Cavalcade of America* continued into 1953. Television broadcasts had started in 1952, but due to the fact there were few TV owners then, the radio broadcasts had been continued another year. The final television broadcast was in 1957 and by then was being carried by ABC. Over the course of roughly two decades DuPont had their program aired on all three major networks. The DuPont Company's

motto, which was modified slightly over the years, was read at the beginning of each production from the first episode to the last, "Maker of better things for better living through chemistry." DuPont desired to show the humanitarian progress of mankind and particularly improvements in the lives of women. It was shown in a variety of ways that our culture had changed and honored the people who were instrumental. Naturally, DuPont was most pleased when they could demonstrate how this progress resulted from the application of technological innovation.

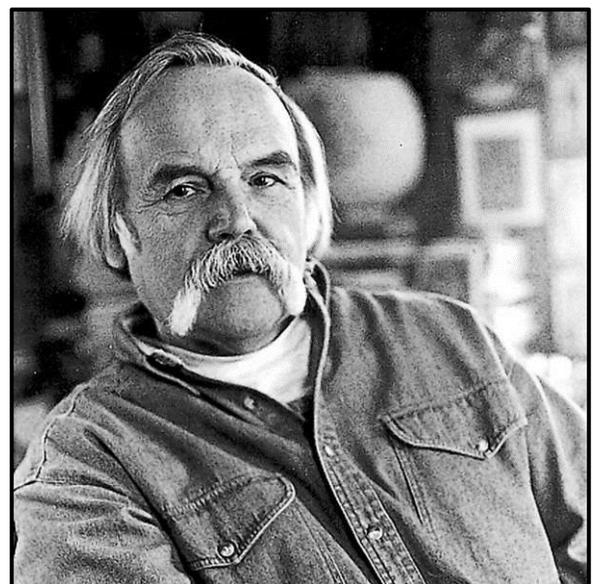
GOT A SANDBURG STORY?

If you have a story about Carl Sandburg that you would like to appear in *Inklings and Idlings*, please e-mail it to editor Mike Hobbs at mhobbs@grics.net.

"PHIZZOG," CHICAGO, AND NORBERT BLEI

By Mike Hobbs

While googling Sandburg's poem "Phizzog" recently I came across a *Chicago Tribune* story dated April 30, 2013 by reporter Rick Kogan about the life and passing of Norbert Blei who Kogan states was a writer who "chronicled Chicago with the 'soul of a poet.' [H]is writing—gritty, urban and urbane, filled with humanity and lively characters—ranks with the best ever published about Chicago." He quotes Blei's former student and longtime friend poet Albert DeGenova who said, "[Blei's] books are alive with people, neighborhoods, the sights, sounds, smells of real living."



Norbert Blei 1935-2013

Blei was born in Chicago in 1935. He grew up on the West Side. While in grade school his family moved to Cicero. He graduated from Illinois State University in 1956, taught high school English, and then went to work for the City News Bureau, which Kogan calls “that bygone training ground for journalists.” He wrote nonfiction for local magazines. In 1968 he, his former wife, and children moved to Ellison Bay in Door County, Wisconsin, where, as Kogan tells us, “[h]e became the ‘writer in residence’ at ‘The Clearing Folk School,’ a position he held for 40 years; edited a Door County arts newspaper and was the editor and publisher of CROSS+ROADS PRESS, which was devoted to emerging and accomplished poets, short story writers, essayists, novelists, artists, and photographers. Mr. Blei wrote 17 books, including those that many refer to as his Chicago trilogy: *Neighborhood*, *Chi Town* and *The Ghost of Sandburg's Phizzog*.

Kogan describes Blei’s “Chicago Trilogy,” “Of *Neighborhood*, the writer and critic Laurie Levy wrote in the *Tribune*: ‘There is the soul of a poet as well as a journalist at large in these pages, recalling for the less articulate those lost moments we try so hard to remember.’ Mr. Blei called *Chi Town* his ‘love letter to a city that has meant so much to me.’ In it, one can feel his passion for this place as he writes about familiar characters like Mike Royko and Studs Terkel, as well [as] less famous folks. *The Ghost of Sandburg's Phizzog* is a sort of prose poem in honor of one of his greatest influences.”

As an 18 year old in 1896 Carl Sandburg had a burning desire to see the world beyond Galesburg. He used his father’s CB&Q Railroad pass to take the train by himself for a 3-day visit to Chicago that year. Penelope Niven in *Carl Sandburg, A Biography* tells about his “‘traveling light’ carrying only what he could fit in his pockets—a knife, a piece of string, a pipe and tobacco, two handkerchiefs and a dollar and fifty cents....” (She also says that “[a]ll his life he would prefer the train to every other mode of travel.”) Niven goes on, “The city was a shock and an exhilaration to [Sandburg’s] senses. Charley walked for miles.” He saw skyscrapers, Chicago newspaper buildings, the site of the 1886 Haymarket Riots, and State Street department stores. He had heard about the “funny doings” in Chicago saloons, so he went to one and was propositioned by a prostitute. He had met one of the city’s “wicked,” “painted women” in this “Stormy, husky, brawling, City of the Big Shoulders.” (“Chicago,” 1914)

My own first trip to Chicago occurred around 1960 (before the construction of Interstate 80 and the Dan Ryan Expressway) when fellow Boy Scouts and I took a bus trip to see the White Sox play in old Comiskey Park. I was 12 years old. Seeing the neighborhoods of the South Side fascinated me. Much different from my little hometown of Abingdon. Over the next two or three years I took trips with my parents to Chicago. Saw the big buildings in the Loop. Walked among people on bustling Maxwell Street where I heard people talk funny, and I smelled good but unusual food smells. I think it was on Maxwell Street where I first heard the term “hot merchandise.” Speaking of smells, there was the familiar rural Knox County smell when we drove by the Union Stockyards. We drove through ethnic neighborhoods where I could imagine some “storminess” and “brawling” going on. When I started at Western Illinois University in Macomb in 1967, I met many students from the Chicago area. I liked their accent. I found some of the males’ greased hairstyles to be worth a second look. Some of those Chicago guys were loud and fast-talking. They were “stormy.”

I enjoy the exuberance of former construction worker Marc Smith (“Big Shoulders”), who grew up in Chicago in the 1960’s, when he is in Galesburg. He founded the Poetry Slam and will be here again for the 2015 Carl Sandburg Festival. Catch him if you can.

I look forward to reading Norbert Blei’s books about Chicago.

SOME BIRTHPLACE HISTORY

By Mike Hobbs

CSHSA member Chuck Bednar made available the February 12, 1969 Carl Sandburg Birthplace Association’s newsletter, *331 Memo*, which gives some Birthplace history. Under the heading “Thank You Mr. Zumwalt” is written, “Hours of valuable labor have been given by Board member Homer L. Zumwalt in the caulking of the shingles of the Adda George House [currently the Site Visitors Center]. The late Mr. Zumwalt was the father of Gail Swanson, wife of CSHSA President Barry Swanson.

Under the heading “Goffs Invited to Connemara,” is “Lauren and Mary Goff, president and hostess at the Birthplace, will stop at Connemara, the farm home of Carl Sandburg near

Flat Rock, N. Carolina, on their way to Florida. They have been invited to do so by Mrs. Carl Sandburg and [daughter] Margaret.”

From “Mabel Corbin Remembered,” “Miss Mabel Corbin, a retired member of the Faculty of Western Illinois University, became the first vice-president of the Sandburg Association in 1945, and remained in this position until Mrs. [Adda] George’s retirement in 1959. Of Mabel Corbin’s contribution to the birthplace restoration Mrs. George wrote, following Miss Corbin’s death in 1960: ‘Blessed Mabel! It would take an encyclopedia to tell all that she meant to me...and her crowning gift was a bequest to the Birthplace in her will of \$500.’ At Western Illinois University, a beautiful new dormitory has been named for Mabel Corbin.”

Under the heading “They Came By The Thousands” Hostess Mary Goff gave a breakdown of where visitors to the Birthplace came from in 1968:

Galesburg—2,001

Illinois (outside of Galesburg)—7,920

Out of State—3,561 (Every state represented, including Alaska and Hawaii)

Foreign Countries—73

Total—13,555

Number of visitors in 1967—13,064

Margaret Harvey wrote the following story, “Ten chosen trees from Connemara Farms, Carl Sandburg’s last home in Flat Rock, N.C. planted at Carl Sandburg park as part of a landscape program, were dedicated Sunday, April 7, 1968 as a memorial to the late Juanita K. (Mrs. Charles) Bednar, for eight years 1959-1967 president of the Carl Sandburg Birthplace Association. The event is listed among Sesquicentennial observances in Illinois.

“Mr. Sandburg’s oldest daughter, Margaret was here from Flat Rock, and his sister Esther Sandburg Wachs, and her husband, Arthur, of Chatsworth, Cal., as well as his nephews, Dr. Richard Sandburg of Belvidere, Ill., and Martin Sandburg Jr., of Galesburg, with their wives, were present.

“Members of the Bednar family present included Mr. Charles Bednar, Sr., of Galesburg, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bednar, Jr., and little daughter, Melissa, of Oak Park, Ill., Rick Bednar, with the Army Special Services in Vietnam, his fiancée, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Weidenbauer, of Monmouth, Ill., uncle and aunt of Mrs. Bednar, and Mr. and Mrs. Ronstrom, of Galva, cousins of Mrs. Bednar.



Carl Sandburg & Juanita Bednar

“The white pine, dogwood and red maple trees were brought from Connemara Farms by Paul Waylan, of Macomb, field representative of the Sesquicentennial commission. The landscape planting was planned by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Brown, with Mrs. Hayes Tucker assisting. The trees were planted prior to the dedication with the exception of one white pine which was planted that day in special tribute to Mrs. Bednar by Miss Sandburg. A red maple was also planted in the terrace at the Charles Bednar home, 1737 North Broad street.

“Other trees planted included river birch, shingle oak, shadblow, white pine, white oak, burr oak and a large red-bud tree given by Miss Louise Wilmot. Sixty-three holes for the planting were dug by members of local Junior Chamber of Commerce. Two white pines were planted by Margaret Sandburg on the campuses of Lombard Junior High School and on the Knox College campus. “Homer Zumwalt, chairman of the Sandburg Park and grounds committee, had arranged the following program:

Welcome--Mr. George Warren, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Introduction of Guests—Mr. Lauren Goff, President of the Carl Sandburg Birthplace Association.

Musical selections—Sweet Adelines, directed by Mrs. James Macdonald.

Remarks—Mayor Robert Cabeen.

Tree Planting—Paul Waylan, Mrs. John J. Sutor, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Brown.

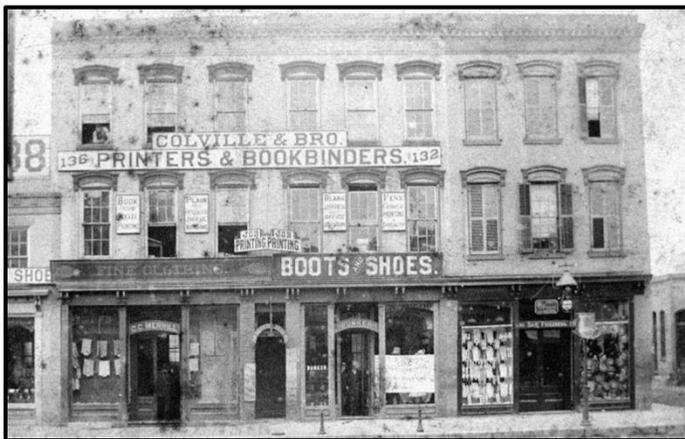
Presentation of a Plaque honoring Juanita Bednar was made by Dr. Kermit Petersen.”

THE COLVILLE GIRLS

By Mike Hobbs

After completing the sixth grade at the Seventh Ward School near his East Berrien St. home, Sandburg walked a mile to downtown Galesburg to attend the Grammar School. Kids from all over town attended that school, and Sandburg found it interesting to be around them, including the well-dressed kids from the more affluent parts of town. The Grammar School stood west across Broad St. from the current Galesburg Public Library.

In Sandburg's eighth grade class at the Grammar School were two Colville sisters, daughters of Robert Colville, Galesburg's foremost printer and bookbinder. In his autobiography *Always the Young Strangers* Sandburg wrote that the sight of the Colville girls captivated him, "They were pretty to look at. I tried to look at them without it being seen that my eyes were enjoying them. Ann had carrot-colored hair that framed her brown eyes, freckled face, and thin-lipped mouth. Her sister Blanche had deep-black hair and eyes and her face was what they call ivory-pale [,] her mouth more full-lipped than Ann's. Both these girls near my desk had legs good to look at and I would take quick looks at them and flash my eyes in a hurry back to the history or geography pages." Sandburg was a keen observer of things and people, including pretty girls and women. That trait aided him as a newspaperman and writer.



Colville & Bro. Printers & Bookbinders, on the second & third floors of this building at 134 to 136 E. Main St., Galesburg. Bunker's Boots & Shoes on ground floor. Current site of Park Plaza. Photo courtesy of Galesburg Public Library.

(Editor's Note: This is part of the series of stories by CSHSA members about why they are drawn to Sandburg.)

WHAT APPEALS TO ME ABOUT SANDBURG

By Bert McElroy

Carl Sandburg's appeal to me comes from a combination of place, generational overlap, acquaintances, interest in history, involvement, employment, the enjoyment of Site aesthetics, and interpretation. My earliest hearing about him was probably from my mother who was of Swedish descent. She read poems and children's stories; she also encouraged church and school. Early on I recollect the local popularity of Sandburg and Lincoln, the Birthplace and New Salem. While visiting those places as an adolescent, I thought, "Wow, Sandburg's remains were buried in his backyard under a [Remembrance] rock," and comparatively I remember New Salem's "log cabins and the poison ivy!"

I attended second grade at Weston Elementary School, the site of the former Fourth Ward School that Sandburg had attended. During third grade at Mary Allen West I remember Mr. Baron taking us by the Birthplace on the way to play basketball against Douglas Elementary. During middle school I recall collecting pennies for Sandburg's birthday party. I enjoyed social studies and history during junior high and high school, where I first delved into Sandburg's Galesburg memories and his wanderlust (with special thanks to Mr. Sward and Mrs. Moore). During high school I was employed as a maintenance engineer's assistant with the Downtown Village Council under the directorship of Tom Wilson, a local historian who routinely pens a local history column in the *Galesburg Register-Mail*. While attending Knox College, where I earned my BA in history, I was allowed to browse the Lombard University Collection archived at Knox. Much of the collection was boxed.

While farming for my father and uncle, looking for extra jobs, and working on some projects at the Birthplace, Carl Sandburg State Historic Site Interpreter Steve Holden suggested that I apply to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency for work at the Site. During nearly a decade of employment, including 5 years of year-round maintenance and assisting interpretation under the tutelage of Holden, who had become Site Superintendent, and another 4 years seasonally under the direction of Martha Downey, I grew accustomed to the questions and

diverse interests of students, academics, and tourists of all ages, various backgrounds, a nationalities, as well as other historic sites and museums. I recall Yevgeny Yevtushenko, a Cold War-era poet, who claimed that photographer Edward Steichen and "his inspiration," Sandburg, stayed with him in his very small apartment while they visited Russia. Tomas Junglander from Stockholm, Sweden, who had helped with the Regional Archive exhibit, toured the Site, gratefully befriending me for taking him to Soperville and the Krans family's burial plots in Henderson Grove Cemetery.

Similar to Yevtushenko and Junglander's callings, I decided to revisit Connemara; Sandburg's home for the last 22 years of his life. Accompanied by Donna Porter (my most significant friend), as with my parents many years prior, I got the impression of Sandburg's commonality and the pastoral surroundings that provided the nourishing sustenance, tranquility, and solitude to continue many of his writing projects and finalize 14 more published works, including his Pulitzer Prize-winning *Complete Poems* in 1950 and his only novel, while the family and a hired hand managed the dairy duties of the goat herd. While there, as before, I

recalled a sense like the regimen while staying and working with my father on our family farm, perhaps like Sandburg's memories of the Krans's farm. Breakfast at the break of dawn, chores, meat, potatoes, canning a variety of seasonal fresh garden vegetables, the paraffining of fruit and berry preserves, livestock, the seasonal farm work, and that old black and white television, that evoked a pre-1960's remembrance of hearing older people mention how they remembered their first radio and newsprint to ignite kindling.

(to be continued . . .)

2015 PENNY PARADE

Collection day for the 2015 Penny Parade will be Friday, April 24 at 1 pm at the Site's Visitors Center. If you would like to help, phone PP Chairman Tom Foley at 309-351-3465 or e-mail him at tom@foleyphotostudio.com.

SITE CLEANUP – APRIL 22, 2015

The Master Gardeners are planning a Site cleanup on Wednesday, April 22 at the time of the Carl Sandburg Festival. Work times are 9 am-noon and 1-4 pm. *Rain date April 23. Same times.* Volunteers should bring their own garden tools and gloves.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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SANDBURG
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