

## Getting to the point

They started out singing in the church choir and have scored hits as country and rock'n'roll singers. They'll be bringing their sultry sounds to the Meadowbrook Music Festival this month and enough to cause their fans to get "so excited." Find out more about the Pointer Sisters on Page 6D.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

O&E Monday, August 1, 1988

★10

## Exploring Serengeti Papa style

By Roberta Schwartz  
special writer

Today Ernest Hemingway wouldn't recognize the East Africa that he saw on safari in 1933 and 1953. But the novelist is well remembered for his "Green Hills of Africa" and "Snows of Kilimanjaro" stories, which popularized tourism in Kenya.

When Hemingway first arrived in Nairobi with his second wife, Pauline, the country was still new and the city a collection of mismatched buildings. Pauline's uncle, Gus Pfeiffer, had given the couple \$25,000 which Hemingway used to hire the famed white hunter Philip Percival as a guide.

The Hemingways and their Key West friend Charles Thompson set off for the Serengeti Plain in a car. Two trucks, loaded with camping gear, followed. The party also included two gunbearers and Percival's assistant hunter.

Hemingway, Thompson and Pauline soon shot four lions, two big leopards, 35 hyenas, the limit on cheetah, antelope, eland, waterbuck and gazelles.

The exultant novelist wrote that nothing he had read in Theodore Roosevelt's "African Game Trails" gave him a clear idea of the beauty of Africa or the abundance of its game.

When a bout with amoebic dysentery sent Hemingway back to Nairobi's New Stanley Hotel to recuperate, he was cheered by news that "Winner Take Nothing" had sold 12,500 copies two months after being published in 1934.

Today, the hotel's Thorn Tree Cafe, where he loved to drink and mingle, looks out on a city of 1 million people, a city made of concrete and skyscrapers.

Hemingway wrote of his frustration over the superior beasts which his friend Thompson consistently shot and of his preoccupation with artistic integrity and death in his two African tales.

TODAY, every Kenyan school child reads his work, and the books are displayed at the home of Hemingway's friend Baron Bror von Blixen, husband of novelist Isak Dinesen.

The Blixen plantation, which the novelist sometimes visited, appears in the opening scenes of the film, "Out of Africa," and tourists enjoy seeing the beautifully preserved estate at the foot of the Ngong (Knuckles) Hills.

Although Hemingway's private safari would be too expensive for many travelers today, it's still possible. Most visitors prefer to ride in 12-seat minibuses or Land Rovers and admire game from their retractable roofs.

Hunting is forbidden in the great national game parks of Kenya, and the guides say poachers are hanged.

Many animals have been placed on the endangered list, and the seemingly endless herds of which Hemingway wrote have disappeared. In the Masai Mara Game Reserve, one can still see great herds as they migrate to other parks, but they do not appear in the abundance of the 1930s.

Travelers are well advised to take malaria pills and get the proper vaccinations to avoid the illness which put Hemingway out of action. But the flavor and excitement of his positive experiences in Africa are still available to adventurers.

The Serena and Sarova Hotels offer five star lodging in the national parks and are competitive with the finest accommodations in the world. Barbecues in a roaring pit under the stars of Africa can not be duplicated elsewhere, and the romance and loneliness of African nights make the safari an unmatched experience.

A TREE full of baboons that keeps hotel guests awake by running on the roof all night. The scratching and screaming of a large cat at the door that the manager claims was a pet bush baby. Signs that read, "do not leave your shoes outside the door or the hyenas will carry them away."

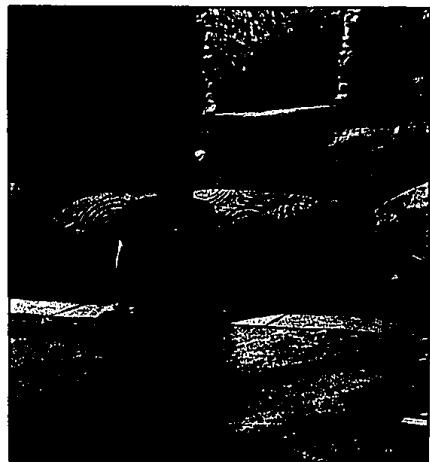
African visitors carry these images home with them.

Please turn to Page 6



The enormous herds of wild animals that Ernest Hemingway saw on the Serengeti Plain during his safaris have been thinned out over the years through poaching.

## What to take and not take on safari



Roberta Schwartz is a free-lance writer and a professor of journalism at Oakland University. She received her doctoral degree from Wayne State University and has often taught courses on Hemingway's stories. She is exhibiting a collection of Hemingway memorabilia at the Rochester Hills Public Library this month.

By Roberta Schwartz  
special writer

There are a few things to take into consideration, when pondering and African safari. It's not like tossing a few things in a suitcase and heading off for a week in Orlando or on the beaches in the Bahamas.

Here are some travel tips and information about the "Dark Continent."

**Climate:** The rain comes in short and heavy downpours. The long rains fall between March and June and the short rains in November. December through March can be sunny and hot and July quite cool.

Visitors should bring summer clothes, but a lined jacket and jeans will be best for early morning safaris and evenings. Good sunglasses, sun screens with at least a 15 factor, and a protective hat are essential.

**Currency:** Kenya shillings break down into 100 cents. The dollar is doing well in East Africa and brings about 17 shillings.

**Health:** Although vaccinations are not required for East Africa, travelers know that anti-malarial pills are a must. Best bet is to go to clinics, such as InterHealth at Royal Oak's Beaumont Hospital, for immunizations and information on this

high risk country. Polio, yellow fever, tetanus and other inoculations should be updated.

**Getting there:** British Airways offers regular service to Nairobi and service is excellent in all classes. First and business class provide room to stretch out and sleep during the nine-hour flight from London and the splendid cabin service includes hot fish and beef hors d'oeuvres and a five-course meal of excellent quality.

Kenya Airways has upgraded its service, but food is sparse compared to the lavish spread British Airways puts on. The first-class compartment seems cramped and passengers have only limited space for reclining on the long flight to Nairobi.

**Food and drink:** Kenya rum is of excellent quality and quite inexpensive. Tusk beer consistently wins medals internationally. Nairobi boasts good Italian, Indian, and English food, but the Wimpy Burger on Kenya Avenue is the pit. The locals say it serves hyena burgers, but they eat there anyway.

**Overland travel:** Kenya Wildlife Trails Ltd. in the Kimathi House opposite the New Stanley Hotel, P.O. Box 44487, Nairobi, offers comfortable minibus transportation to the

Please turn to Page 6

## R.U. Syrius

Karlos Barney



Scottee posing a question to his students.

## Petoskey: Penchant for historic hotels

By Iris Sanderson Jones  
contributing travel editor

**Q:** My wife and I would like to stay in one of those historic old hotels in the Petoskey area. She's not really into bed-and-breakfast, or sharing a bathroom. What do you suggest? We've never been to the area before.

**LM,  
Westland**

**A:** A lot of things are going on up there in the historic hotel business. The Perry Hotel, a national historic landmark in the heart of downtown, has been renovated to the tune of \$3.5 million. The whole adjacent "village" of Bay View, site of the Terrace Inn, was designated a national historic landmark in July.

The highly rated Waldorf's Bay View Inn, overlooking Little Traverse Bay across US-41 from Bay View, remains the jewel of northern Michigan. Staffed "Duff" Smith has spent the last two years as president of Country Inns and Back Roads Association, known to meet people by a guide book of that name.

The rooms in all three places have con-

temporary beds and private bathrooms. Only the decor and the ambience hail back to the 19th century.

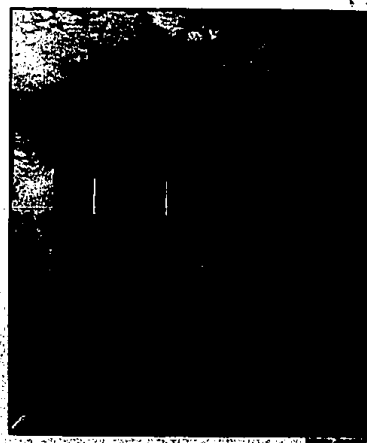
Your view of a town is often determined by where you stay and what you can do from there. If you have never been to Petoskey, let's walk out on the breakwater together and look at the town.

The lake steamers came into Little Traverse Bay at the turn-of-the-century, bringing travelers to Petoskey and to Harbor Springs on the north side of the bay, but especially to the expensive, two- and three-story Victorian cottages built on the outskirts of both cities.

Sightseers still can't pass through the gate to the point at Harbor Springs where famous families once brought their children and their make for the summer. However, the roads throughout Bay View, immediately adjacent to Petoskey, are open to visitors.

**THE TOWN** of Petoskey, across a shimmering strip of water from the breakwater and the lighthouse, was

Please turn to Page 4



Synow's General Store is one of the quaint businesses that can be found along Lake Street in the heart of Petoskey's downtown district.