



Elmira College  
Center for Mark Twain Studies

The Trouble Begins at Eight  
Spring 2010 Lecture Series



Wednesday, April 28th in the Barn at Quarry Farm, 8 p.m.

Comic Imperialism and *Connecticut Yankee*  
Judith Yaross Lee Ohio University

Amid the exuberant humor of time travel and technological incongruity in *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889) lies a story about imperialism, as the Yankee outsider Hank Morgan remakes sixth century Britain in the mold of nineteenth-century industrial America. Judith Yaross Lee explores the interplay of biographical experience and imagination along with international politics and American comic traditions in shaping Mark Twain's last major novel.

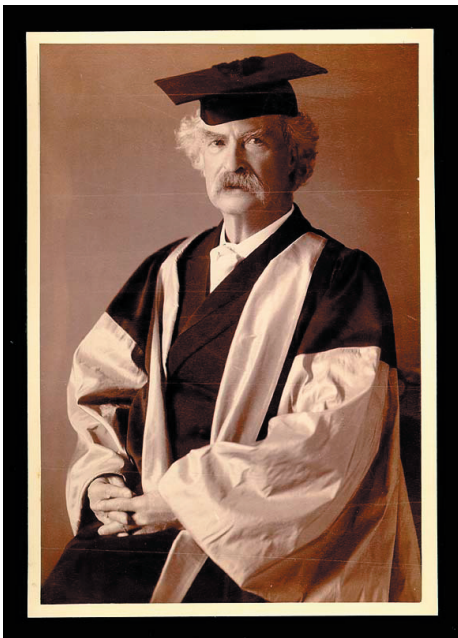


Judith Yaross Lee is Professor of Communication Studies in the Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University.

Doors open at 7:30. *The Trouble Begins at Eight*.

---

Wednesday, May 5th in the Barn at Quarry Farm, 8 p.m.



Mark Twain's Cornell: Venturing Far above Cayuga's Waters  
with Samuel Clemens  
Lance Heidig Cornell University Library

One does not necessarily think of Cornell University when one is pondering the life and legacy of Samuel Langhorne Clemens, but Mark Twain did. Several of the stories that he remembered late in his life and dictated for his *Autobiography* (the 1924 edition edited by Albert Bigelow Paine) contain references to and anecdotes about Cornell and the friends and acquaintances that he had there. Mark Twain and Cornell ~ the "first truly American writer" and the "first truly American university" as they have been called ~ share a rich history of associated friends and family, including four generations of Langdons who have been Cornellians. As Mark Twain has noted: "All schools, all colleges, have two great functions: to confer, and to conceal, valuable knowledge." While much is known about the twenty summers that Clemens spent in Elmira, less has been said about his connections to nearby Ithaca. Concealed knowledge will be conferred.

Lance Heidig is a Reference and Instruction Librarian in Research and Learning Services at Cornell University and is a new independent scholar of Mark Twain.

Doors open at 7:30. *The Trouble Begins at Eight*.

(More on reverse side.)

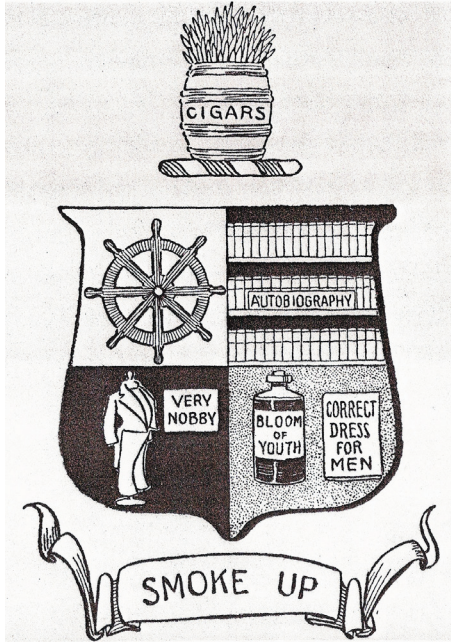


# The Trouble Begins at Eight

Spring 2010 Lecture Series



Wednesday, May 26th in the Barn at Quarry Farm, 8 p.m.



## Mark Twain Illustrated and Impersonated

Alex Effgen *The Editorial Institute at Boston University*

Close your eyes and picture Mark Twain. What do you see? Most likely a white suit, white hair, big white whiskers, and a bigger cigar. What does he sound like? Southern, with a drawl. “Mark Twain Illustrated and Impersonated” is a historical discussion concerning what we know about Mark Twain ~ through the mediums of caricature and dramatic performance ~ and how we’ve come to know it. Through slides and recordings, “Mark Twain Illustrated and Impersonated” will deconstruct our perception of Samuel Clemens’s public personality to understand that what seems a static icon continues to be a dynamic reaction to our contemporary society.

**Alex Brink Effgen** is a doctoral candidate in Editorial Studies at Boston University’s Editorial Institute.

*Light refreshments will precede this concluding lecture of the Spring series.*

Doors open at 7:15. *The Trouble Begins at Eight.*

---

## Unable to attend our lecture series? Why not listen online?

Go to <http://www.elmira.edu/twain>. Click on The Center for Mark Twain Studies and then on *The Trouble Begins at Eight*. Scroll down and click on the link for the appropriate audio file where live audio recordings of lectures are available (with individual speakers’ permission).

### Directions to Quarry Farm for local attendees:

From Elmira College, head east on Washington across the Clemens Center Parkway to Sullivan Street. Turn right on Sullivan. Turn left on East Avenue. Turn left on Crane Road. Quarry Farm will be on your left. Please park on the grassy area behind the Barn. Quarry Farm is a fragile, natural environment. Please exercise care.



*The Trouble Begins at Eight* is made possible by the support of the Mark Twain Foundation and the Friends of the Center.

---

Elmira College  
Center for Mark Twain Studies  
(607) 735-1941  
[twaincenter@elmira.edu](mailto:twaincenter@elmira.edu)



Director  
Secretary  
Quarry Farm Caretaker

Barbara Snedecor  
Kathy Solometo  
Timothy Morgan