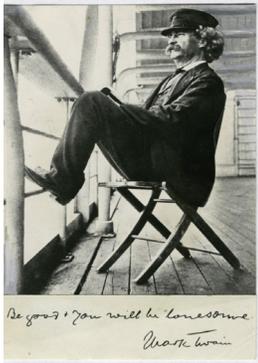




Wednesday, May 4th in the Barn at Quarry Farm

8 p.m.

“Following the Indian Equator: Mark Twain In India” Seema Sharma *University of Mumbai, Stanford University*  
followed by a brief interview conducted by Susan K. Harris, *University of Kansas*



Twain lectured across the Indian subcontinent for three months, beginning January 1896 in Bombay, and then travelling to cities like Baroda, Allahabad, Banaras, Calcutta, Agra, and Delhi. He published his experiences in a travelogue *Following the Equator* in 1897. This presentation deals with Twain’s circumstances of his visit to India, his lectures in various cities, his audiences, and his observation of indigenous customs and practices. The talk also points out what Twain observed (or failed to observe) during his travels in India and how this experience might have influenced his later writings. In the second part of the presentation, Dr. Sharma will interpret the title “Mark Twain in India” to mean how the author is received in India, both in academia and in popular culture. Dr. Sharma will argue that a sensitive pedagogy can use the writings of Twain, which deal with issues of race and inequality, to sensitize young readers to similar problems in Indian society.

Seema Sharma is Associate Professor of English Literature at the University of Mumbai, India. Her areas of interest are American literature, African American Literature, Postcolonial Literatures, Translation Studies and Indian Mythology and she has published extensively in these fields. Additionally, she has translated and published critical and creative works from Hindi into English. Her book *Articulating Resistance in African American Slave Narratives* was published in 2011. In the same year she was nominated for the U.S. International Visitor Leadership Program for “Developing American Studies Curricula in India.” She is currently a Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar at Stanford University.

Doors open at 7:30. Enjoy light refreshments preceding the lecture. *The Trouble Begins at Eight.*

Wednesday, May 11th in the Barn at Quarry Farm

8 p.m.

“Grieving Tom Sawyer: Mark Twain, Loss, and the Transformation of a Writer”  
Joseph Csicsila *Eastern Michigan University*

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876) has long been appreciated as a fictionalized reminiscence of Mark Twain’s youth in Hannibal, Missouri. The current critical view is that the composition of the novel, which is believed to have begun in December 1872, was generally inspired by letters exchanged between Twain and childhood friend Will Bowen rehashing adolescent experiences nearly three years before in February 1870. New evidence, however, including freshly uncovered information from the holograph manuscript of Tom Sawyer itself, challenges the scholarly consensus regarding both the dates of composition for Tom Sawyer and, even more importantly, the sources of Twain’s initial fascination with the matter and materials of the Mississippi River Valley. These discoveries reveal that Twain actually began writing Tom Sawyer significantly earlier than has been thought, specifically during the summer months of 1872 within weeks of the death of his 18 month-old son. As such, Tom Sawyer could turn out to represent much more than simply a nostalgic look back at Twain’s childhood. Tom Sawyer might very well be about Mark Twain grieving the loss of Langdon Clemens.



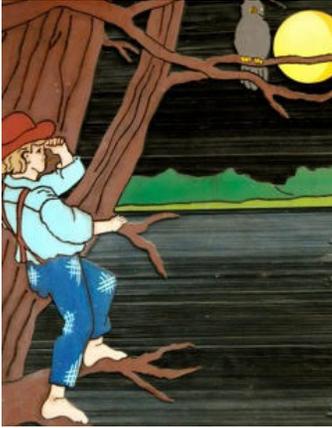
Joseph Csicsila is Professor of English Language and Literature at Eastern Michigan University. His career has focused on Mark Twain and other American writers such as Sarah Orne Jewett, Mary Wilkins Freeman, and William Faulkner. His writings include *Canons by Consensus: Critical Trends and American Literature Anthologies* (2004); *Centenary Reflections on Mark Twain’s No. 44, The Mysterious Stanger* (2009), co-edited with Chad Rohman; and *Heretical Fictions: Religion in the Literature of Mark Twain* (2010), co-authored with Lawrence Berkove. Csicsila is also editor of the Modern Library edition of Mark Twain’s *The Gilded Age* (2005) and the Broadview Press teaching volume of *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court* (Forthcoming 2016). He is currently at work on a full-scale study of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, which will appear in 2017.

Doors open at 7:30. *The Trouble Begins at Eight.*  
(More on reverse side)

Wednesday, May 11th in the Barn at Quarry Farm  
“Cappy’s Murals” Donation, honoring Joe Caparulo and Lynne Rusinko

8 p.m.

*This Event is in concurrence with Joseph Csicsila’s Trouble Begins at Eight Lecture*



Joe Caparulo and Lynne Rusinko '90 are donating three murals to Center for Mark Twain Studies at Elmira College. Mr. Caparulo owned Cappy’s, an Elmira gift store initially opened by his parents in 1946 that he took over in the early 1980s. In 1986, Caparulo commissioned *Ain’t That Work?* and *Solid Comfort*, two sand-carved exterior murals from artist Wayne D. Stokes (Ithaca, NY), in order to connect Cappy’s to Elmira’s cultural heritage with Mark Twain by means of a public narrative. In 1987, Caparulo commissioned a third mural, *Moon over Steamboat*. Each piece is original and inspired by the works of Twain, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* in particular. *Moon over Steamboat* (detail pictured) is an imaginative interpretation based on Twain’s river novels. When Caparulo sold Cappy’s in 2011, he retained ownership of the murals while still on display at the store for public view. When Cappy’s closed in 2015, Rusinko suggested their donation to the Quarry Farm Barn, for guests to learn from and enjoy.

Doors open at 7:00 in order to view the murals. Enjoy light refreshments preceding the lecture.  
*The Trouble Begins at Eight!*

Wednesday, May 18th in Cowles Hall on the Elmira College Campus

7 p.m.

“The Rhyme of Crisis: Mark Twain on Banks, Bubbles, & Bailouts” Matthew Seybold *Elmira College*

[NOTE TIME AND LOCATION OF THIS LECTURE]

Samuel Clemens lived through five major U.S. economic crises, one of which forced him into bankruptcy at the height of his popularity. But, in contradiction to much of his own advice, he never lost his taste for speculation or ceased to be fascinated by high finance. He was a voracious, but skeptical reader of political economy, and he presciently depicted market forces, several of which had not yet been identified by his contemporaries. Dr. Seybold’s talk casts Twain as an economic theorist and historian whose perspective remains highly relevant to the 2008 financial crisis and the ensuing recession.

Matt Seybold joined the faculty at Elmira College in 2015 as Assistant Professor of American Literature and Mark Twain Studies. He received his Ph.D. from University of California, Irvine in 2012, after which he spent two years teaching at University of Alabama. The primary focus of his research is the intersection of print culture and economic rhetoric in the United State. He is co-editor of the forthcoming *Routledge Companion to Literature & Economics*. In 2013, he won the T.S. Eliot Society’s Fathman Young Scholar Award and in 2014 was a Lillian Gary Taylor Fellow in American Literature at the University of Virginia. Recent publications can be found in *Mark Twain Annual*, *Mark Twain Journal*, *Western Humanities Review*, *Reception*, and *T.S. Eliot Studies Annual*.



Directions and Parking for Quarry Farm

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 environment. Exercise care. For GPS: 131 Crane Road Elmira, NY 14901

Parking for Cowles Hall on the Elmira College Campus

Parking is available along Washington Avenue as well as in the lot east of Cowles Hall. Consult the web at [www.elmira.edu/map](http://www.elmira.edu/map)

ELMIRA COLLEGE

Center for Mark Twain Studies

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Dr. Joseph Lemak	Director
Dr. Matthew Seybold	Assitant Professor of English
Mr. Steve Webb	Quarry Farm Caretaker