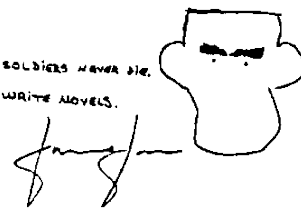


A PUBLICATION
OF THE
**JAMES
JONES
LITERARY
SOCIETY
INC.**

James Jones Journal

OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE.
THEY WRITE NOVELS.



Volume 17, Issue 3

Fall, 2009

Support the
James Jones Chair
for WWII Studies!

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“Memories of War”: 18th Annual James Jones Symposium, Eastern Illinois University, Nov. 6-7, 2009.



Old Main at Eastern Illinois University,
Charleston, Illinois,



James Jones on leave in Robinson, Illinois,
November 1943.

National Book Award recipient Tim O'Brien will present the third annual James Jones Lecture at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, in the Black Box Theater of the Doudna Fine Arts Center at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill.

The event is being held in conjunction with the James Jones Symposium, also at EIU on Nov. 6-7. The campus lecture series was established until such time that the James Jones Chair in World War II Studies is endowed and scholars come to the EIU campus for a semester, alternating between its English and History departments.

O'Brien received the National Book

Award in 1978 for his second novel, *Going After Cacciato*, the “tale of a soldier who decides to run away from the Vietnam War.” He will tailor his lecture to fellow National Book Award recipient Jones and the influence the *From Here To Eternity* author had on those writers who followed him who were also combat veterans.

Hailed by the San Francisco Chronicle as “the best American writer of his generation,” O'Brien is the author of eight books. The *New York Times* named *The Things They Carried* one of the 20 best books of the last quarter century. And it received the *Chicago Tribune's* Heartland Award in fiction and was

The James Jones Journal is published periodically to keep members and interested parties apprised of activities, projects and upcoming events of the Society; to promote public interest and academic research in the works of James Jones; and to celebrate his memory and legacy.

Submissions of essays, features, anecdotes, photographs, etc., pertaining to the author James Jones may be sent to the editor for consideration. Every attempt will be made to return material, if requested, upon submission. Material may be edited for length, clarity and accuracy. Send submissions to:

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Brookens Library, Room 144
One University Plaza,
MS BRK 140
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Springfield IL 62703-5407

Email: twood1@uis.edu

Writers' guidelines are available upon request and online at the James Jones Literary Society web page at: <http://www.jamesjonesliterarysociety.org/>

Information on the James Jones First Novel Fellowship: <http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/1159.asp>

Jones Symposium at Eastern Illinois University (*continued*)

a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

"We are thrilled to be able to bring Tim O'Brien to our campus and to the community," said Dana Ringuette, chair of the EIU English Department. "He's simply a tremendous writer, and we are doubly fortunate because he has a keen interest in the work of James Jones.

"We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to James K. Johnson, emeritus dean of EIU's College of Arts & Humanities," Ringuette added, "because it was through his generosity and support that we were able to invite O'Brien and to host the symposium."

With the theme, "Memories of War," the 18th annual James Jones Symposium begins at 7 p.m. on Nov. 6 in EIU's Doudna Fine Arts Center. O'Brien will present his lecture in the Black Box Theater and sign books afterwards. Author Kaylie Jones (daughter of James Jones) will also sign books then. At the symposium the next morning, Jones will read from her recently published memoir, *Lies My Mother Never Told Me*, and will also talk about "War in the Home," growing up in the shadow of her father, his experiences in combat and his knowledge of war, which was the *métier* for much of his work.

Registration for the free symposium begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, with coffee and donuts provided by the James Jones Literary Society in the Doudna Fine Arts Center Concourse. Dues for the society may be paid then, or new members may join the society. Symposium programs and society information will be available, along with details about how to support the James Jones Chair in World War II Studies.

Saturday's activities begin with greetings by current JJLS president Barbara Jones and by Jeffery Lynch, interim dean of the EIU College of Arts & Humanities. Lynch will introduce the theme of the symposium by reading a little-known poem ("The Hill They Call The Horse") that James Jones wrote about survivor's guilt when he was hospitalized upon returning to the States from the battle on Guadalcanal.

After Kaylie Jones reads from her memoir, the 2009 James Jones Lincoln Trail College Writing Award will be presented. And

the 2008 and 2009 winners of the James Jones First Novel Fellowship Award – a \$10,000 prize – will each read from their works.

After a lunch break, Thomas Jones, a recently named JJLS board member, will discuss his memories of a year in the bush during the Vietnam War when he was a corpsman who served with the Third Marine Recon, during which he was wounded and came home and wrote the novel, "Lost Survivor."

The symposium concludes with a student panel, organized by EIU history professor Jinhee Lee, entitled "World War II Memories in Japan and Beyond." Prior to joining the faculty at EIU, Professor Lee taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Fort Hays State University. Her work focuses on the competing narratives of collective violence in the early 20th century Japanese empire and colonial Korea.

"It's wonderful that bringing the James Jones Society symposium to EIU's campus creates an opportunity for students to participate in the activities," the chair of the History Department, Anita Shelton, said. "It also introduces the work of James Jones to a new generation."

Student Presenters:

- Mitsumi Takei, Eastern Illinois University (History): "World War II Memories in Japanese Popular Culture under American Occupation"
- Bridget Quinlivan, Western Illinois University (History): "Memories of the 'China War' in Japan"
- Charlie Kim, Northwestern University (Sociology): "Civil Society, State and Memory Movement: The Biographical Encyclopedia of 'Pro-Japanese Collaborators' in Korea"
- Tristan Soderberg-Baar, Eastern Illinois University (History): "A Divided Memory: Assessing the Cultural History of Yasukuni Shrine in Postwar Japan"
- Discussant: Dr. Febe D. Pamonag, Assistant Professor of History, Western Illinois University

See page 10 for 2009
Symposium Program

“Kaylie Jones tells quite a story...”
James Jones’s Daughter Publishes Riveting Memoir,
Lies My Mother Never Told Me



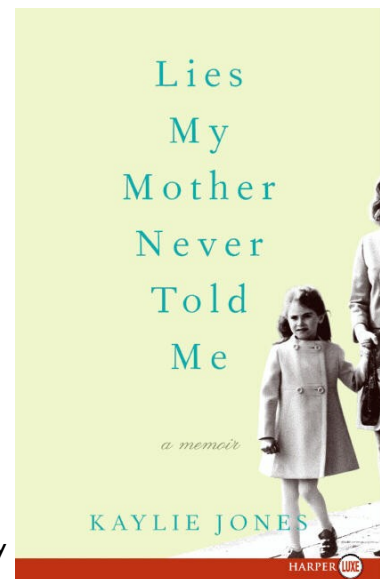
In her riveting memoir *Lies My Mother Never Told Me*, Kaylie Jones—the daughter of author James Jones (*From Here to Eternity*) and an acclaimed author in her own right (*A Soldier’s Daughter Never Cries*; *Celeste Ascending*; *As Soon As It Rains*)—tells the poignant story of her relationship with her famous father and her alcoholic mother, and of her own struggles with the disease. A true story of privilege, loss, self-discovery, and redemption, *Lies My Mother Never Told Me* is Jones’s unforgettable account of a not-quite-fairy-tale childhood and adulthood defined by two constants: literature and alcohol.

Her mother was a brainy knockout with the sultry beauty of Marilyn Monroe, a raconteur whose fierce wit could shock an audience into hilarity or silence. Her father was a distinguished figure in American letters, the National Book Award-winning author of four of the greatest novels of World War II ever written. A daughter of privilege with a seemingly fairy-tale-like life, Kaylie Jones was raised in the Hamptons via France in the 1960s and '70s, surrounded by the glitterati who orbited her famous father, James Jones. Legendary for their hospitality, her handsome, celebrated parents held court in their home around an antique bar—an eighteenth-century wooden pulpit taken from a French village church—playing host to writers, actors, movie stars, film directors, socialites, diplomats, an emperor, and even the occasional spy. Kaylie grew up amid such family friends as William Sty-

ron, Irwin Shaw, James Baldwin, and Willie Morris, and socialized with the likes of Truman Capote, Norman Mailer, George Plimpton, and Kurt Vonnegut.

Her beloved father showed young Kaylie the value of humility, hard work, and education, with its power to overcome ignorance, intolerance, and narrow-mindedness, and instilled in her a love of books and knowledge. From her mother, Gloria, she learned perfect posture, the twist, the fear of abandonment, and soul-shattering cruelty. Two constants defined Kaylie’s childhood: literature and alcohol. “Only one word was whispered in the house, as if it were the worst insult you could call someone,” she writes, “alcoholic was a word my parents reserved for the most appalling and shameful cases—drunks who made public scenes or tried to kill themselves or ended up in the street or in an institution. If you could hold your liquor and go to work, you were definitely not an alcoholic.”

When her father died from heart failure complicated by years of drinking, sixteen-year-old Kaylie was broken and lost. For solace she turned to his work, looking beyond the man she worshipped to discover the artist and his craft, determined that she too would write. Her loss also left her powerless to withstand her mother’s withering barbs and shattering criticism, or halt Gloria’s further descent into a bottle—one of the few things mother and daughter shared. From adolescence, Kaylie too used drink as a refuge, a way to anesthetize her sadness, anger, and terror. For years after her father’s death, she denied the blackouts, the hangovers, the lost days, the rage, the depres-



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Kaylie Jones's *Lies My Mother Never Told Me* (continued)

sion. Broken and bereft, she began reading her father's novels and those writers who came before and after him—and also pursued her own writing. With this, she found the courage to open the door on the truth of her own addiction.

Lies My Mother Never Told Me is the mesmerizing and luminously told story of Kaylie's battle with alcoholism and her struggle to flourish despite the looming shadow of a famous father and an emotionally abusive and damaged mother. Deeply intimate, brutally honest, yet limned by humor and grace, it is a beautifully written tale of personal evolution, family secrets, second chances, and one determined woman's journey to find her own voice—and the courage to embrace a life filled with possibility, strength, and love.

Some Reviews:

"Kaylie Jones tells quite a story... The triumph of this memoir is its accessibility. Admirers of James Jones' work will appreciate the intimate look into his literary and family life, and those with no familiarity with the work of James or Kaylie Jones will still find value in a story of a family with as many problems as privileges."

—Annie Tubbs, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

"Brilliant, touching... Absolutely addictive, this story of struggle and triumph is a joy to read, thanks to Jones's gift for handling dark material with humor and grace.. a treasure for fans of literature and literary memoirs, as well as anyone who's coped with alcoholics in the family."

—Publishers Weekly

JJJ



Winners of the 2009 James Jones First Novel Fellowship Announced

This year, the James Jones Fellowship had a total of 674 submissions. Below are the top seven novels as decided by the judges: Bonnie Culver, Diane Reed, Nina Solomon.

Winner (\$10,000 Award):

1st - **Tena Loveland Russ**, Riverwoods, IL is the winner of the James Jones First Novel Fellowship with her manuscript titled *After Paradise*.

Runners-Up (\$750 each):

2nd – **Michael Schiavone**, Gloucester, MA, is a runner-up winner with his manuscript titled *Call Me When You Land*.

3rd – **Christine Wade**, New York, NY, is a runner-up winner with her manuscript titled *Seven Locks*.

Finalists:

D.S. Sulaitis, West Kill, NY, for the manuscript, *A Distraction*

Ashley T. Memory, Pittsboro, NC, for the manuscript, *Naked and Hungry*

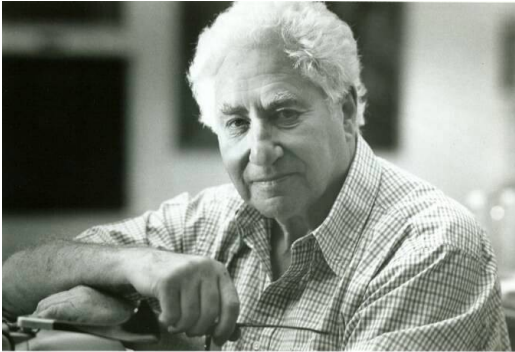
Greg Pierce, New York, NY, for the manuscript, *The Ice Pick Job*

Eva Lou, New York, NY, for the manuscript, *Orphaned Island*

The James Jones First Novel Fellowship, sponsored by Wilkes University, is intended to honor the spirit of unblinking honesty, determination, and insight into modern culture exemplified by the late James Jones, author of *From Here to Eternity* and other prose narratives of distinction. Jones himself was the recipient of aid from many supporters as a young writer and his family, friends, and admirers have established this award of \$10,000 to continue the tradition in his name. Two runner-up awards of \$750 each are also be given by the Jones Literary Society.

Entry and eligibility information on the Fellowship may be found at <http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/1159.asp>. JJJ

In Memory of Jones Friend and Matchmaker, Budd Schulberg (1914-2009)



The James Jones Literary Society lost a great friend and supporter when Budd Schulberg died on August 5, at the age of 95. His most famous work was the 1954 movie *On the Waterfront*, which won the Oscar for Best Original Screenplay. The film screamed that piecing line delivered by Marlon Brando that we all remember, "I coulda been somebody ... instead of a bum, which I am."

But James Jones Literary Society members also have great esteem for Budd Schulberg because of his spirited and faithful friendship with James Jones. And, more poignant is the fact that Budd Schulberg was the matchmaker who introduced Jones to Gloria Mosolino in 1957.

Schulberg related the introduction story as part of his remarks at the June 1999 James Jones Literary Society Symposium at the Southampton Campus of Long Island University. The following is an excerpt from those edited remarks. The complete transcript is available on the James Jones Literary Society web site.

"Anyway, back at my apartment, on the third day, wherever I went, Jim was saying things like, 'Well, what are we doing today? Where are we going?' We were absolutely joined at the hip. Finally it came Monday morning and reality was setting in. I had to go up and meet Kazan. I had promised to bring him a new scene he was waiting for. And so I finally told Jim that, even though I was really enjoying his company, it couldn't go on like this anymore. And he was sort of crestfallen.

"And at that point, I looked at him and I said, 'Jim, what's wrong with you?' - This is now the way great writers speak to each other - and Jim's answer was, 'I'm lonely.' That's exactly what he said, he said, 'I'm lonely.' And then we talked a few minutes about that. He had written, he was really lost in the city, he was on the verge of a — we had talked about that sort of a very serious change in his life. He had had a rather strange dependence on this patron of the arts in the small town in Illinois who'd set up a kind of writers colony where Jim had worked. And they'd had a very strong relationship, but Jim, I think, probably due to the success of *From Here To Eternity* and probably to just maturing and growing up, had the feeling that this was really coming to an end, and I think I simply happened to meet Jim at a critical moment in his life when he knew what had come behind, but wasn't really sure where he was going - exactly how, almost how he would live, because he had lived in this protected cocoon, in a way, that Mrs. Handy ran out there for such a long time, and he was really breaking out of this cocoon now and not knowing quite how to do it.

"And at this point, he said he really needed someone to be with. And he didn't feel like just camping around town, meeting a bunch of different girls. All of that. He was really, he was like a little ad that you see in those personals about looking for a serious relationship. And so, he said, 'I really need a girl. I need a girl to live with through my whole life.' And I said, 'That's a pretty tall order. What sort of girl are you looking for?' And Jim said, 'Well, I'd like to have someone who looks kind of like Marilyn Monroe, except that she is literary, knows about writers, is interested in writing and also has a great sense of humor,' and he went on and on about this person that should not really have existed in the world.

"The only thing is I happened to know one person like that. Just by accident, she'd been in small roles in several films of ours, and I had happened to meet and admire Gloria Mosolino and I said, 'Well, Jim, I know

What sort of girl are you looking for?' And Jim said, 'Well, I'd like to have someone who looks kind of like Marilyn Monroe, except that she is literary, knows about writers, is interested in writing and also has a great sense of humor,'

In Memory of Budd Schulberg *(continued)*

somebody who is a stand-in for Marilyn Monroe, and actually she wrote a pretty good novel.' She wrote a novel about Pottsville, Pa., that I thought was publishable. Its only problem was that it sort of overlapped with the work of John O'Hara. It even has the same characters in it because O'Hara used Gloria's uncle, a bootlegger in Pottsville, as one of the main characters in *Appointment in Samarra*, so they're writing about the same people. And she wrote about them very well. So that's when Jim picked up his ears and said, 'Gosh, when could I meet her?' and I said, 'Well, I'll call her and ask her.'

"So I did. I called Mos, as we all called her for Mosolino, and I said, 'Mos, I have a friend here who is from out of town who is looking to meet some-

one who looks like Marilyn Monroe, is literary and writes, and is interested in authors and, obviously, I thought of you.' She said, 'Budd, you know me pretty well, do you think I'll like him?' And I took a deep breath, I looked at Jim waiting there, looking at me as I talked and I said, 'Gloria, I hope you're sitting down, but I have some kind of strange feeling that you're going to marry him.'

"Two weeks later they sent me a telegram congratulating me on my wisdom of my matchmaking, and they were on their way to Haiti to be married. As I said just previously, forever after, it was one of those really marvelous, creative and loving experiences. You don't see too many like them."

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James Jones and Norman Mailer Societies Plan Joint Symposium: Austin, Texas, 2011

At the James Jones Literary Society Strategic Planning Retreat held at the Embassy Suites in St. Louis during the weekend of October 10-12, 2008, the Board voted to approve the following motion:

After 2009, the JJLS annual symposium should be held every other year. Every third symposia should be held at Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Illinois. We should link our symposia projects with higher education institutions. To especially appeal to college students, we should change our format from Saturday programs to Thursday and Friday ones. We should work with Eastern Illinois University to hold the 2009 conference in conjunction with their James Jones Chair of WWII Studies project scheduled November 6 & 7, in Charleston, Illinois. There would be no symposium in 2010.

The 2011 symposium will be a major one as it will mark the 90th year since the birth of James Jones, the 70th year since the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the 20th year since the founding of the JJLS. We should attempt to pool resources and hold the 2011 symposium in cooperation with the Norman Mailer Literary Society.

In this regard, Allan Ahearn and Constance E. Holmes, Norman Mailer Society Board Members, and Tom Wood and Jerry Bayne, JJLS Board Members, were appointed by each organization's president to explore the possibility of holding a joint conference in Austin, Texas, at the Harry Ransom

Center around November 6, 2011, what would have been James Jones's 90th birthday.

Since the Ransom Center is home to both James Jones and Norman Mailer archives, the location seems like a perfect location to hold the joint conference. The Center will provide access to meeting rooms, present an exhibition of Jones-Mailer materials, and possibly host a cocktail party.

A separate Programming Committee will be appointed at a later date but several ideas have already been suggested. There would probably be a call for papers and presentations that compare and contrast the literature of these two great American authors. There may be showings of some of the film adaptations of their works along with documentaries about their lives.

The Norman Mailer Society generally charges a conference fee for their programs. It has been suggested that a minimum fee of \$150 be charged to cover travel and honoraria for the presenters, a formal dinner, advertising and printing expenses, et cetera.

So that we can move forward on plans for this joint conference, we will need to know how many people from the JJLS membership and Board would attempt to attend the conference. Bonnie Culver will be JJLS President during this conference. Please e-mail her at bonnie.culver@wilkes.edu if you plan to attend or have any suggestions about the conference programming or logistics.

|||

**“Somebody ought to write a book about this damn town”:
A *Some Came Running* Concordance
by Kim C. Cox**

One of the characters in *Some Came Running* makes that statement. James Jones wrote that book, and I'm going to prove it.

Jones and I are fellow graduates of Robinson High School. The action in *Some Came Running* (SCR) is set between November, 1947 and September, 1950. The suit I'm wearing was bought by my father, Carroll Cox, in Robinson on June 14, 1946, so I am in authentic period costume. My father shot skeet with Jones at the Robinson Gun Club, but probably not while wearing this suit.

My emphasis will be on the geographic similarities between actual places in the Crawford County, Illinois area and the fictional “Cray County” area in SCR. My “Concor-dance” map contrasts the actual and fictional place names. Every feature on the map is mentioned in SCR, with the exception of the counties, other than Crawford/“Cray County.” Most towns have the same name. Where Jones changed the names, both names are given.

In general, towns that Jones didn't set much action in have the same names in the book as in reality. The same is true with other geographic features. The Wabash River is called the Wabash, but the Embarras River is called the “Dark Bend River.” Like the Embarras, the book's “Dark Bend River” flows “down (in) the bottom of the county.” A part of the Embarras is actually known as the Dark Bend.

George Field was built during WWII, for the Army Air Corps, as described in SCR. It still exists today, and is now called the Lawrenceville/Vincennes Airport.

“West Lancaster” is a combination of the actual towns West Union and West York. Jones used the two families that fought the War of the Roses in England, the Yorks and the Lancasters, for a substitute name. The bar the characters Wally French and Dawn Hirsch go to in West Lancaster is called “Glen and Gertrude's.” There was a Mike and Mildred's in West Union. The directions given in the book, and the actual way to get to West York from Robinson, “eight miles north on State Highway Number One, and then turn east,” are identical.

The only county mentioned in SCR is Cray County, based on the real Crawford County. Fictional Cray County is a “dry” county, with local option to sell liquor, as is the real Crawford County.

Most of the novel is set in the town of “Parkman.” Parkman is Robinson, but its location in the book is more like Marshall's real location relative

to Terre Haute. Robinson's richest doctor's home, Allenhurst, built by Dr. A. W. Allen, is on the “S” curve on Route I-A, as in the book. The highway “cuts like a knife” straight through Parkman, as Illinois State Route 33 does Robinson, passing the one-way square on its way eastward to Palestine, Jones's “Israel.”

In SCR, Jones combined the Marathon Oil Refinery in Robinson with the former Velsicol Chemical Plant in Marshall to create the “Sternutol Chemical Plant” in Parkman, similar to what he did by combining Robinson and Marshall. The location of the “thin stacks and complicated towers of the Sternutol Chemical plant,” as Jones wrote, are identical in Parkman and in Robinson. Sternutol is in the southeast corner of Parkman, as is Marathon in Robinson.

Robinson is mentioned once in the book, but Marshall is never mentioned: “He looked up at . . . a big blackboard with the . . . basketball scores. Parkman won, but so had its two arch rivals, Paris further north and Robinson further south.” There was such a blackboard in The Lobby, a former tavern/poolroom on the courthouse square in Robinson. In SCR, The Lobby was called “The Foyer.”

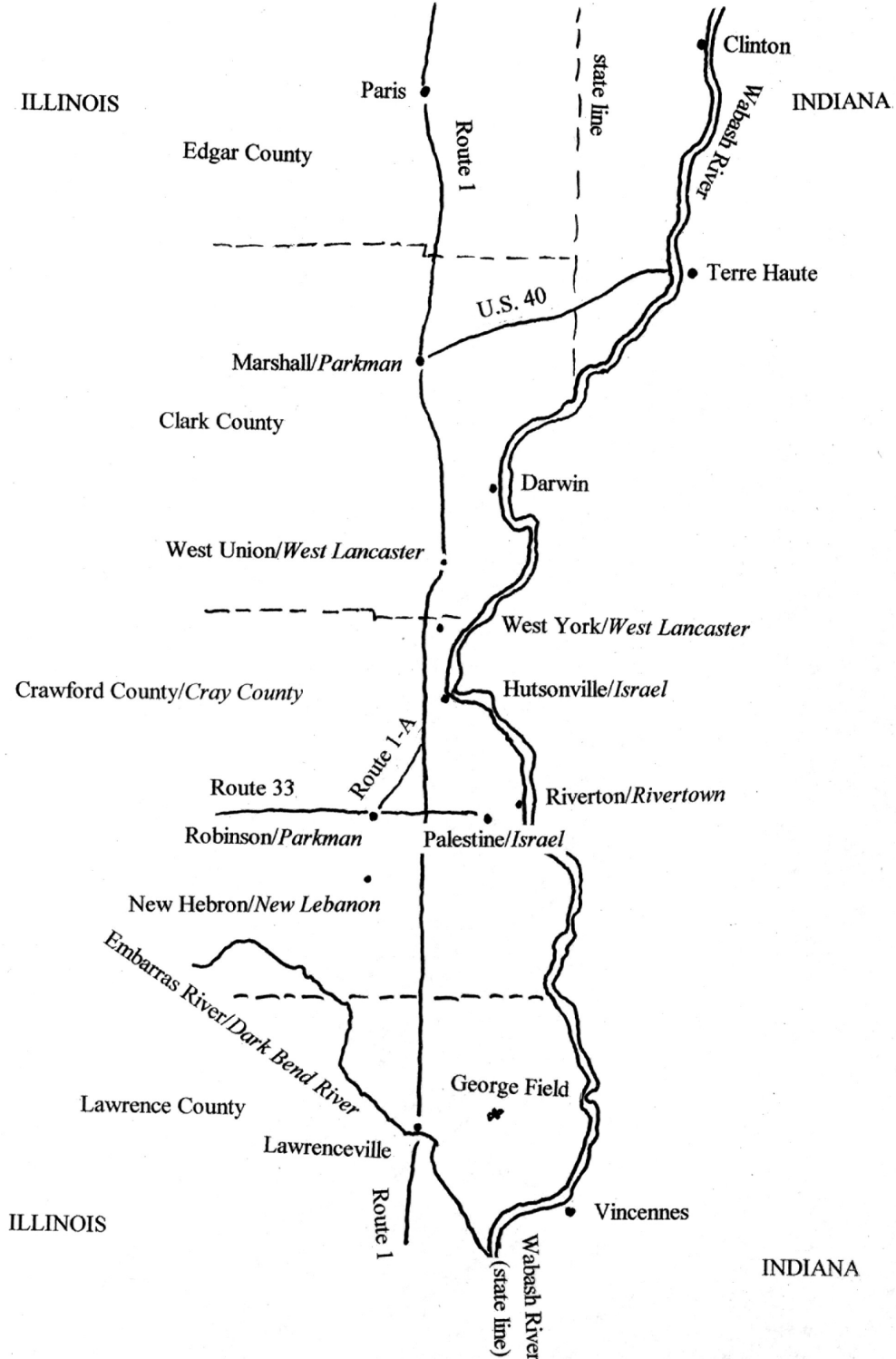
“Smitty's Bar they call it because a guy named Smith runs it.” Vern Fisher ran Fisher's Tavern in Robinson, which was the basis for “Smitty's Bar” in the book. The location of the tavern is unchanged, south of the railroad tracks, across from a lumberyard. A tavern still exists in that building, on South Cross Street.

The two banks mentioned in SCR actually existed during the period of the book. They were the Second National Bank (given the same name in the book) and the Cray, or Crawford County State Bank. These banks exist today under other names.

The Quail Creek Country Club in Robinson is closely described in SCR: “Through the long row of French doors (in the Country Club) clear across the room you could look out across the veranda and the practice green and out over number one tee and down the long hill to the green at the creek...” Quail Creek has the same view. Jones also sets a scene in another location that still exists there: “They were in the deserted corridor (of the Country Club) along which the lockerroom opened. Setting one glass on the little

SOME CAME RUNNING: THE CONCORDANCE MAP

Note: Actual titles are in roman type. Substituted names Jones used in *SOME CAME RUNNING* are in *italics*.



Cox: *Some Came Running Concordance* (continued)

table under the long string of portraits of the various Club presidents . . .” Quail Creek has the same layout, with portraits of the presidents in a corridor.

Some additional Parkman/Robinson concordances:

- Parkman had a women’s club named the Diana club. There is a “Minerva” women’s club in Robinson.
- The “Douglas Hotel” in Parkman was based on the Lincoln Hotel in Robinson. Here, Jones used the Lincoln/Douglas debates to find a substitute name.
- The “Mode shop” in SCR is a reference to the Mode-o-Day shop, which was on the square in Robinson.
- There’s a reference to the “Big Four Railroad” in SCR. There is a Big Four junction in Robinson, at Main and Jackson Streets, which is also the intersection of State Routes 1-A and Route 33. When there were two railroads in Crawford County, they crossed south of this intersection.
- Parkman’s city park is located on the south end of town, as was Robinson’s only park in Jones’s time there.
- The school color of Parkman College is maroon. RHS teams are known as the “Fighting Maroons,” and their school color is maroon, too.
- There’s a “Kirk Church” in SCR; there’s a Kirk Chapel in Crawford County.
- “New Lebanon” is a town south of Parkman in the novel, as New Hebron is south of Robinson.
- There’s a “Rivertown” in the book; there’s a Riverton in Crawford County.

Jones’s fictional town of “Israel” is a combination of the location and history of the real towns Palestine and Hutsonville. Israel is east of Parkman, as Palestine is east of Robinson. Israel was named after a man, as was Hutsonville. Hutsonville was a river port on the Wabash, as was Israel. Lincoln passed through Israel, as he did Palestine. “Israel was one of the oldest towns in either State and had once been an important call in the heyday of the riverboats, a place where Abe Lincoln had stopped on his way north; but now it weathered away on its riverbank, nestling under the new bridge and its approach where the highway (which ran straight through Parkman like a knife bisecting a cake) left the State in a soaring leap across the new bridge as if glad to get

into Indiana.” Palestine is one of the oldest towns in Illinois; Abe Lincoln stopped there with his family, and the Lincoln Memorial Highway runs through it.

In SCR, Jones recounts the massacre of the Israel family during the War of 1812, for which the town of Israel was named. Hutsonville was named for the Hutson massacre: Isaac Hutson’s family was killed by Indians during that war. The Hutson Memorial Village exists today as a living history memorial to the early pioneer days of the county.

The bridge over the Wabash River to Indiana is at Hutsonville, which was a port during the riverboat era. The suspension bridge Jones speaks of was built in 1939, and replaced in 1988.

Other presentations today will discuss the actual people on whom Jones modeled some of his characters. There are two I’d like to mention briefly, because I’m related to them. “Sherm Ruedy” was Parkman’s Chief of Police; my uncle Norm Richards was Robinson’s Chief of Police. However, Norm didn’t have a daughter, and his mother certainly was not a revivalist preacher.

The character of Parkman’s newspaper publisher and state representative “Clark Hibbard” is based on two Robinson publisher-politicians. My uncle, K.V. Lewis published the *Robinson Daily News*, and was a Democratic State Senator. Vic Smith published the *Robinson Argus*, and was Chairman of the Illinois State Republican Party.

Though Jones in his preface to SCR noted that “opinions of the characters are not necessarily those of the author,” I’d like to think Jones expressed his own feelings about Robinson in the thoughts of Dave Hirsh about Parkman:

The town was creeping back into Dave some way, powerfully, emotionally, inexorably (IN X OR ABLY), a powerful current carrying below its surface the jumbled slowly tumbling flotsam of dead uprooted memories. Watching the seasons change across its face had a great deal to do with causing it in him. He had never thought he would ever love this miserable, beautiful, backward-in-all-the-wrong-ways, progressive-in-all-the-wrong-ways, petty little Illinois town. But he did.

Kim C. Cox of San Diego, California is a native of Roberson, Illinois, and a former President and long-time member of the board of the James Jones Literary Society. This essay was presented at the JLS Symposium in Roberson, Illinois on October 23, 2004.

JJJ

Program for the James Jones Symposium: "Memories of War" Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois, November 6-7, 2009

Friday, November 6

2:00-3:00 pm:

Kaylie Jones & Tim O'Brien – informal meeting with students (Room)

3:30-5:00 pm:

JJLS Annual Board Meeting – James K. Johnson Conference Room

5:30-6:45 pm:

Symposium Reception – JJLS members, Doudna Fine Arts Center Concourse

7:00-8:15:

Tim O'Brien reading/lecture/Q&A – Black Box Theater

8:00 or 8:15:

Book signing with Tim O'Brien and Kaylie Jones – DFAC Concourse

Saturday, November 7

Doudna Fine Arts Center Lecture Hall

8:00-8:30 am:

Symposium Registration – DFAC Concourse

8:30-9:00 am:

Introduction & Welcome – Barbara Jones, JJLS President, & Jeffrey Lynch, Dean, CAH (including reading of Jones's poem "The Hill They Call the Horse")

9:15-10:15 am:

Kaylie Jones, Reading from *Lies My Mother Never Told Me* and talking about the "War at Home"

10:30-11:30 am: Presentations:

- 2009 James Jones/Lincoln Trail College Writing Award
- 2008 James Jones First Novel Fellowship Award Presentation
- 2009 James Jones First Novel Fellowship Award Presentation: Tena Loveland Russ, Riverwoods, IL, *After Paradise*.

11:30-1:30 pm:

Luncheon – Tarble Arts – Recording of JJ reading from *From Here to Eternity* & pitch for the JJ Endowed Chair in English and History

1:30-2:30 pm:

Thomas Jones, "A Corpsman's Year in the Vietnam Bush with the 3rd Marine Recon."

2:45-4:15 pm:

Panel: "World War II Memories in Japan and Beyond"

Student Presenters:

- Mitsumi Takei, Eastern Illinois University (History): "World War II Memories in Japanese Popular Culture under American Occupation"
- Bridget Quinlivan, Western Illinois University (History): "Memories of the 'China War' in Japan"
- Charlie Kim, Northwestern University (Sociology): "Civil Society, State, and Memory Movement: The Biographical Encyclopedia of 'Pro-Japanese Collaborators' in Korea"
- Tristan Soderberg-Baar, Eastern Illinois University (History): "A Divided Memory: Assessing the Cultural History of Yasukuni Shrine in Postwar Japan"

Discussant:

Febe D. Pamonag, Assistant Professor of History, Western Illinois University

Panel Organizer:

Jinhee Lee is Assistant Professor of History and Chair of Asian Studies at Eastern Illinois University. She received her MA and PhD in Asian history at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining EIU in 2005, she taught at the University of Illinois and Fort Hays State University. Her work focuses on the competing narratives of collective violence in the early twentieth-century Japanese empire and colonial Korea.

6:00 pm:

Dinner, 2 Flowers Restaurant

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