

# The Third Biennial John Updike Society Conference

Alvernia University, Reading, Pennsylvania

October 1 – 4, 2014

## CALL FOR PAPERS — DEADLINE EXTENDED

John Updike lived in Pennsylvania for the first 18 years of his life—in Shillington from 1932-1945, and in Plowville from 1945-1950. Many of Updike's works—particularly his early novels, short stories and poems—focus on life in Pennsylvania.

You won't want to miss this conference, featuring

- Keynote Speakers – Knopf graphic designer Chip Kidd and Updike biographer Adam Begley.
- Plenary Sessions – David Updike on “Family Archaeology,” Don Greiner on “Chatterbox and the Young JU,” Ward Briggs and Biljana Dojcinovic on autobiographical details behind Updike's “The Bulgarian Poetess,” and Jack De Bellis (*John Updike's Early Years*) interviewing Updike classmates.
- A tour and reception at the Reading Museum and Arboretum (on display *The Drinking Girl* as cited in *The Centaur*).
- *A Soft Spring Night in Shillington* walking tour and picnic at The John Updike Childhood Home—get a feel for Updike's Shillington and see how the restoration is coming along.
- A Local Flavor Tour – See not just local Updike sites like the Plow Cemetery, the Pagoda, the City Park, etc., but also hex barns, historic covered bridges, and tour a small local pretzel factory.

### ***Proposals and Panels***

We welcome proposals for papers on **all** aspects of Updike's life and work, but are particularly interested in papers that focus on the new works about and by Updike that have been published in the last two years and Updike's works that are set in Pennsylvania.

A one-page proposal/abstract for 15-20 minute papers should be titled **Updike Conference Proposal** and emailed by (extended deadline) JULY 25, 2014 to Program Director Maria Mogford at [mmogford@alb.edu](mailto:mmogford@alb.edu)

Decisions on panels and panelists will be announced no later than July 30, 2014, with rolling acceptances—meaning the sooner you get your proposal in, the sooner you'll hear back from the program director. Moderators are also needed, and members wishing to serve in this capacity should also contact Maria Mogford to participate.

To present a paper or moderate a panel at the conference, participants must be members of the John Updike Society and register for the conference.

For membership information, please see the Society's website at

<http://blogs.iwu.edu/johnupdikesociety/join>.

For registration information, see attached PDF.