

NCB Quarterly

ARCHIVES

Nebraska Center for the Book

Vol. 1

Spring 1991

No. 2



*"And when you are working on that great book
for which the impatient world has been waiting all these weary centuries,
remember that there are many books in the world already,
that a surprising number of them are really quite good,
and that there is no need for hurry in producing another bad one."*

-John G. Neihardt



Board of Directors

The Nebraska Center for the Book is the 23rd state affiliate of the Library of Congress's National Center for the Book. The Center is a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Center acts as a catalyst, bringing together individuals and organizations to build the Nebraska community of the book. The Center serves as a partner and supporter of programs, events, and unique projects which celebrate the written word. The current board members are:

Dick Allen, President	Lincoln
Golda Bockbrader	Grand Island
Elaine Booth	Bellevue
Thomas Boyle, Treasurer	Fremont
Carol Connor	Lincoln
Molly Fisher	Lincoln
Kira Gale	Omaha
Ron Hull	Lincoln
Barbara Leffler, Secretary	Lincoln
Roland Luedtke	Lincoln
Elaine Norton, Vice President	David City
Robert Runyon	Omaha
Mary Jo Ryan	Lincoln
Ellen Scott	Omaha
Rod Wagner	Lincoln

David McCleery- editor/designer, *NCB Quarterly*

NCB Quarterly is published quarterly by the Nebraska Center for the Book. Subscription is free with Nebraska Center for the Book Membership. We welcome your contributions and correspondence. Write to *NCB Quarterly*, 2746 Everett, Lincoln, NE 68502. 402-477-7357

Promotion of 1991: The Year of the Lifetime Reader, is made possible in part by a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Nebraska
Humanities
Council

Publication Schedule

NCB Quarterly is published quarterly. Our publication dates are:

May 1
September 1
November 1
February 1

Want to Advertise?

If you have a business or product that you would like to let people know about, *NCB Quarterly* is a great way to get your message out. Our advertising rate per issue is:

--full page	7"x 8 1/2"	\$60.00
--half page	7"x 4 1/4"	\$35.00
--quarter page	3 1/2"x 4 1/4"	\$20.00

NCB Quarterly prefers photo-ready ads.

Typesetting and layout services are available to advertisers for a fee of \$20.00.

Advertising and Calendar Deadlines

Deadlines for advertising and Calendar of Events are:

April 15
August 15
October 15
January 15

Send ads or calendar information to:

NCB Quarterly
2746 Everett
Lincoln, NE 68502

Make checks payable to the
Nebraska Center for the Book.

About the cover: Cover photograph courtesy of the Nebraska State Historical Society-- John G. Neihardt, Poet Laureate of Nebraska, sitting in his library in Branson, Missouri, in 1924 or 1925. The quotation is taken from a Nebraska ETV Network program entitled "Neihardt on Creative Writing", recorded in November of 1968. The television program records the poet counseling young writers to get acquainted with (if not marry their spirits to) the "great and enduring literature that has come down to us".

Welcome New Members!

New members as of April 8, 1991

Individual

Judi Adkins	Ogallala
Amy Birky	Lincoln
Naomi Brill	Lincoln
Joyce Cockson	Omaha
Susanne George	Kearney
Betty Grant	Columbus
Chlorene Hardy	Lincoln
Mary Lichteig	Omaha
Mimi Loring	Omaha
Joan Moody	Norfolk
Loretto Nelson	Madison
Charles Peek	Kearney
Carol Petersen	Omaha
Victoria Pike	Lincoln
Gari Pinkerton	Blue Springs
Barbara Rippey	Omaha
Joseph Wydeven	Papillion

Organizational

Dundee Book Co.

Hastings Public Library

Nebraska Library Association

The Nebraska Writers Guild

Omaha Public Library-
Language & Literature Department

Prairie Schooner

*See inside of back cover for information on how you
or your organization can become a member!*

Nebraska Humanities Council Grant to Nebraska Literature Festival

The Nebraska Humanities Council has awarded the Nebraska Center for the Book a grant of \$7,650 for the Nebraska Literature Festival scheduled for September 27-29th of this year. Thanks to this grant, a Nebraska Literature Festival Map and Poster will be developed as well as a resource guide on six Nebraska authors: Bess Streeter Aldrich, Willa Cather, Loren Eiseley,

Wright Morris, John Neihardt, and Mari Sandoz. The resource guide will be made available to all secondary schools in the state as well Nebraska Literature Festival participants. The grant also will cover the cost of ten panel discussions that will take place during the festival. The Nebraska Humanities Council is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Nebraska Literature Festival and Other Fairs and Festivals

When John Cole, Director, Center for the Book, Library of Congress, met with Nebraska Center for the Book members in Lincoln recently, he brought with him a new publication commissioned by the Center, *Fanfare for Words*, by Bernadine Clark. The book lists 64 bookfairs and book festivals held annually in North America, including the Nebraska Literature Festival, which is

one of two celebrations being sponsored by a state Center for the Book. The Pennsylvania Center for the Book sponsors Pennbook, a month-long series of book events held in different towns and cities, featuring Pennsylvania writers. In Nebraska we plan to achieve statewide participation by rotating the festival on an annual basis between the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The first festival, which will celebrate Nebraska's literary heritage and contemporary writers with a bookfair and festival events, will be held at the University of Nebraska at Omaha September 27-29th of this year.

There are other fairs and festivals with a regional focus: Bumpershoot Bookfair in Seattle, small presses of the northwest; LitEruption in Portland, northwest writers; Missoula Bookfair, Montana writers; Cowboy Poetry Gatherings in three states, Colorado, Nevada and Oklahoma; Southern Festival of Books in Nashville, southern writers; and Buckeye Bookfair,



Elaine Booth, Kira Gale, and Diane Kirkle look over program applications for the Nebraska Literature Festival.

Ohio writers. Those of us who have been planning the first Nebraska Literature Festival for the last year are reading descriptions of these events with great interest.

Other book celebrations include: street fairs, storytelling festivals, children's book festivals, antiquarian bookfairs, literacy events, specialty bookfests (mystery, science fiction, horror, and romance), author's conferences, and

others. Anyone interested in book events should have a copy of *Fanfare for Words*, which can be purchased by sending \$6.95 plus \$2.00 postage & handling, to: Publishing Office, Box J. Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., 20540.

Our festival is unique because of our six famous Nebraska authors: Bess Streeter Aldrich, Willa Cather, Loren Eiseley, Wright Morris, John G. Neihardt, and Mari Sandoz. Taken together as a group, our authors represent the next era of American experience following the American Renaissance authors of New England: Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman and others. Chautauqua this year will feature the writers of the American Renaissance, and will appear in Alliance July 4-9, and Central City, July 11-16. Plan to attend, and consider the question of whether Nebraska Authors are logical successors to American Renaissance Authors.

-Kira Gale
Chair, Nebraska Literature Festival

Year of the Lifetime Reader Proclaimed



Lifetime Readers Golda Bockbrader, Diann Muhlbach, Dick Allen, Governor Ben Nelson, Rod Wagner, Molly Fischer and Delbert Niemeier are surrounded by young readers as the Governor proclaims 1991 Year to the Lifetime Reader.

Governor Ben Nelson proclaimed 1991 as Nebraska Year of the Lifetime Reader in support of statewide activities to promote and encourage reading. Rod Wagner, Nebraska Library Commission Director and Nebraska Center for the Book Board member, presented the Governor with a copy of *Our Books, Our Wings*. *Our Books, Our Wings*, published by the Library Commission, is a collection of memories of books and stories that were meaningful from childhood through adulthood for 318 Nebraskans. The Year of the Lifetime Reader is a yearlong celebration of the gift and promise of reading, co-sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and the Library Com-

mission. The proclamation was made on February 12 to coincide with the Nebraska Library Association Legislative Education Day. Nebraska's efforts are part of a national campaign chaired by First Lady Barbara Bush. Year of the Lifetime Reader is a unifying theme, initiated by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, to stimulate reading and literacy projects that benefit all age groups. The campaign encourages and draws attention to family literacy programs, adult literacy and reading motivation projects, and the needs of blind and physically handicapped readers.



President's Column

The Nebraska Center for the Book's first "Spring Fling," April 3, 1991, took place in the most appropriate place possible, in the Heritage Room of the Bennett Martin Public Library, downtown Lincoln.

Our intention was to target several specialized segments of our membership and to offer to each something of interest. We chose a panel on bookselling in Nebraska for our morning session, thinking that this would appeal to our state's booksellers, book collectors, and readers. The four panelists—Kathy Stasch of B. Dalton in Lincoln, Ellen Scott of the Bookhouse in Omaha, Dan Gleason of the Dundee Book Co. in Omaha, and Jane Geske of the Estuary in Lincoln—first described their respective bookstore. They then fielded a variety of questions, such as, "How can we promote reading for persons of all ages?" "How can we promote the ownership of books (personal libraries)?" "What kinds of books do Nebraskans buy or collect?" The upshot of the session: the Nebraska Center for the Book will consider establishing a committee on Nebraska booksellers to determine just who is out there and what specialties are being offered. Might a committee of the Center even serve as the state's booksellers' association? Suggestions should be sent to Ellen Scott c/o The Nebraska Center for the Book.

Our afternoon session was for persons interested in and involved in book discussion groups in Nebraska. Charles Baucom described the evolution of the York group from a Great Books group into a community discussion group meeting on the York College campus. Joan Moody described the Norfolk Public Library group with a number of members coming into Norfolk from the surrounding area. She is also a member of the Norfolk AAUW Book Discussion Group. Dick Toof

talked about the Columbus Public Library group with rotating discussion leaders and its inclusion of non-Western writers. And Barbara Leffler described the "classical" Great Books Discussion group at the Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. Questions addressed such matters as attracting new members, choosing books, and the art of leading a book discussion.

I was fortunate to have a very spirited group to talk with about *My Antonia*. Every book discussion session is unique; this makes book discussions such stimulating experiences. Our demonstration discussion brought out the "marriages" dimension of the novel—how many there were described and how they differed.

The upshot of the afternoon session: the Center will consider developing 1) a brochure to help new and existing book discussion groups, and 2) a directory of Nebraska book groups. Further suggestions should be sent to Barbara Leffler, c/o The Nebraska Center for the Book.

A reception for our distinguished guest, John Cole, Director of the National Center for the Book was held at the Bluestem Bookstore in Lincoln on the evening of April 3. It was a chance for a number of Nebraskans to meet John or see him again, plus a chance to look around at a well-stocked used bookstore, with co-owner Pat Wendt serving as hostess.

On the morning of April 4, John Cole met with the Nebraska Center for the Book board for a working and planning session. Discussed were possible future programs for Nebraska booksellers and Nebraska book collectors, a program to encourage personal libraries, programs for adult new readers, a program to survey



Board Members Tom Boyle, Bob Runyon, Laura Weymouth (Heritage Room Curator), Dick Allen, John Cole (Director, National Center for the Book), and Rod Wagner discuss plans for future programs.

the state's foreign language resources, and programs for Nebraska writers.

The Nebraska Center for the Book will sponsor a session on Nebraska book publishing at the fall Nebraska Library Association convention, October 10, at 3:30 p.m., Omaha Holiday Inn. David McCleery will organize and moderate this program.

Our annual meeting will be held at Midland College in Fremont on November 13. Board Member Tom Boyle has reserved a room for us. We are tentatively saying that the meeting will begin with a public program, possibly on Mari Sandoz, to be followed with the Annual Meeting, including a report to the membership on the year's events and the Center's progress. There

also will be election of board members to replace those present ones whose terms expire in 1991. So mark your calendars now for November 13!

Our next Board meeting will be at Central Community College, Grand Island, May 8, at 1:30 p.m. As always, interested members of the Nebraska Center for the Book are invited to sit in.

-Dick Allen

Nebraska Literature Festival promotional bookmarks are available to sponsoring organizations. The bookmarks are custom made with your organizations name prominently displayed. Contact Kira Gale at (402) 451-2878, for further information.

Center for the Book Hosts "Spring Fling"



Booksellers Kathy Stasch, Ellen Scott, Dan Gleason, Jane Geske, and moderator Pat Peterson, talk about books and reading.

About forty Nebraska book readers and book collectors convened in the Heritage Room of the Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln on April 3 for a day of "book talk" co-sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and the Nebraska Humanities Council.

At the morning session, "A Meeting with Four Nebraska Booksellers," booksellers described their bookstores and talked about their shared interest in books and reading. The panel discussion was moderated by Pat Peterson, Assistant Director of Lincoln City Libraries. Booksellers participating included Jane Geske (The Estuary/Niobrara Books, Lincoln), Kathy Stasch (B. Dalton Books, Lincoln), Ellen Scott (The Book House, Omaha) and Dan Gleason (Dundee Book Co., Omaha).

During the afternoon session "A Meeting With Four Nebraska Book Discussion Leaders," book discussion leaders talked about their varied approaches to group

discussion. Barbara Leffler (Great Books, Lincoln), Joan Moody (AAUW & Library Book Discussion Group, Norfolk), Charles Baucom (York College & Community Book Discussion Group), and Richard Toof (Columbus Library Book Discussion Group), all participated. The panel was moderated by Amy Tuttle. After the session, Dick Allen lead a "demonstration discussion" of Willa Cather's *My Antonia*. This was followed by a critique and further discussion of how book discussion groups could be made more productive. Participants in the discussion of *My Antonia* included: Dick Allen, Ellen Scott, Laura Weymouth, Barbara Leffler, Joan Moody, Art Pierce, Richard Toof, Paul Owen, and Kira Gale.



Nebraska
Humanities
Council

A Meeting with Four Nebraska Booksellers and Four Nebraska Book Discussion Leaders was made possible in part by a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Book Discussion leaders Charles Baucom, Joan Moody, Dick Toof and Barbara Leffler talk with panel moderator Amy Tuttle.



Attendees take part in a "demonstration discussion" of Willa Cather's My Antonia.



Off the Press

Recent Book By Or Of Interest To Nebraskans

Person to Person: Positive Relationships Don't Just Happen

By Sharon L. Hanna

The Poems of Robert Frost: An Explication

By Mordecai Marcus

Years of Share

By Peggy H. Benjamin

Blizzard 1949

By Roy V. Alleman

The Decade Dance: A Celebration of Poems

Edited by Mark Sanders (See page 11.)

Loren Eiseley: a Modern Ishmael

By Peter Heidtmann (See page 11.)

The End of the Dream and Other Stories

By John G. Neihardt
Compiled by Hilda Neihardt Petri
Introduction by Jay Fultz

The Voice We Call Human

Poems by Roy Scheele (See page 14.)

Fanfare for Words:

Bookfairs and Book Festivals in North America

By Bernadine Clark (See article page 4.)

The Steadfast Soldier

By Margaret Keilstrup

The Boy Who Had an Elephant for a Pet and Other Fables

By James Fargher

Working With People (Fourth Edition)

By Naomi I. Brill

Thanks to Herb Hyde for supplying copies of his Sunday Lincoln Journal-Star Book Columns so that this listing could be compiled. If you know of other recently published books that would be of interest to the members of the Nebraska Center for the Book please contact us.

New Titles from Nebraska Book Arts Center

College of Fine Arts

University of Nebraska At Omaha

from The Commington Press

Homage to the Afterlife by Stephen Berg

Harry Duncan hand set and printed this poem from Bembe type with one line of Perpetua display (in lavender-gray ink) on soft white Mohawk paper. Denise Brady sewed the two signatures and slipped them into wrappers of Curtis paper which had been press-scored and printed with title and author's name. The book is 11 5/8 inches in height and 6 inches wide with a narrow crisp spine.

212 hand numbered copies. 22 pages. 1991 \$10.00

from Abattoir Editions

Polo Poems by Ann Geagon

Bonnie O'Connell designed and hand-printed this edition of 225 copies featuring twenty-two poems, illustrated with five altered images from early Venetian postcards printed in sea green from photoengravings. The papers are Arches Creme Laid Text and Arches Cover. Lisa Ammerman assisted with the non-adhesive binding, and in resetting Harold Berliner's monotype Romulus.

46 pages 10 x 6 7/8 inches. \$45.00

from The Yellow Barn Press

American Hand Presses by Stephen O. Saxe

Wood engravings by John DePol

Fifteen engravings of presses accompany this well-researched history of the iron hand press in North America, from their beginnings to final manufacture. Neil Shaver is printing this edition from Bulmer type on dampened Rives paper; it will be case bound in imported natural linen with a brown leather spine label. Publication is set for May.

118 pages 10 x 7 inches. \$150.00

from bradypress

Me & God Poems by Michael Skau

Ten poems printed from 14 point Garamond on Fabriano Ingres heavyweight. A photoengraved drawing by Robert Schenck and simple square ornaments were printed in yellow. A non-adhesive binding incorporates endsheets of blue-green Ingres Antique, completed with the assistance of Lisa Howitt Ammerman. Wrappers of the same Ingres Antique, marbled by the printer in a stone pattern, bear a cover label of Japanese handmade paper.

23 pages 6 1/2 x 6 3/4 inches. 150 hand numbered copies. \$20.00

Hansen's "Nebraska"

to be published by
Abattoir Editions

The Nebraska Book Arts Center and Abattoir Editions have received grants from the Nebraska Arts Council and UNO's Committee on Research to produce a limited edition of Ron Hansen's short story "Nebraska". Bonnie O'Connell will design and print an edition featuring a cover of handmade Chine' paper from the French Richard de Bas Mill. Woodcut artist Karen Kunc will provide illustrations. The grant funding should allow the handmade book to be available for \$25.00. Publication is scheduled to coincide with the Nebraska Literature Festival, September 27 - 29, 1991.

The first complete catalog listing fine press books available for sale through the Nebraska Book Arts Center has recently been issued. The catalog contains fifty titles including those by students of UNO's Fine Arts Press. Call 554-2773 if you'd like a copy or write to the Nebraska Book Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Library Room 100, Omaha, NE 68182-0173.

Loren Eiseley: A Modern Ishmael

As Eiseley himself recognized, the primary source of interest in the essay is "the self and its minute adventures." Peter Heidtmann concentrates on how Eiseley presented himself, and shows how he was impelled primarily by the autobiographical impulse which, in turn, led to his emergence as the protagonist of his own mythic story.

Heidtmann also emphasizes the importance of storytelling, both traditionally and in its modern, autobiographical forms. He shows that Eiseley belongs to a line of American self-mythologizers which includes

The Decade Dance:

A Celebration of Poems
Edited by Mark Sanders

In celebration of Sandhills Press tenth anniversary Mark Sanders, editor of Sandhills Press, has brought out an anthology of contemporary American poetry. This "celebration of poems" amounts to a congregation of friends and friends of friends of Sandhills Press. There are more than 100 poets represented, including many fine Nebraska poets, and more than 300 poems (approximately 250 pages of poetry), which makes for about 650 good reasons to add *The Decade Dance* to your library. The book is available through Sandhills Press c/o Mark Sanders, Rt. 1, Country East 4-16, Hydro, OK 73048.

228 Pages \$15.00

To receive more information about this and other titles available from Sandhills Press, including the recently issued volume The Farmer's Daughter, poetry by Kathleene West, please write to the above address.

Henry David Thoreau and Henry Adams. He also discusses the relationship between memory and myth, especially as revealed in Eiseley's handling of his childhood and youth spent in Nebraska. Stressed throughout are Eiseley's romantic literary affiliations, as well as his own romantic sensibility, which is seen in both his transcendental concerns and in his art.

Peter Heidtmann is Professor of English at Ohio University.

An Archon Book, 176 Pages \$22.50



Center for the Book Annual Idea Exchange

Somewhat akin to a pep rally, the Library of Congress Center for the Book held its annual **Idea Exchange** on April 15, 1991. Held at the Library of Congress James Madison Memorial Building, the event included representatives from the twenty-four state centers, one regional affiliate, and several states planning to establish centers. Also attending were representatives from the American Library Association, Friends of Libraries USA, the International Reading Association, the National Book Foundation, and Reading is Fundamental. The **Idea Exchange** was moderated by John Cole, Director of the Center for the Book.

Interspersed among state center reports were announcements concerning new Center for the Book initiatives. The 1992 national reading promotion theme, **Explore New Worlds -- Read!**, was introduced. Building on prior year themes, the 1992 theme offers a natural tie to growing interest in geographic literacy, and the literature of travel and exploration. A poster for the new U.S. Postal Service stamp, featuring author William Saroyan, was presented by James Billington, Librarian of Congress. The stamp will be issued in May. New partners in Center for the Book programs were announced.

Dr. Cole encouraged collaboration among the Center for the Book and state centers in seeking funding support. The availability of National Book Foundation grants was announced. The National Endowment for the Humanities was also noted as a potential funding source.

Dr. Cole described the Global Library Project, a joint venture of the Library of Congress and Mind Extension University. The project will produce quality

television programs about libraries for a general audience, and for educators, students, and librarian.

State center reports covered a broad range of activities including travelling exhibits, author receptions, artists in libraries, book fairs, publications, displays, grants, fund raising, new partnerships, and more. During the state reports, Dr. Cole mentioned his early April visit to Nebraska. He commended the Nebraska Center for the Book for its initiatives, and particularly noted the quality of the new *NCB Quarterly*.

The general tone of the meeting was that state centers have initiated successful activities which have been beneficial in promoting reading, writing, publishing, and the many interests associated with the printed word.

—Rod Wagner

'O Pioneers!' to be Filmed

Actress Jessica Lange will be in Nebraska for about five weeks beginning in late May to work on the film "O Pioneers!." The book by Nebraska author Willa Cather is being filmed for the Hallmark Hall of Fame.

"O Pioneers!" will be the first network television film for Lange, who will star as Alexandra Bergson, the spirited daughter of Swedish immigrant farmers whose devotion to the land sustains her against the hardships of the American frontier. Cather's book was first published in 1913.

The production is to be aired on CBS next season.

Our Hundredth Member!

"Lifetime Reader"

Vicki Pike

Whether working as the assistant to the curator in the Heritage Room of the Bennett Martin Public Library, working on her Masters Degree in UN-L's Museum Studies Program, or working at the historic Roger's House Bed and Breakfast, Nebraska Center for the Book member Vicki Pike keeps in close touch with Nebraska history.

"I'm lucky that a lot of what I do parallels other work I'm interested in. My work here in the Heritage Room goes along really well with the Museum Program. It's all along the same lines, so I get some good training in special collections and preservation."

Vicki says working in the Heritage Room has made her more aware of Nebraska's literary tradition. "There's more talent in this state than I had ever thought possible. There's about a thousand different authors represented up here. I've learned an awful lot, not just about Nebraska's literary past but about contemporary writers as well. One of my duties is organizing the John H. Ames Reading series. We have a different Nebraska poet or writer read from their work up here every third Thursday of the month in spring and fall."

Asked why she became a member of the Nebraska Center for the Book, Vicki mentioned that "All the mail for the Center comes across my desk. I saw all



these memberships coming in and I said 'wow everybody getting involved with this, this is really neat'. And the more I read about it, the more I saw who was involved, how it was growing, how it was part of the Library of Congress National Center for the Book, I began to get really interested. So I figured if I was involved with the Center for the Book I might as well be really involved and join! And honestly, I didn't count to see if I'd be the hundredth member or not!"

With a busy schedule of school and work Vicki bemoans that fact that she lacks the time to read all the books she's inter-

ested in. "Someone said to me 'gosh you get to page through all those great old books' And I said 'yea but I don't have any time to read them!' I could make a great big huge list of all the books I want to read. Some day I'll get to read them."

Asked to name a writer whose work she enjoys, Vicki mentioned Dorothy Thomas. "She's one of my favorites. She's a Nebraska writer. We've got some really neat stuff here in the Heritage Room. Books that she had sat down and done drawings in, for a friend of

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



The Voice We Call Human

Poems by Roy Scheele

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

hers. We have lots of photographs of her, some letters. There's a lot of good material in this room. That's another priority here, to catalogue all the non-book material that's up here."

Vicki said one of the best parts of working in the Heritage Room is meeting all the interesting people who find their way up to the third floor of the Library. "Now that we're open Sunday afternoons, we're hoping a lot more folks can visit us."

Mystery Writers/Fans To Meet In Omaha

The second Annual Midwest Mystery and Suspense Convention will be held May 24-26 (Memorial Day Weekend) at the Holiday Inn Central in Omaha. The Convention is open to the public and should be of interest to fans and writers of this genre. Charles Levitt, Chairperson of the Convention expects 60-80 writers to attend with Mary Higgins Clark as the Guest of Honor.

The purpose of the Convention is to give fans the opportunity to meet their favorite authors, and the authors the opportunity to meet fans and other authors and exchange ideas. Activities include: panels, auto-graph sessions, a new enlarged book sellers room, a Saturday night awards buffet and great fun for the mystery and suspense fan.

For more information contact: Midwest Mystery Convention, Little Professor Book Center, Baker Square, 13455 Center Road, Omaha, NE 68144.

Nineteen poems, handset and printed in a limited edition of 250 copies make up *The Voice We Call Human*, Nebraska poet Roy Scheele's new chapbook from Juniper Press, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Just a few copies remain available for \$6.50 (postage paid) from Roy Scheele, 2020 South 25th, Lincoln, NE 68502.

Next Morning

for Bob & Jane MacLennan

Fresh from the storm, the glistening
tips of the juniper stir in the wind,
stretching out fingers of rainy green
in half-light here at our door.

They resemble our own
sheen and sway, tossed
in the shy gusts of conversation,
and what we hold on by, like them,
is something that leans toward light,
a stem--

the voice we call human.

-Roy Scheele

© 1991 by Roy Scheele

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has received a gift of the *First Folio*, one of only about 200 existing volumes of the first printing of William Shakespeare's work. The 368-year old text was a gift from the family of the late Johnny Johnsen, owner of Nebraska Bookstore.

Want to be part of the Nebraska Center for the Book?

Send in your membership form or forms today!

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone with Area Code: _____

_____(_____)_____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Title of Contact Person: _____

Our organization is especially interested in (check one or more):

- Promotion of literacy
 Promotion of reading
 Promotion of Nebraska literature and writers

Other: _____

Please enclose a check for \$25.00 (one-year membership) made payable to "Nebraska Center for the Book". Mail this form and check to address below.

**The Nebraska Center for the Book
c/o Lincoln City Libraries
136 South 14th
Lincoln, NE 68508**

The Nebraska Center for the Book is a non-profit organization, donations are tax deductible.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone with Area Code: _____

(Home)_(_____)_____

(Work)_(_____)_____

My particular interests in the promotion of literacy and reading are: _____

Please enclose a check for \$15.00 (one-year membership) made payable to "Nebraska Center for the Book". Mail this form and check to the above address.

*The First
Nebraska Literature Festival*

September 27-29, 1991

Co-sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book and University of Nebraska at Omaha

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Celebrating Nebraska's Literary Heritage and Contemporary Writers

*Featuring: Bookfair, Theater and other Performances,
Art Exhibits, Coffee House Poetry and Prose Readings, Storytelling, Writing and Story-
telling Workshops, Panel Discussions, NETV Video, Slide Lectures, Native American
Programs, Small Press Demonstrations, Food, Souvenirs, Children's Center,
and Lots More!*

*Honoring
Six Nebraska Writers:*

*Wright Morris
John G. Neihardt
Mari Sandoz*

*Bess Streeter Aldrich
Willa Cather
Loren Eiseley*

The Nebraska Center for the Book
c/o Lincoln City Libraries
136 South 14th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

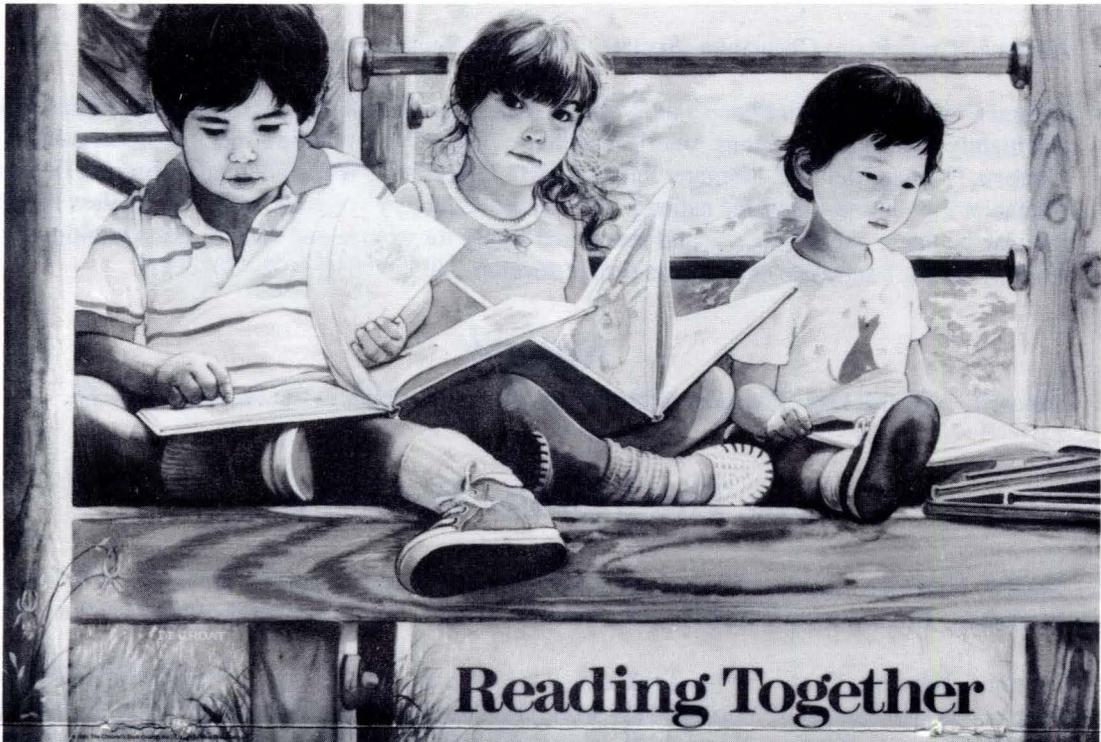
NEBRASKA CENTER FOR THE BOOK

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

1 2 3 4 5

CALENDAR

1991: THE YEAR OF THE LIFETIME READER



"Reading Together" is the Children's Book Council's reading encouragement theme for 1991. Diane de Groat's 13" x 19" full-color poster shows a trio of young readers cooling off with books on a hot summer day. It is available along with three other posters by Peter Catalanotto, Helen Cogancherry and Floyd Cooper in the "Reading Together" poster set for \$18.50. A portion of the selling price of the posters will be contributed to the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) Trust, to support IBBY's worldwide reading and literacy promotion work. Send a stamped (1 oz., first class), self-addressed envelope to CBC (568 Broadway, New York, NY 10012) for "Spring Materials Brochure" details.

May

- May 3 Omaha. The Friends of the UNO Community Writer's Workshop Spring 1991 Reading Series present Writer's Workshop Students reading their work, Arts & Sciences Hall, UNO Campus, 8:00 p.m.
- May 4 Red Cloud. 36th Annual Willa Cather Spring Conference. The conference will feature the premiere of two public television releases. For more information, call 402-746-2653
- May 9 Lincoln. The Great Books Reading and Discussion Group, Conference Room of the Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th and N Streets, 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Barbara E. Leffler, 402-488-6287.
- May 11 Mari Sandoz's birthday. Born May 11, 1896.
- May 13 Lincoln. Tamora Whitney, poet, reading at The Gathering Place, 1448 E St., Noon. For more information call 402-476-7398.
- May 16 Lincoln. Don Welch, poet, reading in the Heritage Room, Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th & N Streets, 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association, John H. Ames Reading Series.
- May 20 Lincoln. Marla McCabe, talking about her new book *Opening the Corners to Creativity and Self-Esteem*, a workbook for "teachers and everybody", The Gathering Place, 1448 E St., Noon. For more information, call 402-476-7398.
- May 24-26 Omaha. 2nd Annual Midwest Mystery and Suspense Convention. Activities include: panels, autograph sessions, a new enlarged book sellers room, a Saturday night buffet and great fun for the mystery and suspense fan. For more information, contact Charles Levitt, Little Professor Book Center, 13455 W. Center Road, Omaha, NE 68144, 402-334-1370. (See article page 14.)

June

- June 1 Hastings. Nebraska Writing & Storytelling Festival. A one day gathering of writers and storytellers of all level, workshops in many areas. Fuhr Hall, Hastings College Campus, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (See enclosed registration form in this issue.)
- June 14-15 Omaha. 4th Annual Storytelling Festival of Nebraska, featuring nationally-known teller Susan Klein. Sponsored by OOPS, UNO, and the Nebraska Arts Council. Call 402-572-5948 for more information.

July

- July 8-13 Bancroft. Wayne State College Neihardt Seminar, "Plains Literature from the Land and the People"
- July 4-9 Alliance. Great Plains Chautauqua Society, "American Renaissance".
and
- July 11-16 Central City. Great Plains Chautauqua Society, "American Renaissance", presenting breakfast talks, workshops, and nightly portrayals of famous American authors. These figures of the American Renaissance-- Henry David Thoreau, Herman Melville, Margaret Fuller, Louisa May Alcott, Walt Whitman, Frederick Douglas, and Nathaniel Hawthorne --gave the nation its first dynamic literary voice and wrote of timeless themes such as friendship, nature, education, war and peace, and equity for women and blacks. For a booklet of preparatory readings and/or a schedule of events as details develop, call the NHC (402-474-2131).

August

- August 4 Bancroft. Neihardt Day. For more information, contact the Neihardt Center, 402-648-3388.

In The Months To Come

- Sep. 27-29 Omaha. Nebraska Literature Festival sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, UNO and UNO Writers Workshop. Contact Kira Gale, 3314 North 49th St. Omaha, NE 68104, for more information. (See article page 4.)
- Nov. 13 Fremont. Nebraska Center for the Book annual meeting, Midland College. Tentative activities include a public program on some aspect of Mari Sandoz's work, and a report to the membership on the year's events and the Center's progress. For more information, contact Dick Allen c/o Nebraska Center for the Book.

Prestening... Tell Me A Story on the Nebraska Public Radio Network

If you're a reader, you teach English, or if you just like books, you'll want to listen in to the Nebraska Public Radio Network's book series TELL ME A STORY, broadcast every Friday evening at 10:10 on all five stations of the Network. TELL ME A STORY brings a kaleidoscope of well-known storytellers to the airwaves with series host Herbert Gold.

Featured writers include E.L. Doctorow, of *Ragtime* and *Billy Bathgate* fame and Harriett Doerr, who won the American Book Award for her first book, *Stones for Ibarra*, published at the age of 73.

Here's the Nebraska Public Radio Network TELL ME A STORY schedule:

May 10:	Deborah Eisenberg, "Days"
May 17:	Charles Baxter, "Horace and Margaret's Fifty-Second"
May 24:	Joyce Carol Oates, "Heat"
May 31:	Jim Shepard, "Reach for the Sky" and "Messiah"
June 7:	Denise Chavez, "The Last of the Menu Girls"
June 14:	E.L. Doctorow, "Willi"
June 21:	Harriett Doerr, "The Red Taxi"
June 28:	Charles Simmons, "Wrinkles"
July 5:	Gail Godwin, "A Sorrowful Woman"
July 12:	Wallace Stegner, "In the Twilight"

Plus, don't forget about ALL ABOUT BOOKS, a 15-minute book discussion series every Thursday afternoon at 4:30 on the Nebraska Public Radio Network.

You can hear TELL ME A STORY and ALL ABOUT BOOKS across Nebraska on KTNE-FM/91.1 in Alliance; KHNE-FM/89.1 in Hastings; KLNE-FM/88.7 in Lexington; KXNE-FM/89.3 in Norfolk and in Lincoln on KUCV-FM/90.9.

Your organization is invited to submit items for the Nebraska Center for the Book Calendar, a free listing of literary and book events and activities in Nebraska. If you would like to be included, please send a description of the event; time, date and place, including street address; and a name and daytime telephone number for verification. Deadline for next issue is August 15th.

Send to: Nebraska Center for the Book Calendar, Dave McCleery, Editor, 2746 Everett, Lincoln, NE 68502

The 11th Annual Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival

Saturday, June 1

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska

Choose a 2-hour morning and a 2-hour afternoon workshop led by professional Nebraska writers and storytellers. Schedule a one-on-one conference to discuss a piece of writing you may bring with you. Submit your best writing (prose or poetry, not to exceed 1500 words) for consideration for the Festival Anthology. Your submission need not be the result of your work from the Festival, and Festival participation is not a requirement for submission. Only unpublished manuscripts are acceptable. Submissions should be typed and well-edited, with your name and address at the top of each page. Be sure to keep a copy of your submission since manuscripts cannot be returned. Your registration fee of \$49.00 includes one copy of the 1991 Festival publication. Additional copies will be made available.

Festival Schedule

8:00 - 9:00 AM	Registration Check-In: Fuhr Hall, off 9th St. to Pine Knoll. Coffee and Exhibitors' Displays	12:30 - 1:30PM	Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones: "Stories from the Kiowa/Otoe-Missouria Tribe". <i>Sitting Bear's appearance is made possible by the Nebraska Humanities Council.</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Festival Opening	1:30 - 2:00	Individual Manuscript Conferences
9:15 - 11:15	Morning Workshop Sessions (2 hours)		Exhibitor's Displays
11:15 - 11:45	Individual Manuscript Conferences	2:00 - 4:00	Afternoon Workshop Sessions (2 hours)
	Exhibitors' Displays	4:00 - 4:30	Festival Close
11:45 - 12:30	Buffet Luncheon		

All Festival events will be held in Fuhr Hall and Bellevue House

MORNING WORKSHOPS (2 HOURS)

FEATURES: MORE THAN GOOD GRAMMAR •led by Joyce Ore.

Participants will learn interview techniques, conduct interviews, discuss leads into the feature, body, endings, and bringing the reader into the story. *Joyce Ore is a freelance feature writer for newspapers and magazines.*

TELLING THE STORY •led by Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones.

Participants are to bring a story to tell; a legend, a fairy tale, a Bible story, a story of your own. This workshop will be concerned with technique. *Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones is with the Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium and is also a Nebraska Humanities Scholar.*

WRITING LIFE STORIES •led by Muffy Fisher Vrana.

Participants will write and share their writing after learning about interviewing techniques, life story stages, and writing styles. Safe storage of valuable materials also will be considered. *Muffy Fisher Vrana is a co-author of Alive and Writing in Nebraska.*

PLAYWRITING •led by Juanice Myers

Participants will consider a philosophical and structural approach to the craft of playwriting. Myers will stress dialogue, relationships among characters, translating ideas to paper, and getting your play produced. *Juanice Myers is a playwright with six produced plays to her credit.*

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS (2 HOURS)

FROM AUTOBIOGRAPHY TO MEMOIR TO FICTION •led by Lorraine Duggin

Participants will explore fictional elements and devices useful in writing about our own lives. Examples from outstanding contemporary writers will be considered. *Lorraine Duggin is Director of the Creative Writing program at Creighton University, Omaha.*

POETRY: WRITING IT, PUBLISHING IT •led by Dwight Marsh

Participants will discuss poetry they have brought or generate in the workshop. Marsh also will cover the practicalities of submissions. *Dwight Marsh is the editor/publisher of Plainsong, a poetry magazine.*

STORYTELLING: MORE THAN JUST KID STUFF •led by James Kruse

Explore the origins of your own stories and the contributions they make to self-understanding. Then transform the stories in our memories into stories for sharing with others. *James Kruse is a teacher, a professional storyteller, and a Nebraska Humanities Scholar.*

SERIOUSLY NOW: LET'S HAVE A LITTLE HUMOR •led by Joan Burney

Humor, Burney believes, isn't somewhere "out there." She will help participants find the humor in their own lives -- enough, she believes, to write several books. Writers will explore the basics, gain some confidence, and leave laughing! *Joan Burney is a columnist and feature writer for several newspapers and magazines.*

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 16

REGISTRATION FORM

Your Name _____ Daytime Phone () _____

Your Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Indicate your 1st and 2nd choice for Morning Workshops
 FEATURES: MORE THAN GOOD GRAMMAR

TELLING THE STORY

WRITING LIFE STORIES

PLAYWRITING

Indicate your 1st and 2nd choice for Afternoon Workshops
 FROM AUTOBIOGRAPHY TO MEMOIR TO FICTION

POETRY: WRITING IT, PUBLISHING IT

STORYTELLING: MORE THAN JUST KID STUFF

SERIOUSLY NOW: LET'S HAVE A LITTLE HUMOR

NOTE: If you wish to schedule a manuscript conference with a Festival workshop leader, please indicate which time is preferable. Conferences will last 10 minutes each. 11:15 - 11:45 AM 1:30 - 2:00 PM

\$49.00 Registration Fee (includes coffee break, sessions, one-on-one conferences, buffet luncheon, and one copy of the 1991 Festival publication.)

Mail Registration Form and Fee to: NWSF, c/o Betty Wilken, 855 South 37th Street, Lincoln, NE 68510

Make checks payable to The Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival. Your canceled check is your receipt.

Pre-Registration Deadline is May 16

Please share this information with a friend, or post it in a place where writers gather!

1991 Nebraska Writing

and Storytelling Festival



Nebraska
Humanities
Council

Co-Sponsored by
Central Community College,
Platte Campus, Columbus, NE
and Hastings College, Hastings, NE

Partially Funded by the Nebraska Humanities Council

Saturday, June 1st 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska

NWSF
Dept. of English
Central Community College--Platte Campus
P.O. Box 1027
Columbus, NE 68602

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LINCOLN, NE
PERMIT NO.

All you need to become a part of the community
of Nebraska Writers and Storytellers is the impulse.

Prior publication is absolutely not necessary.

In fact,

here's your opportunity to submit your writing
to be considered for the Festival's annual publication,

A Flowering: A Festival .