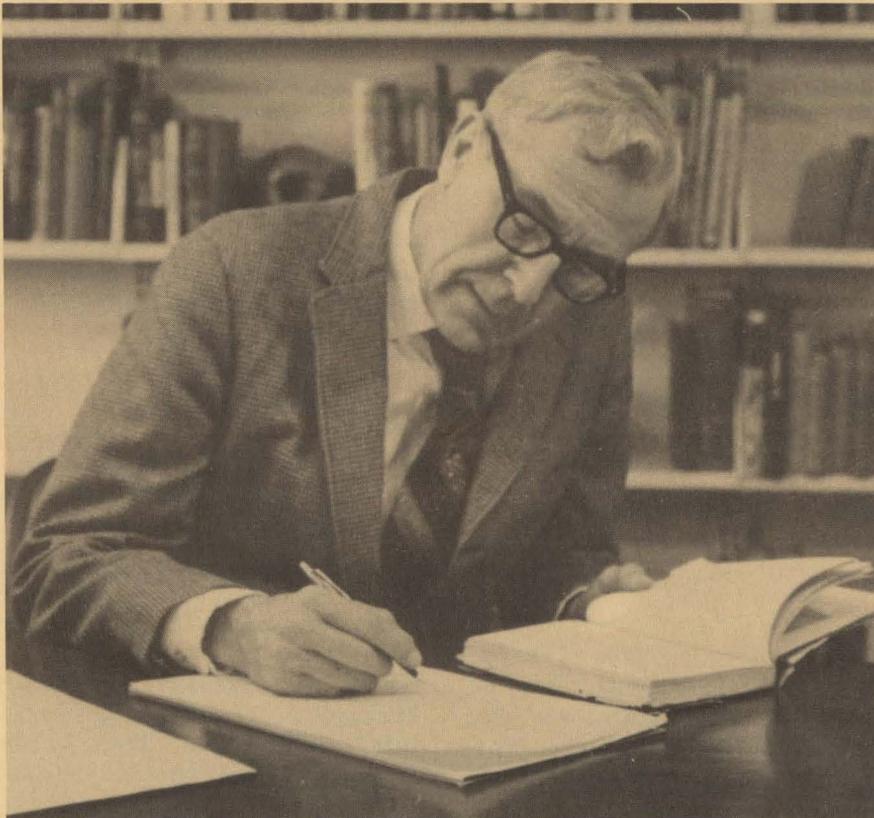


NCB Quarterly

Nebraska Center for the Book

Vol. 1

No. 4



*"I did not have to go to kindergarten to learn to read. . .
my older brother brought Robinson Crusoe and proceeded to read in spare moments.
He departed when we had reached only the discovery of the footprint.
I took DeFoe's book and some little inadequate dictionary and proceeded
to worry and chew my way through the remaining pages.
I began to read everything I could lay my hands on.
It was a kind of vow I made to myself...to read books, read them for the joy of reading."*

-Loren Eiseley



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
Barbara Leffler, Secretary	Lincoln
Roland Luedtke	Lincoln
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Robert Runyon	Omaha
Mary Jo Ryan	Lincoln
Ellen Scott	Omaha
Rod Wagner	Lincoln

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

David McCleery—*NCB Quarterly* Editor/Designer

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
Committee for
the Humanities

Publication Schedule

NCB Quarterly is published quarterly. Our publication dates are:

May 1, September 1, December 1, March 1

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:

—fullpage	7"x 8 1/2"	\$60.00
—halfpage	7"x 4 1/4"	\$35.00
—quarterpage	3 1/2"x 4 1/4"	\$20.00

Advertising and Calendar Deadlines

Deadlines for advertising and Calendar of Events are:

April 15, August 15, November 15, February 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: Photograph of Loren Eiseley courtesy of Friends of Loren Eiseley. The quotation is from *All the Strange Hours: The Excavation of a Life*.

Friends of Loren Eiseley was founded in 1982 with headquarters in Lincoln at the Heritage Room of the Bennett Martin Public Library. The Friends of Loren Eiseley encourages interest in the knowledge of his work. The group collects material about him, publishes a newsletter four times a year, and provides a forum for readers and scholars. The group holds an annual meeting in September at which two scholarships are presented by the Nebraska Academy of Science to Nebraska high school students for the best essays written about Eiseley and his work. For more information, contact:

Friends of Loren Eiseley
Jane Stilwell Smith, President
PO Box 80934
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-0934.

Welcome New Members!

New members as of November 26, 1991

Organizational

Niobrara Book & Art Services	Lincoln
Donald N. Dupley, Book Dealer	Omaha
The Bookhouse	Omaha
Columbus Public Library	Columbus
York College & Community Book Discussion Group	York
Holdrege Public Library	Holdrege
Nebraska Library Commission	Lincoln
Keene Memorial Library	Fremont
Mari Sandoz Society	Chadron
Prairie Books & Gifts	Hastings
Kieser's Book Store	Omaha
Metropolitan Reading Council	Omaha
Grand Island Public Library	Grand Island
Omega Cottonwood Press	Alma
English Graduate Student Organization-UNO	Omaha
Foundation Books	Lincoln
Combs & Combs Bookstore	Omaha
Plattsmouth Rotary Club	Plattsmouth

Individual

Rosemary Mueller	Fremont	Diana Holquist	Omaha
Kate Adams	Lincoln	Rosalie Shimerda	Lincoln
Jane Hood	Lincoln	Edie Staab	Omaha
Roberta Fagan	Lincoln	Phyllis Swigart	North Platte
Chester & Valda Bornemeier	Elmwood	Carol Taczak	Columbus
Arthur T. Homer	Omaha	Jeffrey Williams	Omaha
Bess Eileen Day	Lincoln	Silvia Wolff	Ft. Calhoun
Cecilia DiMasi	Omaha	Alvin & Edel Peterson	Lincoln
Mrs. Herman Grimmetad	Fremont	Toni & Mark Johnson	Omaha
Dorothy Apley	Geneva	Nancy J. Busch	Lincoln
Tom Adamson	Omaha	Anita Whalen	Omaha
Brenda Cornelius	Tekamah	William Carter	Omaha
Laura Dickson	Omaha	Joann Crocker	Bellevue
Doris Forrest	Bellevue	James Mulder	Peru
Bevely Hays	Omaha	Sarmite Staudinger	Malcolm
Dorothy Lang	Omaha	Mitzi Fox	Albion
Pat Meisinger	Plattsmouth	Dr. Nina Little	Omaha
Ann & Gordon Moshman	West Point		
Marjorie O'Reilly	Ralston		
Judy Johnson	Lincoln		

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



President's Column

The first year of the Nebraska Center for the Book is drawing to its close, (you'll remember that our formal dedication was held September 15, 1990) and it was, will have been, a good year!

Membership: We now have over 200 paid members. Two hundred individuals and organizations have become part of the coalition "the Nebraska community of the book." How diverse we are! Yet all of us, individuals and organizations alike, share the common belief that literacy, books, reading, libraries, and Nebraska writers are important. Two upcoming issues of our newsletter will contain directories of our individual members and our organizational members. You will want to look at these. We hope that where members are and what particular interests they have will lead to some fruitful connections.

Public Programs: We sponsored three public events. The "April Day" at the Heritage room, focussing on Nebraska booksellers and Nebraska book discussion groups. The Nebraska Literature Festival, focussing on the Nebraska Chautauqua and a great Nebraska book. The turnouts for all of these programs was gratifying, that for the first Nebraska Literature Festival especially so. Much of the success for the Nebraska Literature Festival can be attributed to the efforts of Board members Elaine Booth, Tom Boyle, Carol Connor, Molly Fisher, Kira Gale, Bob Runyon, and Ellen Scott, along with the efforts of Diane Kirkle and Art Homer, and many others.

Publications: Our newsletter has received high praise for its format and content, thanks to our fine editor, David McCleery. The Center cosponsored

the publication of *Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors*, containing much helpful information about six of Nebraska's greats. Center Board Secretary Barbara Leffler of Lincoln is working on a directory of Nebraska book discussion groups which will appear in No. 3 of our 1992 newsletter.

Special Projects: We cosponsored Governor Ben Nelson's proclamation declaring 1991 to be "The Year of the Lifetime Reader." With the help of Chlorene Hardy of Lincoln we are assisting in the ESO Reading Program of the Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs. A model book distribution program for the Grand Island area has been planned by board member Golda Bockbrader for the coming holiday season. Every needy child, it is hoped, will be given a book along with the name of a volunteer to read it aloud to him or her.

Special People: Let us not forget that as important as our values are (literacy, books, libraries, and Nebraska writers) even more important are the people who hold to these values. The Nebraska Center for the Book honors its membership, just as its membership honors our writers, our readers, and all those who are engaged with or support the written word.

Finally, on behalf of all 16 of the Nebraska Center for the Book Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to be able to wish you, each and everyone,

**A Happy Holiday Season
Abounding In Written Words
Overlaid With Just The Right Spoken Ones!**

-Dick Allen

First Nebraska Literature Festival

A Great Success!

After two years of planning and wondering whether the First Nebraska Literature Festival would ever happen, we were thrilled to have over 1,500 people attend the programs, bookfair and exhibits at the University of Nebraska at Omaha on September 28th. The Festival was a great success! 180 people attended the dinner at which Hilda Neihardt Petri received the first Mildred R. Bennett Nebraska Literature Award. Altogether, it demonstrated a deep and widespread interest in Nebraska's literary heritage and contemporary writers. The program presenters provided an outstanding group of programs, and people came from all over to hear them. An estimated half of those attending were from outside the Omaha area.

Kira Gale, Chair
Art Homer, Vice-Chair
Elaine Booth, Program Chair
Diane Kinkle, Secretary
Tom Boyle, Treasurer

Dick Allen
Bruce Baker
Mel Bohn
Chet and Valda Bornemeier
Denise Brady
Naomi Brill
Carol Connor
Lorraine Duggin
Rex Filmer

Molly Fisher
Susanne George
Mary Lee Heise
Herbert Hyde
Nancy B. Johnson
Fran Kaye
Mel Krutz
Barbara Allen Langdon
Mimi Loring
Doug Marr
David McCleery
Dan McGlynn
Hilda Neihardt
Bonnie O'Connell
Liz Otradovsky

Charles Peek
Carol Miles Petersen
Pat Phillips
Jean Reinke
Barbara Rippey
Susan Rosowski
Robert Runyon
Pat Selerno
Ellen Wheeler Scott
Jane Stilwell Smith
Earl Stander
Lori Utecht
Emily Uzendoski
Joseph Wydeven

Next year the Festival will move to the University of Nebraska at Kearney. A Second Nebraska Literature Festival Committee of the Nebraska Center for the Book, chaired by Dr. Susanne George of the UNK English Department is already meeting. You can help support the second Festival by purchasing copies of the Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors. Over \$5.00 of the \$5.95 purchase price goes directly into the festival fund. (Please see the ad on back cover.)

As we move onto planning future festivals, it seems appropriate to name the members of the first festival committee. Without their vision, commitment, and hard work, the Festival never would have happened. Members of the committee were:

Thank you all for sharing a dream, and making it come true. See you next year at Kearney!

—Kira Gale



Scenes from the First Nebraska Literature Festival

The Nebraska Center for the Book thanks everyone who participated in the First Nebraska Literature Festival. Over 1,500 friends and fans of Nebraska literature helped to make our first Festival a huge success! We hope to see everyone next year in Kearney!



Capacity crowds greeted Festival presenters.



NCB Treasurer Tom Boyle helps sell T-shirts



Two Hildas. Prairie Schooner Editor Hilda Raz & Hilda Neihardt Petri, recipient of the Mildred R. Bennet Nebraska Literature Award, sign books.



Readings by contemporary Nebraska writers proved to be a popular attraction.



Phyllis Stone, Rosebud Sioux, shares Plains Indian heritage with tipi visitors.



The Festival's Bookfair and Exhibits offered a wide range of services and products relating to Nebraska literature.



Poet and novelist Marilyn Coffey sells her wares.

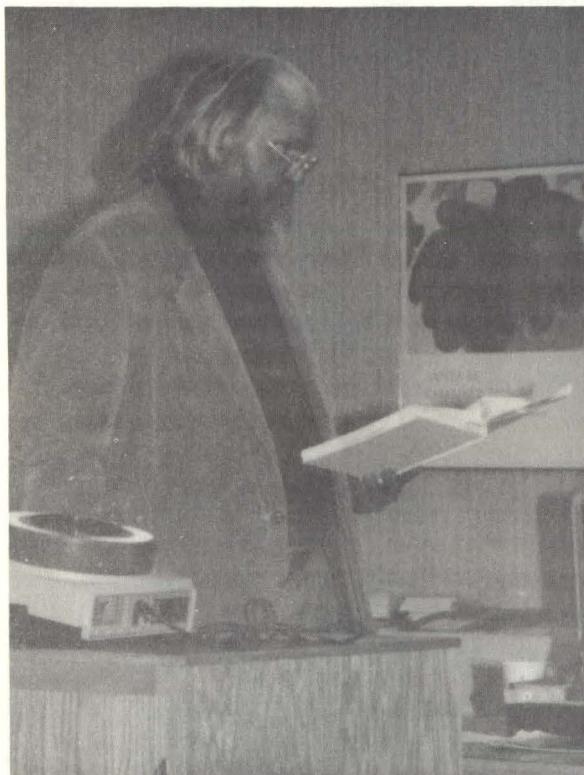


NCB President Dick Allen, and Vice President Elaine Norton greet Festival goers.

Photographs by David McCleery



Annual Meeting



Carrol Peterson, professor of English at Doane College, and veteran of the Great Plains Chautauqua speaks to members of the Center for the Book about the Chautauqua experience.

Members of the Nebraska Center for the Book gathered at Midland Lutheran College in Fremont November 13 for the Annual Meeting.

Guest speaker Carrol Peterson of Doane College spoke about the Chautauqua experience in Nebraska. Peterson traced the history of Chautauqua from its beginning as a summer training school for Sunday School teachers along the shores of Lake Chautauqua to the modern Great Plains Chautauqua



Center for the Book members gather at Midland Lutheran College in Fremont for the annual meeting



Members participate in a book discussion of Willa Cather's O'Pioneers!

funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Peterson noted that in 1882 Crete, Nebraska's Chautauqua was the largest Chautauqua outside of the state of New York.

Following Peterson's presentation, members participated in a book discussion of Willa Cather's *O'Pioneers!* lead by Lincoln Great Book Discussion Leader Barbara Leffler.

The Board of Directors



The 1991 Nebraska Center for the Book Board of Directors, left to right: Robert Runyon, Thomas Boyle (Treasurer), Elaine Booth, Ellen Scott, Rod Wagner, Kira Gale, Carol Connor, Molly Fisher, Golda Bockbrader, Barbara Leffler (Secretary), Elaine Norton (Vice President), Dick Allen (President). Not pictured: Roland Luedtke, Mary Jo Ryan.

At the November meeting the Center approved the election of four members to its board of directors. Elected for a second term were Elaine Booth, Bellevue, and Kira Gale, Omaha. New members to the Board include Brenda Cornelius, Tekamah, and F.M. Tuttle, Lincoln. These individuals will begin three-year terms on January 1.

Barbara Leffler will be leaving the board this year. Barbara served as Secretary for the Center and initiated the work on documenting Nebraska's book

discussion groups. Barbara also edited a brochure giving information and answering questions about the formation of book discussion groups. The brochure will be issued sometime in the near future. The members of the Center for the Book thank Barbara for all her fine work on behalf of reading and literacy in Nebraska.

New officers will be elected at the January 7 meeting in Lincoln.



From the Editor

When novelist Kurt Vonnegut Jr. walked out onto the stage of the Lied Center for Performing Arts here in Lincoln recently, I remarked to my wife that he looked just like the photographs on the back of his books. My wife agreed and added that he did indeed look remarkably similar to the curly haired gentleman on the back of those books but that here, at the Lied Center, he moved.

When Kurt Vonnegut Jr. moved at the Lied Center, he wore a dark suit. Very few of the 500 people in attendance that evening were wearing dark suits. Kurt Vonnegut Jr. was approaching 70 years of age. Very few people in attendance were approaching 70 years of age. The majority seemed to be approaching twenty-something. I looked around and wondered where all the kids were who bought *Slaughterhouse-Five* when it was first published in 1969. Perhaps they were all at home watching "Billy Jack" on TBS or "The Golden Girls" on NBC. It didn't appear many had paid the twenty dollars to see Kurt Vonnegut Jr. walk across on the stage at the Lied Center. And in the words of Kurt Vonnegut Jr., "That's sad."

Kurt Vonnegut Jr. had a lot to say that was sad. He talked about America's hunger for war, its illiteracy and poverty. Kurt Vonnegut Jr. said, "Nothing is going to be done about them, but behave decently anyway."

He also said he'd be very sad to see a world in which books no longer existed. He thought that day might come. He described books as ancient artifacts made of primitive materials like wood pulp

and stain, glue and leather. He wished more people would read them because, "Literature teaches compassion. You won't learn that from television or politicians."

Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s books are made of wood pulp, stain, and imagination. Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s books are also among the most frequently challenged by censors and book banners. He said he receives letters of sympathy from folks in the Soviet Union. "They offer to give me copies of my own books. They think all my books have been burned."

He went on to say that "Censorship is a disease that has been around a long time. It's only been in the last fifty years or so that we've tried to do something about it. Communities that are burning books used to be the ones burning people. Finally we are getting somewhere."

Kurt Vonnegut Jr. talked about a lot of other sad things that evening. He said his message was depressing because he tells the truth. "I can't be optimistic like Stormin' Norman," he said.

In the end, though, he did make us laugh, and then he suddenly said, "Well kids, I'm out of steam," and shyly walked off across the stage and back into the photographs on the back of his books.

The next day I went to the public library and checked out some of his books I had not read. I was glad I could find them there.

—David McCleery, Editor

Literary Holiday Gifts

For yourself or family and friends

Nebraska Literature Festival T-Shirts

These wonderfully designed T-Shirts bearing David Routon's drawings of Aldrich, Cather, Eiseley, Morris, Neihardt, and Sandoz, sold out just hours after the Nebraska Literature Festival opened its doors. Now, due to popular demand, you too can show the world you appreciate literature and Nebraska's great literary tradition. Proceeds from the sale of these T-Shirts go toward on-going support of the Nebraska Literature Festival.

Short-sleeved Gray/Ash \$11.95 + tax (M,L,XL)
Long-sleeved Green \$14.95 + tax (M,L,XL)

Please use or photocopy order form below:

I would like to order:

_____ Grey/Ash Short-sleeved T-shirts
(\$12.73 each w/tax) \$ _____

_____ Green Long-sleeved T-shirts
(\$15.92 each w/tax) \$ _____

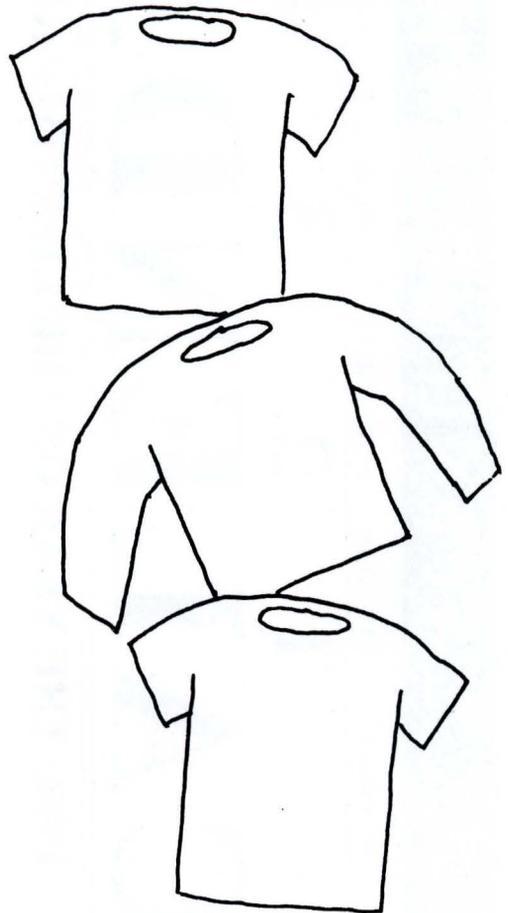
Shipping (regardless of number): \$2.00

TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Nebraska Center for the Book:
all proceeds go toward on-going support of the Nebraska
Literature Festival.

Name: _____

Address: _____



Mail to:
Heritage Room
Lincoln City Libraries
14th and N Street
Lincoln, NE 68508



Our 200th Member!

Joann Crocker

Joann Crocker was happy to learn during the Nebraska Library Association's annual conference in October that she had become the 200th member of the Nebraska Center for the Book.

Originally from western New York, Joann has lived in most regions of the country. Joann came to Nebraska via Texas two years ago. She currently lives in Bellevue and is anticipating a future move to Omaha. As Head of Collection Development at the University of Nebraska Medical Center's McGoogan Library of Medicine, she is directly involved with selecting and acquiring both print and non-print materials. According to Joann, "Publishing trends indicate that more of our information needs will be filled electronically— there is even an electronic book now on the market. Not only is it portable, but it doesn't use batteries, and you don't need a video display terminal to read it! But I am hopeful that the old-fashioned book that we know and love will never be totally replaced. A love of reading forms the foundation of the lifelong learning skills which are so necessary in today's society."

Joann went on to say that while not well acquainted with the works of Nebraska authors, she looks forward to learning more about them through active participation in the Nebraska Center for the Book.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR NEBRASKA CENTER FOR THE BOOK MEMBERSHIP?

Please see pages 22 and 23 of this publication for important information on the new NCB Membership Directory!

*Books are fatal:
they are the curse of the human race.
Nine-tenths of existing books are nonsense,
and the clever books are the refutation
of that nonsense.
The greatest misfortune that ever befell man
was the invention of printing.*

Benjamin Disraeli

*Books for general reading always smell badly.
The odor of common people hangs about them.*

Friedrich Nietzsche

1992: Explore New Worlds-READ!

To remind Americans of the joy and importance of reading as a way of learning about the world, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has chosen "Explore New Worlds-READ!" as the theme of the 1992 Library of Congress national reading promotion campaign. "Reading opens minds and fires the imagination. It is the key to understanding people, places, and other cultures," said Dr. Billington. "I cannot think of a better year than 1992, the 500th anniversary of the landing of Columbus in the Americas, to emphasize the significance of geography in reading promotion and literacy projects." First Lady Barbara Bush is the campaign's honorary chair.

Initiated by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, "Explore New Worlds-READ!" is a unifying theme for supporting literacy and reading programs that benefit all age groups. It highlights the literature of exploration and travel and the links between place and the imagination.

"Explore New Worlds-READ!" is supported by the Nebraska Center for the Book and others who believe that making America into a Nation of Readers is an urgent task and one that is vital to the preservation of our democracy. By working together, we will establish new partnerships on behalf of future generations of readers and lifetime learners.

Will you join us?

Books That Open New Worlds

The Innocents Abroad, by Mark Twain
The Valley of the Assassins, by Freya Stark
Journey Without Maps, by Graham Greene
Travels with Charley, by John Steinbeck
An Area of Darkness, by V.S. Naipaul
Places, by Jan Morris
The Great Railway Bazaar, by Paul Theroux

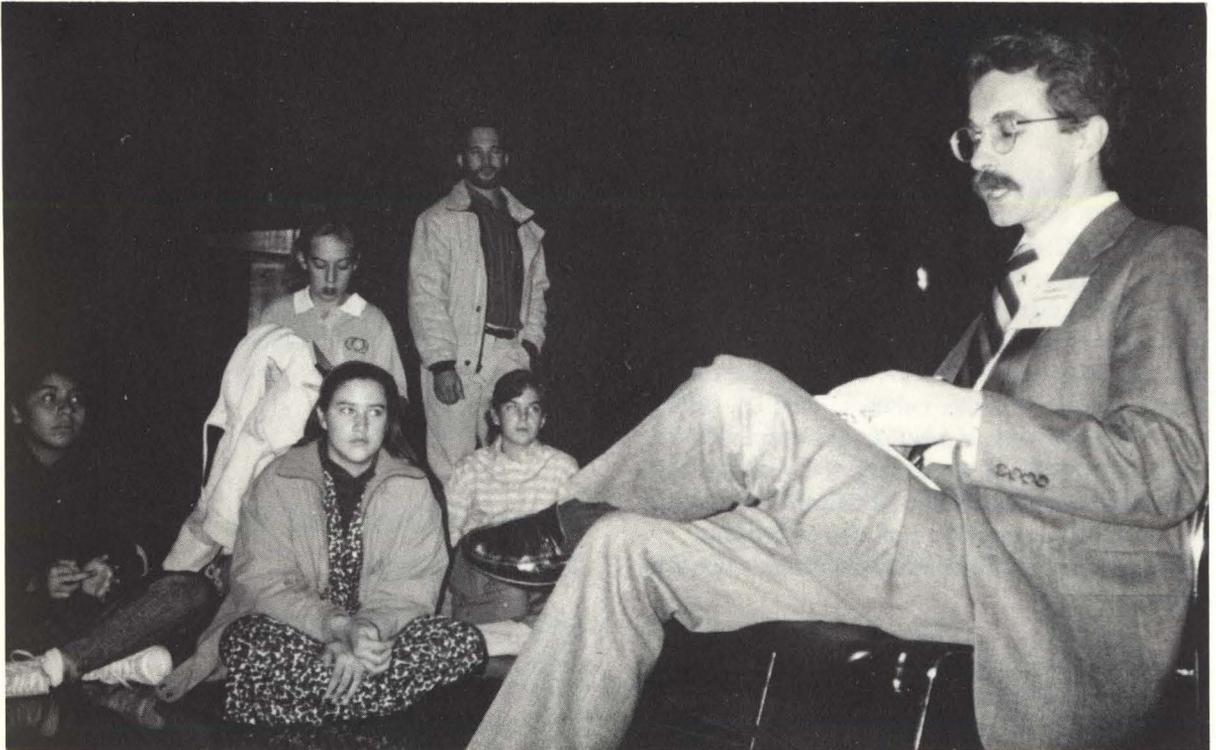
Recent Winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature

1990 Octavio Paz, Mexico
1989 Camilo Jose Cela, Spain
1988 Naguib Mahfouz, Egypt
1987 Joseph Brodsky, USSR-US
1986 Wole Soyinka, Nigeria
1985 Claude Simon, France
1984 Jaroslav Siefert, Czechoslovakia

Seasons Greeting
to all members of the
Nebraska Center for the Book!



Reading 'Round the Routuda Held in Lincoln



Nebraska Policy Research Office Staff member Andy Cunningham shares his favorite book, Willa Cather's O, Pioneers! with a group of interested readers.

As part of the celebration of the 1991 Children's Book Week the Eastern Nebraska Reading Council together with the Nebraska Department of Education sponsored a morning long reading event in the Nebraska State Capitol Building on November 15.

"Reading 'Round the Routuda" made it possible for thirty-five adult readers to share their favorite books with younger readers. Most of the small group readings were held beneath one of the busts of some of some of Nebraska's literary greats: Neihardt,

Aldrich, Cather, Sandoz, and Eiseley.

Senator Ron Withem opened the ceremonies with a letter from First Lady, Barbara Bush, supporting the idea of children's reading. "It is always heartening to learn of efforts like yours that encourage people to read...This exemplary exercise in promoting and highlighting the importance of reading gives me a tremendous feeling of pride in our educational system," wrote Mrs. Bush.

National Book Award Recipient John Casey to Visit Lincoln/Columbus

Novelist and National Book Award recipient John Casey will be in Lincoln and Columbus May 29th and 30th, respectively, as part of the twelfth annual Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival. Casey received the National Book Award in 1989 for his novel *Spartina*. Casey is also the author of *An American Romance* (novel), *Testimony and De-meanor* (short stories and novella), and *South Country* (novel).

Casey's visit is made possible by a grant from the National Book Foundation. All programs in which Casey will be participating will be free and open to the public. More information will be forthcoming about the exciting event!

Here is how I propose to end book-banning in this country once and for all: Every candidate for school committee should be hooked up to a lie-detector and asked this question: "Have you read a book from start to finish since high school? Or did you even read a book from start to finish in high school?"

If the truthful answer is "no," then the candidate should be told politely that he cannot get on the school committee and blow off his big bazoo about how books make children crazy.

—Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Grand Island Residents "Share the Joy of Reading"

All Grand Island area residents are being encouraged to "Share the Joy of Reading" by donating good, used children's books for the Christmas Cheer Program. Books may be placed in a box in the lobby of the Edith Abbott Library or dropped off at any of the three fire stations. This effort to secure books is being spearheaded by Mrs. Golda Bockbrader, Literacy Awareness Chairperson for Nebraska Center for the Book, in conjunction with the Lions Christmas Cheer Toy Drive.

"Much time and effort is placed on making certain children get toys at Christmas, which is great," says Bockbrader "but it is equally important to be sure they receive a book. Many children may like to read, by don't have books in their home. Children learn to read at school, but unless they have books in the home, they miss out on the joys of reading for the pleasure of reading. Getting children excited about reading is an excellent way to help prevent adult illiteracy."

The books should be in good condition and the donor should ask themselves if they would want someone in their family to receive the book as a gift. Of course, people are encouraged to purchase new books to donate.

Donations are being accepted until December 14 and may be mailed to: Mrs. Golda Bockbrader, Literacy Awareness Chairman, Nebraska Center for the Book, 3005 North Webb Road, Grand Island, NE, 68803.



Off the Press

Recent Books By Or Of Interest To Nebraskans

Evil Obsession

By Nellie Snyder Yost

The Breeder of Archangels

By Don Welch

Andy

By Peggy Benjamin

The Giving Earth A John G. Neihardt Reader

Edited by Hilda Neihardt Petri

Waiting on God in Difficult Times

By Warren W. Wiersbe

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse

By Peter Matthiessen

Range Riders Cookin'

Robert E. Kerby

Riot in a Parrot Shoppe and Other Eruptions

By Helen G. Crosswait

Trees and Flowers

By Susan Strayer Deal

Prairie Mother

By Oma Lou Meyers

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.

Nebraska Authors Database

Emily Jane Uzendoski of Central Community College—Platte Campus is compiling a database of Nebraska Authors and their works. Its primary goal "is to provide an electronically stored master bibliography of Nebraska authors and their published works, encompassing the time period just prior to statehood . . . to the present." Where possible, the database will include much other information about the writers and their works. For more information write Emily Jane Uzendoski, Department of English, Central Community College Platte Campus, PO Box 1027, Columbus, NE 68602-1027.

The Nebraska Package

Media Productions and Marketing (MPM) has been publishing and distributing books and periodicals in the Midwest for many years and in the course of those activities has identified two very specific needs. First, Nebraska schools and libraries are in search of books about and by Nebraskans. Second, Nebraska authors and publishers have limited distribution and/or sales facilities and need to bring their works to the attention of a larger audience. MPM is answering both these needs with a new marketing division, **The Nebraska Package**. This catalog is a listing of Nebraska produced or Nebraska related materials currently available. MPM plans to update and reissue new catalogs each September and February. **The Nebraska Package** catalog may be obtained by writing: Media Productions and Marketing, PO Box 30242, Lincoln, Ne 68503-0242, or telephone 402-466-9665.

A Flowering: A Festival

The Annual Anthology of the Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival

The Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival, a non-profit venture dedicated to providing support for writing and storytelling across the state of Nebraska, has produced their annual anthology. This year's anthology is filled with work by presenters and participants of the Festival which was held June 1 in Hastings. *A Flowering: A Festival* may be purchased in early December from : The Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival, Central Community College—Platte Campus Columbus, Nebraska 68602.

HOSPITALITY

Old Gary twists the brake on the grain car, strangling the willful slide of metal wheels on gleaming track, and tumbles from the ladder,

He clowns, cigarette stabbed backwards, ember hidden in the tunnel of his mouth, sending feelers of thin smoke out the filter end at me,

So this is my catholic summer and I, the city kid, am plied with half-pints of jacketed whiskey, polack jokes, malathion, biting red ants, and the dust of a thousand truckloads of harvest wheat,

Nineteen, I flirt with daughters who remain in their cabs while the grains sift into the teeth of the smooth, accepting pit,

I imagine my lives with them on their father's farms—the son each never had— but the box empties, I scoop the corners, and they smile in the sidemirror and drive away,

These days
the suits arrive from the cities
in their LTD's and landaued Grenadas
and I listen to Old Gary scoff at their notions
of management dynamics
and their shallow manners put on like thin Windsor Knots,

His is the laughter of the honkytonk, the scores of legion ball, local affairs on tongues flecked by tobacco from roll-your-owns, and talk of fifteen-year-old murders fresh as harvest in the retelling,

The salesmen are outsiders, and he's glad to see them go . . .

Life is simple here at the Culbertson Elevator, simple as half-hitches in twine to hold the tarp on Newt Milford's Kenworth, the semi rebuilt with his own two hands,

but to fit in here
in this life . . .
to fit in here
is complex as being born into the paws of the midwife,
and nothing else will do

I, too, am a visitor here,
but at the elevator for the summer
I listen and learn
and do as I'm told--
and through the grace of Old Hedke's grin--
am one of them.

-Jay Garrison
© 1991 by Jay Garrison



New Titles From Nebraska's Fine Presses

Abattoir Editions

Nebraska by Ron Hansen

Karen Kunc created two double-spread woodcut illustrations both printed from three blocks in six colors for this edition. Bonnie O'Connell printed Hansen's short piece of fiction in a double-column format from Cloister Old Style on Nideggen, a German mouldmade paper. The non-adhesive, two-signature pamphlet binding features a cover of handmade Chine (dark brown) from the 600-year-old Richard de Bas mill in Ambert, France. Support funding from the Nebraska Arts Council and UNO's Committee on Research enables Abattoir Editions to offer this special edition featuring the work of three Nebraska artists at a very low price. 500 copies. 16 pp. 6 3/4 (h) x 10 3/4 (w) inches. \$25

The Cummington Press

A Final Antidote from the Journals of Louise Bogan, with a four-color chine colle etching by Priscilla Steele. Harry Duncan hand set and printed this edition during the winter of 1990-91. The text first appeared in *The New Yorker* (30 January 1978) under the title "From the Journals of a Poet." 56 pages printed on Arches Ingre paper, case bound in cloth at Campbell-Logan Bindery in Minneapolis, and wrapped in sky-blue Japanese handmade paper. 220 press-numbered copies. 10 x 6 3/4 inches. \$35

The Yellow Barn Press

Neil Shaver is working on an edition commissioned by and bearing the imprint of The Rowfant Club of Cleveland, Ohio. The book commemorates the 100th anniversary of this book collector's club with recollections by members on the club's history and various book and art collections. Seventy-seven pages printed on dampened Reeves from Perpetua type with 12 wood engravings by John DePol. Casebound by Campbell-Logan in patterned paper designed by DePol. The book will be issued February 1992. 20 copies of the edition of 315 will be available for sale. \$115

My Two Oxfords by Willie Morris

Reflections on life in Oxford, England and Oxford, Mississippi by the current author-in-residence at the University of Mississippi. This edition will be available this winter.

Titles are available from The Nebraska Book Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Library Room 100, Omaha, NE 68182-0173

"I have given up reading books; I find it takes my mind off myself."

—Oscar Levant

The Great Books: A Short List

The University of Chicago is celebrating its 100th year. As part of the celebration the College (undergraduate school) faculty was asked to put together a centennial syllabus or common core of "great books." The University has had a long tradition of such a common core for its undergraduate program. During the Robert Hutchins days the common core undergraduate curriculum idea was in the ascendancy; the theory was that there were some works that every person with a liberal education should have read (or struggled with!) What follows is a list of the 1991 centennial syllabus. Nebraska Center for the Book members and supporters may want to read or reread some of these; Nebraska book discussion groups may want to consider some of them for reading and discussion.

Philosophy

Plato, *The Apology*
Aristotle, *The Nichomachean Ethics*
Alfred North Whitehead, *Adventures in Ideas*
John Locke, *The Second Treatis...of Civil Government*
David Hume, "Of the Standard of Taste" [in *Essays*]

Science

Charles Darwin, *The Origin of the Species*
Sigmund Freud, *The Interpretation of Dreams*
Claude Levi-Strauss, *The Savage Mind*
Edwin Hubble, *The Realm of the Nebulae*
Steven Weinberg, *The First Three Minutes*
Anita Gordon and David Suzuki, *It's a Matter of Survival*

The Human Condition

Herodotus, *Histories*
Alexis de Tocqueville, *The Old Regime
and the French Revolution*

Henry Adams, *The Education of Henry Adams*
Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*
Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

Global Classics

Confucius, *The Analects*
The Bhagavad-Gita
Homer, *The Iliad*
William Shakespeare, *Measure for Measure, Henry VI,
Coriolanus, The Tempest*

Jane Austen, *Emma*
Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Leo Tolstoy, "The Death of Ivan Ilyich"
Mark Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*
Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*
William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*
Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*
Selections from *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*

Social Thought

Adam Smith, *The Wealth of the Nations*
Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourses on the Origins and
Foundations of Inequality*
Karl Marx, *The German Ideology: Part I*
Simone Weil, *The Iliad: The Poem of Force*

Note: It would be interesting to put together a list of Nebraska "significant books." The six Nebraska authors featured at the first Nebraska Literature Festival would certainly be a start. What better place to learn more about them than in the recently published *Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors?*

-Dick Allen



1992 Membership Renewal and Membership Directory

It is time for your 1992 membership renewal. We hope that you will continue your affiliation with our growing coalition (now over 200 members strong) for the advocacy and support of literacy, reading, books, libraries, and writing in Nebraska.

Membership fees have not changes, \$15.00 per year for individual members, \$25.00 per year for organizations. If your or your organization became a member **after August 31, 1991** your membership has been paid through 1992. If you or your organization became a member before that time, please renew your membership as soon as possible.

Our Directory Committee (Shirley Maly, Chair) is planning to publish a directory of our individual members in the second number of our newsletter next year. The Committee will then publish a directory of our organizational members in the fourth number of our 1992 publication. In both directories the Committee will add interest codes so that we can get to know one another better and know more about our organizational members.

Here are the interest areas and corresponding codes that will be used:

Book Arts	BA	Nebraska History	NH
Book Collecting	CO	Popular Culture	PC
Book Discussions	DI	Preservation	PV
Book Illustration	IL	Print-Handicapped,	
Book Selling	SE	Special Needs	SP
Censorship, Right to Read	CN	Printing	PG
Children's Books	CH	Promotion of Reading	PR
Foreign Language	FL	Publishing	PB
Libraries	LB	Reading	RD
Literacy	LC	Storytelling	ST
Nebraska Authors and		Teaching	TG
Nebraska Literary Tradition	NE	Writing	WR

Sample (fictitious) entries:

Note that directory of individual members will not include telephone numbers; the directory of organizational members will include a telephone number, a contact person with title, and a brief description of the organization.

Individual:

John Smith, 1234 Reading Ave., Literacy, Ne 68000 CO, DI, LC, PC, RD

Organizational:

Nebraska Literary Foundation,

Nebraska State College, 1234 Writers Way, Bookville, NE 68000. Tel 308-123-4567. Contact: Jane Bookworm, President. NE, PB, WR. Publishes "The Nebraska Muse," holds an annual meeting in July. Supported in part by Nebraska State College. Promotes programs and research on published Nebraska women writers.

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

Send in your membership form or forms today!

Membership and Directory Information Form

Individual Membership

Renewal _____ New _____ New after 8/31/91 _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Code (s) from opposite page: _____

Telephone with Area Code (not for directory use): Home _____ Work _____

Check here if interested in committee assignment _____

Unless you have marked "New after 8/31/91", please enclose a check in the amount of \$15.00 made out to "Nebraska Center for the Book." Mail the completed form to the address below.

Organizational Membership

Renewal _____ New _____ New after 8/31/91 _____

Name of organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone with Area Code (for directory use): _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Title of Contact Person: _____

Code (s) from opposite page: _____

Additional information about organization (See sample on opposite page): _____

(Attach sheet if needed)

Unless you have marked "New after 8/31/91" please enclose a check in the amount of \$25.00 made out to "Nebraska Center for the Book." Mail the completed form to the address below.

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

RESOURCE GUIDE



TO SIX



NEBRASKA AUTHORS

"One of the best things to come out of the Nebraska Literature Festival was the **Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors....**"

-Herb Hyde
Lincoln Journal/Star

RESOURCE GUIDE TO SIX NEBRASKA AUTHORS. This 93-page book contains vital material about Bess Streeter Aldrich, Willa Cather, Loren Eisel, Wright Morris, John G. Neihardt and Mari Sandoz. For each of the six, there is a biographical sketch by a noted scholar, photographs, a bibliography, descriptions of the author's works, a list of research archives, a list of audiovisual materials, and lists of foundations, places to visit and annual events. There is a literary map of Nebraska and much other valuable information..

Copies may be obtained for \$5.95 each plus 39 cents sales tax and \$1.50 for shipping from the Lincoln City Libraries Foundation/Heritage Room Gift Shop at the Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 S. 14th St., Lincoln, NE 68508.

**HELP SUPPORT
THE 1992 NEBRASKA LITERATURE FESTIVAL
TO BE HELD IN KEARNEY!**

Proceeds from the sale of the *Resource Guide To Six Nebraska Authors* go toward on-going support of the Nebraska Literature Festival.

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

December

- Dec. 4 Omaha. Nebraska Book Arts Center Holiday Open House. Visit the center to share refreshments and shop for gifts. The Nebraska Book Arts Center is located in the lower level of the Library on the UNO campus. Enter near the book drops in the lot south of the building. Call 402-554-2773 for more information.
- Dec. 7 Willa Cather's 118th birthday
- Dec. 7 Red Cloud. Day-long Nebraska Public Radio broadcast featuring author and humorist Roger Welsch and Native American storyteller Matt Jones; evening live broadcast with Garrison Keillor and the *American Radio Company* from Red Cloud in honor of Willa Cather's birthday. (See article this issue.)
- Dec. 19 Lincoln. Joan Rossiter Burney, humorist, reading at 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.

January

- Jan. 13 Hastings. Joyce Ann Joyce, lecture/discussion, *Teaching African-American Literature to Euro-American Students* (8:00 p.m.). At the Hastings College campus. Contact Mark VanOverbeke (402-461-7327).
- Jan. 14 Lexington. Reading/discussion with Michael Westerfield from *A Sense of Place: The American Plains, Shingling the Fog and other Plains Lies*. At the Lexington Library, 7:30 p.m. Contact Donna Trueblood (308-324-6820).
- Jan. 16 Lincoln. Marcia Southwick, poet, reading at 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.
- Jan. 25-26 Omaha. Antiquarian Book Fair. Emphasis on Nebraska History, books by Nebraska authors and Children's books. 6,000 select hardcover and paperback books in all fields of interest. January 25, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and January 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Holiday Inn Central, 72nd and Grover Streets. Call 402-393-2906 for more information.
- Jan. 19 Bancroft. Sunday Afternoon at the Museum Program: "A Modern-Day Encounter with the Santa Fe Trail" by Les Vilda. John G. Neihardt Center, 2:00 p.m. For more information, call 402-648-3388.

February

- Feb. 11 Lexington. Reading/discussion with Marilyn Coffey from *A Sence of Place: The American Plains, Old Jules*. At the Lexington Library, 7:30 p.m. Contact Donna Trueblood (308-324-6820).
- Feb. 19 Bancroft. Sunday Afternoon at the Museum Program: "The Family Album" by Robert Manley. John G. Neihardt Center, 2:00 p.m. For more information, call 402-648-3388.
- Feb. 28 Lincoln. F.M. Tuttle speaking about books and book collecting. Center for Great Plains Studies Art Collection, Love Library, 7:30 p.m.. Co-sponsored by Friend of University Libraries-UNL and the Nebraska Center for the Book.

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.

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