

NCB Quarterly

Nebraska Center for the Book

Vol. 2

No. 3

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Malcolm X

Eiseley

Son of Solomon

Dorothy Canfield Fisher

IRONWEED

The Farmer's Daughter

Sandoz

THE COLOR PURPLE

All My Grandmothers Could Sing

My Brilliant Career

Don Welch

Phoebe

Willa Cather

A Lantern in Her Hand

Kees

Tillie Olsen



York College and Community Book Discussion Group

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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:

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David McCleery—*NCB Quarterly* Editor/Designer

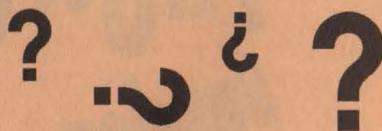
Publication Schedule

NCB Quarterly is published four times a year: March, May, September, and December

About the cover: Members of the 1991-1992 York College and Community Book Discussion Group (from left to right) *Front row:* Wilma Hoagland, Irene Friesen, Amelia Peterson, Violet Jackson, Ruth Nettleton. *Back row:* Charles Baucom, Woodrow Kirk, Michael Westerfield, Elmer Baker, John Straube. *Not pictured:* Mrs. John Dougherty, Marguerite Lofink, Bernice Mason, Muriel White.

1991 - 1992 was the twenty-fifth year for the Humanities Division of York College to sponsor the York College and Community Book Discussion Group.

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:

☛ full page	\$15.00
☛ half page	\$8.75
☛ quarter page	\$5.00

Deadline for our next issue is November 15th

NCB Quarterly INSIDE

As you peruse this issue (and in all upcoming issues) of the *NCB Quarterly* you will come across poems and short prose pieces.

When you see this:

*Nebraska
Writing and
Storytelling
Festival*

it's our way of letting you know that the fine work you're reading was written by a participant in the Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival (NWSF).

This last spring The NWSF became an official committee of the Nebraska Center for the Book. One of the goals of the Festival is to encourage people to find writing a significant "moment" in their lives. The NWSF tries hard to involve not only people who already write, but also encourages those who may be apprehensive or less experienced. The *NCB Quarterly* and the Nebraska Center for the Book are pleased to provide a forum for all writers to publicly share their writing. We hope you'll enjoy this new addition to our publication.

Participants of the 1992 NWSF are urged to send their work for possible publication in the NCB Quarterly to: David McCleery, Editor, 2746 Everett, Lincoln, NE 68502.

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UNK Nebraskan Student Union

DON'T MISS

THE SECOND

NEBRASKA

LITERATURE

FESTIVAL

September 25 - 26, 1992

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Co-sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book

Panels and Discussions include: "History and Social Science in Bess Streeter Aldrich", "The Art of Wright Morris", "Willa Cather: The Country and I Had It Out Together", "Mari Sandoz and Her Sense of Place", "J.G. Neihardt as Western Historian", "Plains Indian Tales", "The Creative Talent of Weldon Kees", "Speeches of Malcolm X as Literature", "Tillie Olsen's Radical Vision", "Loren Eiseley: His Message For Our Time", "Literature and the Paperless Book", "Louise Pound:

Nebraska Writer, Scholar, and Athlete".

Readings by: J.V. Brummels, Twyla Hansen, Bob McEwen, Betty Stevens, Mary Kathryn Stillwell, Barbara Schmitz, Roy Scheele, Le Martin, Mark Sanders, Steve Behrendt, Marilyn Coffey, Nancy Welch, Art Homer, Lorraine Duggin, Larry Holland.

Workshops on: Mystery Writing, Fiction Writing, and Publishing.

Videos on: Sandoz, Neihardt, Native Americans, Willa Cather, Wright Morris.

Art Exhibits: "The Magical Essence of Willa Cather's Childhood" and "Old Jules Country".

Special events feature: High School Literature Festival (Friday, September 25), Story Reading for families and children, Native American Tipi, "AVision for All" (Dramatic/Musical Performance), Bookfair and Author Book Signing, and lots more!



UNK Fine Arts Building

Friday, September 25: High School Literature Festival

8:45 a.m. - 3:10 p.m. UNK Nebraskan Student Union

Friday Evening, September 25: Nebraska Literature Festival Opening

Friday Evening Events \$12.50* (\$15.00 at door)

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Museum of Nebraska Art Featuring Hilda and Robin Neihardt

8:00 p.m. UNK Fine Arts Recital Hall, Drama "Honor Song for Crazy Horse"

Saturday, September 26: Nebraska Literature Festival

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. UNK Nebraskan Student Union Panels, Slide Talks, Poetry and Fiction Readings, Workshops, Videos, Bookfair, Native American Tipi

\$3.00 registration, children free (For complete information contact: Susanne George, University of Nebraska at Kearney, 308-234-8294)

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. UNK Fine Arts Walker Gallery Art Display and Reception

4:15 p.m. & 6:15 p.m. UNK Fine Arts Recital Hall "A Vision for All" Musical/Narrative

Performance based on Neihardt's "Death of Crazy Horse"

\$4.00* (Advance registration advised)

*Pre-register for Opening and Closing events by sending appropriate amount to

Nebraska Literature Festival, Heritage Room, Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 South 14th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Major funding and support for the Second Nebraska Literature Festival provided by: University of Nebraska at Kearney, Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Arts Council, and the University of Nebraska Foundation at Kearney



Vice President's Corner

— Elaine Booth

I am an enthusiastic fan of the Great Books Program, so I was sorry when Barbara Leffler vacated her seat on the NCB Board. Her lively sessions based on Cather's *Oh Pioneers!* and John Casey's *Spartina* reminded me of the effectiveness of this discussion format as I have experienced it in a variety of settings and with a cross-section of participant and literature types. I am increasingly struck by its value as a microcosmic context in which to reinforce important learning and thinking skills.

Let's take task commitment for example. One of the rules of Great Books is that all participants in the discussion must have read the literature. Of course, with a group of professional adults, Barbara had her work cut out for her attempting to be diplomatic, yet firm on this issue. There are always those who would rather talk than read and feel they can generalize any question to fit their experience. A bonafide Great Books forum precludes this practice, though as each response is meant to be supported by anecdotal or annotated reference to the literature. As a result, after having to bite my tongue (impossible, you say) through one great discussion, I have never since failed to give the designated work a thorough reading. Failure to do so carries a punishment not unlike being admitted to Worlds of Fun, yet banned from every attraction.

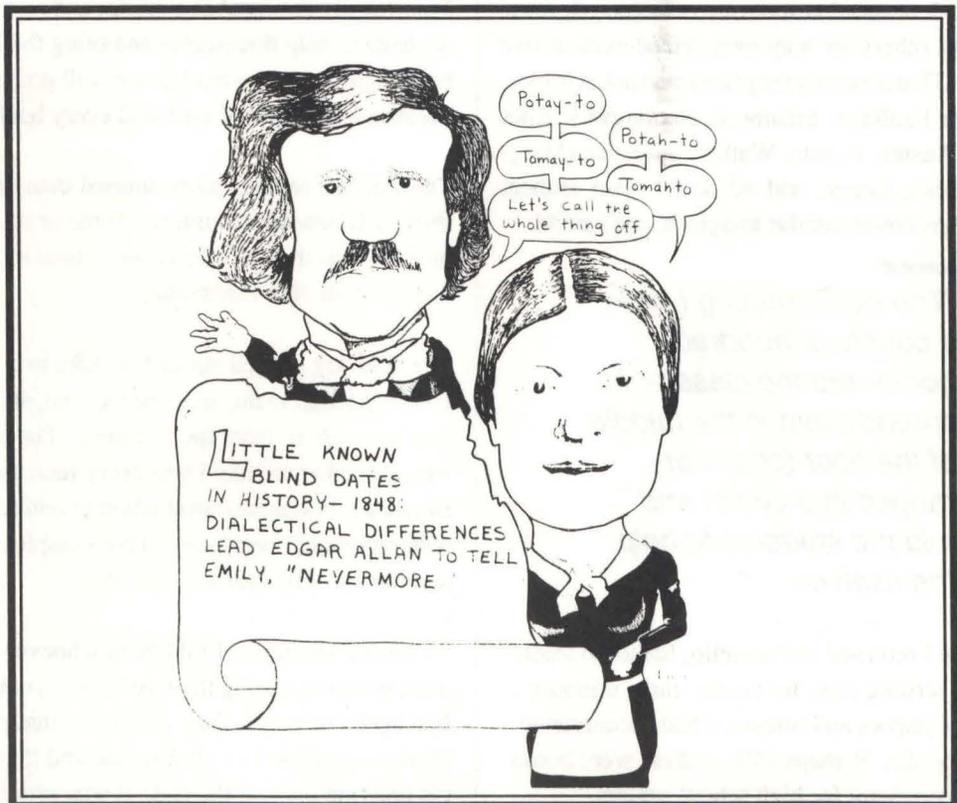
Another set of valuable traits practiced in Great Books discussion is listening skills. Members of the group are encouraged to "feed-back" and "piggy-back" on the responses of others and a great deal of substance is based on follow-up or derivative

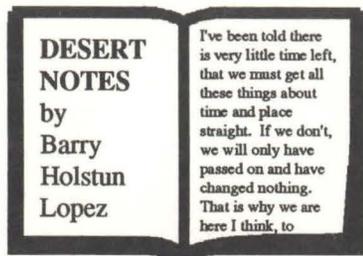
questioning. Perhaps the most memorable Great Books moments are spent in exchanges stemming from a single query. In our Lincoln discussion of *Spartina*, for example, the variety of positions stated relative to Elsie's personal motivations could have kindled and rekindled hours of controversy. I remember wishing John Casey had been there when, upon meeting him later, I discovered he considered this wonderful character "a bad girl". Believe me, I was listening and I took the author himself on (Great Books-style) over that one.

High on the educator's hierarchy of survival strategies for students planning to tackle this complex society are critical thinking skills. Two of these (responsibility for learning and listening) are aforementioned here, but the most evasive, from my point of view, are recognition of complexity and articulated support for opinion. Every Great Books discussion is based on the inherent principle of "shared inquiry". Some leaders are more adept than others in modelling this, but Barbara Leffler is nothing short of expert. She never implies (and won't allow it to be assumed) that she has the answer to any question she poses for exchange. Group members are asked to contribute opinions based on the literature itself and to counter-question or challenge responses most effectively armed with textual evidence. A good leader gently discourages tangents borne of personal experience at the expense of literature-related discourse. My fellow discussants of *Spartina* were so effective in this "purposeful persuasion" that they almost changed my mind about Elsie. Almost.

Obviously, teacher-types like me are bound to find some characteristics of the great Great Books leader difficult to master. Nevertheless, I have been refreshed by Barbara's example and freshly convinced that the invaluable skills I can model and practice with students using the Great Books Program are worth the readjustment. After all, how can we illustrate in a single sitting that reading, listening, thinking and speaking can be so much fun?

The cartoon is from NCB member Jay Garrison of Eagle, Nebraska. Besides being a talented cartoonist, Jay was a member of this year's Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival committee. Jay also conducts the writer's workshop in Palmyra, Nebraska.





The Case for Used Books in the Classroom: To Give and Receive

— Amil Quayle

Walk into about any thrift store these days and you'll find a couple of dozen paperback classics among the hundreds of other books and would-be books that people have donated to their favorite charity.

Usually the prices are the same for all paper cover books, which means that some are outrageously inexpensive and others are way over priced even at five cents each. That is exactly the price I paid in LaGrande, Oregon, for Faulkner, Steinbeck, Hemingway, Eliot (George), Austen, Bronte, Walker, Laurence (Margaret), Dickens, Lopez, and 40 or 50 other authors whose names create similar images in one's mind.

"The next morning I took a couple of hundred books into the classroom, spread them in the middle of the floor (chairs arranged in a circle) and told the students to help themselves. . ."

By the time I returned to Pocatello, Idaho, to teach an English writing class for twenty-three minority high school juniors and seniors, I had accumulated some 400 books. Perhaps 75% of these were books I would recommend for high school seniors.

However, the thought never occurred to me before I found out during the first week of the five-week session that the University was not allowing the minority students to check out books.

The next morning I took a couple of hundred books into the classroom, spread them in the middle of the floor (chairs arranged in a circle) and told the students to help themselves and bring the books back after they were read (I was still possessive because I was fond of each and every book).

The students seemed more amused than excited about this new development. Three or four picked up a book as they left the room. Three of four looked at me like I was crazy.

The next day I asked students to take two books, thumb through them, and write a synopsis of what they were about from the scanning. The number who looked at me like I was crazy increased. Because this was an introduction to college class with no grades, everyone did not complete the assignment. But half the class did.

As further incentive, I told them whoever wrote the most synopses during the five weeks would get five free books to keep. They didn't like that plan. Maria suggested they all do some and that they each get one free book at the end. It was certainly more



democratic than my idea. We voted and that was that. Students perused the books with more interest and I hit the two thrift stores in Pocatello, bringing more in. Betty requested *To Kill a Mockingbird* specifically. I searched but couldn't find it.

By the end of the five weeks I could tell that some students had special attachments to certain books. Crystal American Horse had discovered Dee Brown for the first time. And I wanted her to have *Ceremony* by Leslie Silko. She had written every day so I came up with a plan to reward five students who had worked beyond the expectations of the class. Everyone got one book for the synopsis writing and five students got to choose six books each for special categories (i.e. hard work). Fifty-three books left the room that day, and it's a funny thing. Of all the books in my possession, those are the fifty-three that I feel I really own. I'm still looking for a paperback copy of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, so I can send it to Betty and own it as well. All the other books are just standing there on the shelves and in boxes. Nobody owns them yet.

Amil is a poet and former Nebraska cattle rancher and UNL instructor. He will begin teaching this fall at Utah State University and his first book, Pebble Creek, is being published this winter.

"I'm not one of those tongue clucking grammarians who leap on split infinitives and misplaced modifiers like a mongoose on a cobra. I'm not even much of a reader. I skim magazines, stopping every now and then at some scornworthy nugget. I'll force a few pages of Joan Didion into my brain before I get fed up and throw the book across the room. I've leafed through the *New York Review of Books* from time to time to see what new twelve volume biography of Vita Sackville West as been unleashed on a panting reading public. I used to think bleeding heart mourners of literacy were beneath my contempt, and believe me my contempt will stoop to anything. Those who complain nobody reads anymore usually mean no body reads me, boo, hoo. And what's there to read anyway? One more self conscious novel about a novelist trying to write a novel? One more *New Yorker* short story about a brooding divorcee on a New England beach? A novelization? Any jerk who reads a paperback version of a movie deserves professional help, not our pity. . . I gotta' go."

— Ian Shoales
(Merle Kessler)



Off the Press

Recent Books by
or of Interest to Nebraskans

Elemental Odes

poems by Don Welch

Women and Aging: Celebrating Ourselves

by Ruth Raymond Thone

Where the Buffalo Roam: The Storm over the Revolutionary Plan to Restore America's Great Plains

by Anne Mathews

Sometimes So Easy

poems by Susan Strayer Deal

Right Brain Vacation Photos: New Plays and Produc- tion Photographs from the Omaha Magic Theatre, 1972 - 1992

*edited by Jo Ann Schmidman,
Sora Kimberlain and Megan Terry*

How to Live in the Heartland

poems by Twyla Hansen

Maps Tell Nebraska's History

by Elinor L. Brown

Feelings of War

poems by Rosemary Mueller

Myths and Chicken Feet: A Polio Survivor Looks at Survival

by Nancy Baldwin Carter

The Omaha Tribe

*by Alice C. Fletcher and
Francis La Flesche*

A Year in Saigon: How I Gave Up My Glitzy Job in Television to Have the Time of My Life Teaching Amerasian Kids of Vietnam

by Katie Kelly

*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.*

Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors: Volume 2



*Dorothy Canfield Fisher
Weldon Kees
Malcolm X
Tillie Olsen
Louise Pound
Sophus Keith Winther*

Everyone who enjoyed the first *Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors* will want to pick up a copy of the *Resource Guide to Six Nebraska Authors: Volume 2* at this year's Nebraska Literature Festival.

Volume 2 focuses on writers Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Weldon Kees, Malcolm X, Tillie Olsen, Louise Pound, and Sophus Keith Winther. Essays and bibliographies were written and compiled by scholars Mark Madigan, Steve Shively, George Garrison, Linda Ray Pratt, Evelyn Haller, and David Raabe.

The guide was edited by David McCleery and was made possible by a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council. Sales of the both volumes go toward on-going support of the Nebraska Literature Festival.

"The multitude of books is making us ignorant."

— Voltaire



How to Live in the Heartland

poems by Twyla Hansen

foreword by Nebraska's State Poet

William Kloefkorn

Cover art by Lincoln artist

Ben Darling

"(Hansen's) truths are in those taproots without which poetry would surely expire for lack of nourishment. They remind me of what an Indiana poet, John Woods, says of roots: "I like a poem which has one foot firmly planted on the earth, one foot so heavily put down that it doesn't matter where the other foot has wings for."

The poems in this collection begin frequently with bur oak and end frequently with something nebulous beyond the reach of the most distant limb."

— *from the foreword by William Kloefkorn*

64 pages ISBN No. 0-9633535-0-0

Available from:

Flatwater Editions
825 M St., Suite 101
Lincoln, NE 68508

HOW TO LIVE IN THE HEARTLAND

Learn the sharp reality of this place,
become familiar with its borderless edges.

Run eye along the gaping horizon
stretch the mind now corraled by sky.

Feel the flow from earth to green,
from plant to cloud, seed to senescence.

Hear the wind in all its symphonies,
tuned precisely to its flattened keys.

Play along with the weather, foul
or fair; laugh at its lack of humor.

Comb the hills with a giant combine,
believe in a basket to feed the world.

In October, die with the first killing frost,
surrender it all to the fiery cold earth.

And when the timing seems just right,
rise up; give it tomorrow another go.

— *Twyla Hansen*

© 1992 Twyla Hansen

NCB Seeks Calendar Listings

Your organization is invited to submit items for the NCB 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. Deadline for our next issue is November 15. Send to:

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

NEWLY FORMED WRITERS GROUP OPEN TO ALL

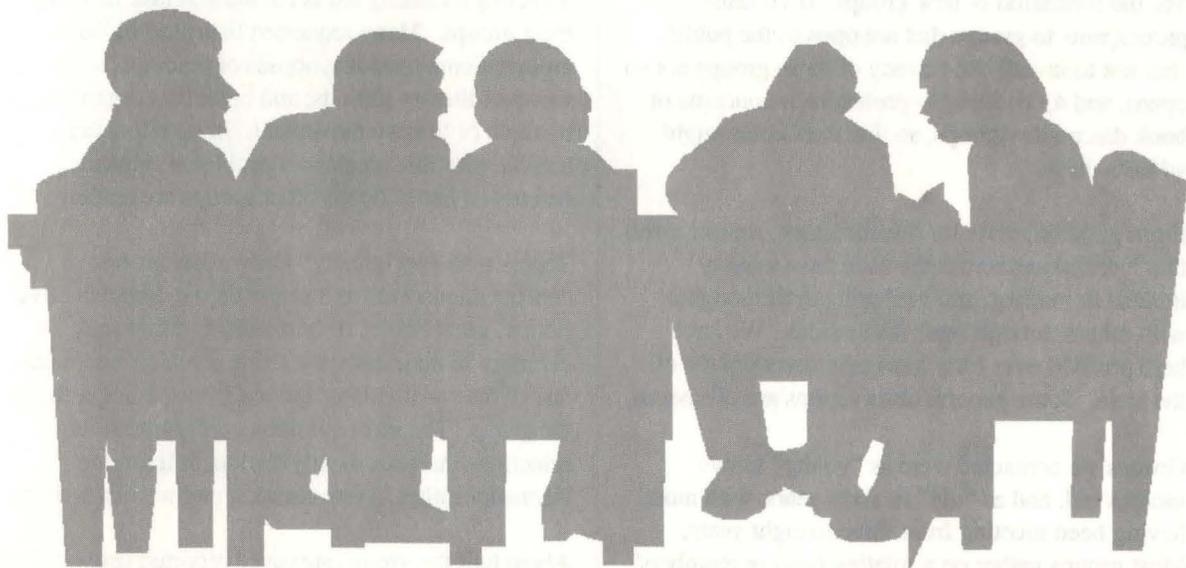
Wahoo Writers' Group meets the first Monday of EVERY month at 7:30 PM, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church basement. OPEN TO ALL WRITERS, published and unpublished from ANY Nebraska town! Informal gathering to give support to each other, share info., critique each others work, readings, guest speakers, etc. No club dues.

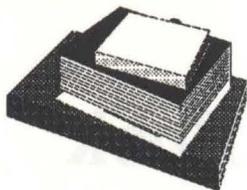
Contact: Pat Pettey, 1214 N. Birch St., Wahoo, NE 68066 or call (402) 443-5347 if you need more information or have any questions.

Church Location: 1245 N. Locust in Wahoo

Nebraska Center for the Book
1992 Directory of
Book Discussion
Groups in Nebraska

Compiled by Barbara Leffler





Introduction

The Nebraska Center for the Book has as one of its missions, "to act as a catalyst in bringing together Nebraska's community of the book". The Center identified book discussion groups as a constituency that it might serve in this effort. For purposes of this Directory, a "book discussion group" is one premised on the expectation that all participants will have read the same work for the discussion. Thus, we do not include book review groups, in which a book is presented to members, but which all have not necessarily read at the time of the meeting.

The Center commissioned publication of this directory with four specific goals: 1) To identify Nebraska as a community of readers, 2) To encourage the formation of new groups, 3) To refer participants to groups that are open to the public (but not to invade the privacy of those groups not so open), and 4) To identify problems or concerns of book discussion groups, so that the Center might address these.

From gathering data for this directory, we can assert that Nebraskans across the state have a lively interest in reading, and in sharing their thoughts with others through book discussions. We have here profiled over forty groups in several parts of the state. Some general observations are of interest.

Groups we contacted were as "young" as two months old, and as "old" as sixty years, with most having been meeting from three to eight years. Most groups gather on a rotating basis in members' homes, though some convene at coffeehouses,

restaurants, parks, and libraries. Most meet monthly, with a few assembling twice a month. The children's groups meet weekly. Few muster during the summer. Few are open to the public. We have specifically noted those that are both in the text hereafter and in the appendix.

Readings are selected in a variety of ways. Most groups have members present favorites, and then vote on those the group will discuss. Some appoint a committee or a person, (usually the leader), to devise a list. A few read off a list from an organization, like the Detective Fiction group, or use anthologies, like the children's and adult's Great Books groups.

Selecting a reading list is the hardest task faced by most groups. Many requested lists used by other groups. Some sought synopses of readings, overviews of literary periods, and book lists organized by topic or literary movement. In an effort to be helpful with this greatest of problems, appended hereto is a list of books other groups are reading.

Topics read vary greatly. Only a few groups confine themselves to a single theme, like detective fiction, great books, or best sellers. Most seek diversity in their discussion diet, even citing this as one of the satisfactions derived from participating in the group. The most common configuration of selections includes mostly fiction, at least one Nebraska author, a few classics, and women writers.

About half the groups surveyed reported using a leader. Sometimes this is always the same person,

Listing of Book Discussion Groups

but often leadership rotates among members. The hostess may lead, or the person who suggested the book may assume that duty. Leading involves stimulating the discussion, and, in many cases, preparing some background on the author, setting, or time period. Several groups noted that they have trouble keeping the discussion lively, or staying on track. Our publication, *Forming and Sustaining Book Discussion Groups*. (see page xi) addresses some of the problems noted.

The groups have from three to twenty-five members, with most averaging eight to twelve participants. Almost all are college educated. Almost all are female! Most participants are in their mid-thirties or older.

Satisfying aspects of participating in book discussion groups are legion, and fairly universal, according to members. These include reading diverse literature, tackling works one otherwise would not read, learning from others' ideas, socializing, developing an intimate group of friends, consciousness-raising, and an impetus for social action.

We extend our thanks to all of you who took the time to respond to our survey. We hope this Directory will be both interesting and helpful to you.

— Barbara Leffler

Barbara is a former NCB board member, and is currently a Great Books discussion leader.

Columbus Area

Columbus Library Book Club

This group, founded in 1980, meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Library on the last Thursday of each month. Meetings are open to the public, without cost. The group selects its readings over a broad range, including Nebraska authors, classics, plays, and contemporary writings. It has made an effort to try new areas, apart from Euro-centric patterns.

Members volunteer to lead discussion. About half of the group's sixteen members attend any single discussion. For more information, contact Richard Toof, 402-564-0146.

Topaz Book Club

The Topaz Book Club has been meeting for twenty years on the first Wednesday morning of the month during the school year. Its eighteen members join by invitation. Most members have at least some college education, are older than forty, and all are female. Members rotate the duties of leading the discussion and preparing background information on the author. The group appoints a selection committee to recommend the year's readings, which are voted on by members. Last year, the group chose several Nebraska authors, as well as others, to read.

Hastings Area

The Book Club

The Book Club has been reading a variety of literature since it began meeting in 1978 on the last Monday



of each month, in private homes. The leader volunteers. She prepares background information, as well as leading discussion for the dozen participants. Besides the usual means for social interaction and personal growth, the Book Club also serves as a support group for its members.

All members are women in their late thirties to mid-forties. All have at least one higher education degree, though this is not a prerequisite to membership. The group assesses a \$5 charity donation. Members must also purchase the books (which must be in paperback), unless they can procure the readings some other way. Selections are chosen by the membership.

Finches of the Grove

Named from Dickens's *Great Expectations*, Finches has been meeting for ten years—two evenings a month during winter and one morning each week for the summer. These ten college-educated women over fifty agree upon a diet of classical readings, often related in theme. For instance, last summer, Finches read chronologically from Norton's *Anthology of Short Fiction*. Usually, a former English teacher leads the group, though others also lead from time to time. Participants sometimes buy the work the group discusses, but otherwise meetings involve no cost.

Kearney Area

The Monday Book Club

This club designs each meeting around one theme, with two or three books suggested for reading and discussion. For example, last year the group covered Black studies at one meeting, and Jane Austen at another. About twenty-two women attend the monthly meetings in members' homes. Most members are retired, with college or graduate education. The group has been active for over fifteen years. It charges a nominal yearly fee for honoraria to speakers, or support for the public library or literacy programs.

Lincoln Area

The Book Club

This club formed in 1984 from two local "Moms" groups. It consists of a dozen professional women, aged thirty-five to forty-five, intent on getting to know one another over a long term, in a close way. The group meets in members' homes, one evening a month through the school year. It is basically leaderless. Selections for the coming year are chosen in May, when each member brings her favorite and recommended books. These are examined, discussed, and then voted upon.

The Book Club involves no fee. Admission is by invitation only.

Book Discussion Group

This group of eight has been meeting since January, 1991, at a local coffeehouse, once a month on Saturday afternoons. Most of its members belong to one church. (At first, the group advertised itself in the church newsletter). All members are college-educated women, from thirty to over fifty years old. Members enjoy reading and discussing books with fellow enthusiasts, delighting in discovering interesting works that might have remained unknown to them absent involvement in the group.

The Book Discussion Group operates without a leader. It selects readings by consensus—members suggest books or authors they have enjoyed or have intended to read. There is no fee involved in belonging, other than the cost of refreshments purchased at the coffeehouse. Membership is not open to the public.

Britain and Books

This group of ten well-educated women, ranging in age from thirty to fifty, has been meeting once every other month for the past three years to discuss a work of British literature. The group strives to enhance friendships among participants, as well as to promote the ambience of getting away to a quieter time and

place when people had the leisure to enjoy literary pursuits. British customs and life-styles are emphasized. Members take turns hosting the group in their homes.

Circle IV — First Plymouth Church

Circle IV, in existence since around 1980, is open to the public. It meets the third Tuesday of every month at The Gathering Place, 1448 'E' Street, at 11:30 a.m. Members purchase lunch there, or bring a brown bag. This is the only cost involved.

The group reads mostly fiction, including classics, Nebraska authors, and seasonal works in October and December. One person, (always the same), acts as the leader. She selects the readings, based on the group's suggestions, and availability of materials. She also prepares some background material for each meeting.

About twenty-five people identify themselves with Circle IV, and approximately half of them attend any discussion. Ages range from late thirties to over eighty; most are in their late fifties or early sixties, with college background. Some have no college, and at least one has a Ph.D.. All are female.

The group relishes exploring questions of substance, and cherishes its camaraderie. About once a year, it follows up a reading by viewing a video of the same work.

First Plymouth Church Circle 5

Circle 5 is open to the public. It has been meeting since 1988 on the third Tuesday of each month at First Plymouth Church, 20th and 'D' Streets, in the Library. During the summer, it meets at one member's home.

Readings include primarily novels, but also non-fiction, plays, and short stories. Works are chosen by word-of-mouth. If appropriate, members may relate the book to their spiritual lives during discussion.

The same person has led this group of six since its founding. Members range from twenty-five years old to fifty-five. At present, all are female with at least a college education, though there are no requirements to

join. The group advertises through the church newsletter. Members most enjoy sharing their growth experiences with others.

Joy Luck Club

The Joy Luck Club has been meeting for three years, monthly, at the library. Meetings are not open to the public. Members suggest the readings, which include mostly women authors. The group uses no leader. Nearly all of the half dozen members attend each meeting. The members are women from forty to seventy years old, with college educations. The group seeks social interaction, an opportunity to discuss books, and a means of learning about new books.

Junior League of Lincoln Sustainers Book Club

This group was founded in May, 1986. Its twenty members, three quarters of whom attend any meeting, gather monthly during the school year. Meetings occur in members' homes. All members belong to the Junior League Sustainers organization.

Readings are selected by a three-member volunteer committee, which considers suggestions from members. Works include classic and contemporary fiction and non-fiction, with at least one book by a Nebraska author discussed each year. The same committee assigns a different leader for each selection. The group imposes no fee, other than the expense to the hostess of light refreshments.

Club members are all women, in their forties and early fifties. They have college educations, and some have pursued post-graduate study. Many are career women, while others are homemakers. All are active community volunteers.

Junior League Sustainers Book Club (Night)

This group of sixteen women in their forties and fifties has been meeting every other month, September to May, for about a year. The variety of readings was selected by a committee of members who attended the organizational meeting. No fee is involved, and the group is not open to the public. Members enjoy



socializing, and reading books they might not have read otherwise.

Junior League Sustainer Day Book Club II

The Day Book Club II has been meeting monthly for about a year, September to May. It stresses in-depth preparation on the part of the leader for each work. She brings relevant videos, audiotapes, and book reviews. This depth and variety of preparation affords members their greatest satisfaction. Members select works with an emphasis on variety, including at least one Nebraska author each year.

About fifteen of the nineteen members attend any session. Members belong to the Junior League, and are college-educated women over forty. Meetings rotate among members' homes. One year a member is a hostess, and the next, a reviewer.

Lancaster County Medical Auxiliary Book Club

This group of twelve, extant for the past ten years, meets at members' homes monthly through the school year. Members choose their readings by voting on books suggested, including works of fiction, biography, and autobiography. The leader provides background information, as well as guides the discussion. There is no cost to participate, though each participant must be a member of the Lancaster County Medical Auxiliary. Members range in age from about 35 to 65; most are women with college degrees.

Law Wives' Book Club (Morning Group)

The Law Wives' Book Club has been meeting monthly, September through May, (excluding December) for many years. Meetings occur in members' homes. No fee is involved, except that each participant must belong to the parent group, Law Wives. The group reads a great diversity of works, spanning fiction, biography, Nebraska authors, mysteries, self-help literature, non-fiction, history, and classics. Titles are compiled in the spring from suggestions made throughout the year, and then voted on by the group, to be read starting the following fall.

Leadership rotates among the twenty members, and consists of reviewing the book. All members then discuss the book. Members' ages range from about 45 to 75 years old, average age around 60; all are female, and most are college-educated.

Law Wives' Book Club (Afternoon Group)

The Law Wives' Book Club Afternoon Group shares many of the features of its sister morning group. It has about ten members, who rotate leadership, generally based on who has recommended the month's reading. Works are chosen by consensus from month to month. Discussion proceeds in an informal fashion, usually including some background information. Members are 35 to 55 years old, averaging about 48; all are women with at least college degrees.

Lincoln Public Schools "Bookers"

Bookers has been meeting once a month in members' homes for about eight years. The fourteen members are all LPS teachers, in their forties. Readings are selected by members' personal recommendations, and tend to be fiction, with an emphasis on women authors and Nebraska authors. The group has no leader and no fee. It is not open to the public. Members most enjoy socializing, and reading books they might not otherwise have read.

Postheterosexual Book Discussion Group

This new group is open to the public, and welcomes new members. It meets monthly at The Gathering Place, 1448 'E' Street. At present, all of the half dozen members are women, but men are welcome. Members rotate leading the discussion and preparing background information. Readings are selected by two or three members, who then publicize the upcoming discussion in the *Women's Journal Advocate*, and with flyers.

The group focuses on alternative books that look at new paradigm ideas or new views of social responsibility, especially ideas that go beyond dualistic, hierarchical, heterosexist ideas. The group's goals for

discussion include social change, broadening members' own perspectives, and doing consciousness-raising with each other.

An Unnamed Group

This group of eight professional women has been meeting over three years, gathering monthly in each others' homes on a Thursday evening. The month's hostess acts as leader for the discussion, also preparing any background information. The variety of readings are selected from personal recommendations or from other book club reading lists. Members purchase the books, but otherwise, no cost is involved.

Welcome Wagon Book Club

This group has been meeting once a month in members' homes for about five years. It involves no cost, but requires that participants be female, and members of Welcome Wagon. The leader is selected by Welcome Wagon's nominating committee. Her duties include helping to lead the discussion, publicizing and scheduling meetings, preparing a membership list, and attending the parent group's Board meetings. About thirty people belong to the group, with an average of 18 attending each discussion. Members are 30 to 70 years old, averaging about 43 years old. Most are college-educated. One explicit purpose of the group is to make new friends.

Readings are quite varied, and are selected by the group.

Great Books Reading and Discussion Group, sponsored by Lincoln City Libraries

This group is free and open to the public. It meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month (first and third Thursday in November), excluding December, through the school year. Meetings occur at the Gere Library, 56th and Normal Blvd., from 6:45-8:45 p.m. The group, which has been meeting for six years, uses readings prepared by the non-profit Great Books Foundation in Chicago. Some of the works read are complete, while others are excerpts, chosen to enable

a thorough discussion in a two hour period. All works considered represent seminal thought in western literature. The leader is a volunteer, trained by the Great Books Foundation.

While there is no cost, and most readings are readily available, participants are encouraged to purchase their own set of the books (\$16-\$20), so that all have the same excerpt, page number for citation, and translation.

The group has about 18 members, of whom around 12 attend any discussion. Ages range from 35 to 70, and about a third of the group are men.

Lincoln Area Children's Book Discussion Groups

Junior Great Books, Morley School

About sixty-five students in grades two through six participate each semester in PTA-sponsored, extra-curricular Junior Great Books. Leaders are adult volunteers trained by the non-profit, Chicago based, Great Books Foundation. Readings, which are grade and semester specific, are prepared and sold by the Foundation in one or two paperback volumes. These consist of complete stories, folk and fairy tales, and some excerpts of larger works. All present questions of interpretation that sustain at least a forty-five minute discussion. Cost for the eight weekly sessions is \$13, which includes the books. Scholarships are available based on need.

This program, open to Morley students, is in its second year. It attracts about equal numbers of boys and girls. Students from other schools could be considered for participation, based on space availability. All meetings occur at Morley, about 70th and Sumner, after school.

Reading Together, sponsored by Lincoln City Libraries

In its fifth year, Reading Together is an eight week summer program for 9-12 year olds, each with a reading partner (usually, but not always an adult). It



is open to the public. Eight groups of 10 to 30 participants meet in seven libraries at various times during the summer. Leaders are adult volunteers. There are no fees involved, though pre-registration is required. The library provides the books for check-out.

Books are chosen by the Library's Coordinator for Young People's Services. She bases her selections on professional reviews, lists of Best Books for the age group, other professionals' recommendations, and her own reading. The books are usually by award-winning authors, and must have sufficient depth to sustain the hour-long discussion.

Adult partners are usually parents. In the past, more girls have participated than boys, though this year the number of boys and girls is roughly equal.

Newman Grove Area

Newman Grove Book Discussion

Reading works of history, inspiration, and Nebraska authors, this group has been meeting since 1980. It is open to the public, involves no cost, and gathers in the library at 1:15 on the fourth Tuesday of each non-summer month. The September meeting is an out-of-town trip.

About eight women over fifty comprise the group. Members suggest the readings. Participants most enjoy considering others' viewpoints on each selection.

Norfolk Area

AAUW Book Group

The AAUW group meets monthly in members' homes, with summer meetings in the park. About eight people participate. Members select the readings, which are quite diverse, including contemporary fiction as well as classics. Each member volunteers to lead the group for one meeting a year. Members range in age from their thirties to their sixties, and most are professionals. The group is free, except for the cost of any

books one wishes to purchase, and new members are welcome. Those interested should contact Donna Goossen, 308-371-5268.

Ida Nicola Book Club

The Ida Nicola Book Club has been meeting for sixty years. It convenes on the second Tuesday of each month in a member's home. The group is not open to the public; membership is gained by personal recommendation from present members. All members are women with college backgrounds, their average age being fifty. About twenty of the group's twenty-five members attend each meeting to discuss a novel or an autobiography. The leader for each meeting selects the book she wishes to lead.

The group elects a leader for the year who is responsible for certain administrative tasks. Dues are \$2.00, and cover the group's yearbook. Members also contribute for a book donated to the library occasionally.

Norfolk Area Book Discussion Group

This group, founded in 1979, meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Library Meeting Room on the last Wednesday of each month (third Wednesday in November and December). Meetings are open to the public.

Readings vary widely, and include fiction, nonfiction, poetry, plays, classics, mysteries, biographies, autobiographies, histories, and Nebraska authors. Members select the readings, and take turns leading the group. About a dozen of the group's fifteen members attend any particular meeting. Most (but not all) members are women, either retired professionals, or in their thirties, with some college education. There is no cost to belong to the group. Usually, the librarian helps the leader acquire the books. For information, contact the reference librarian at the Library.

Omaha Area

AAUW Morning Book Discussion

In 1965, this group started meeting. At present, it

meets monthly at the Swanson Library, on the fourth Tuesday. Members must be AAUW members (and there are dues to AAUW). Twenty-three women belong to the group, ranging in age from 25 to 80 years old. Meetings are publicized in *The World Herald*.

The group visits a bookstore in September to look at paperback selections, deciding on the year's reading list then. Members rotate leading the discussion, each choosing to lead a work of particular personal interest.

ABC

The Alternative Book Club has been meeting for six years, on the second Wednesday at 7:30, in members' homes. The twelve women members relish the long term relationship with a small group, in a context outside of which they seldom see one another. The month's hostess selects the reading for that evening, and leadership rotates among members.

At present, this group would like to focus on two or three books with a related theme, so that one discussion could build upon another. The group is emphasizing classics, with more background information, rather than current literature, which many members would read without the incentive of the group discussion.

Bookends

Bookends has been meeting in members' homes once a month on Thursday evenings for three years. About nine women attend, to discuss one of a variety of selections chosen by group vote. The leader, who first suggested that the book be read, presents a biography of the author, and any available review material. Bookends involves no fee. Membership is by invitation only. Members most enjoy the free discussion, and the variety of the selections read.

Constant Comment Book Club

The Constant Comment Book Club began meeting in 1988. It convenes the first Wednesday of each month, either at the Village Bookstore, or in a member's home. Twenty-five people affiliate with the group, with about fifteen attending any one meeting. Read-

ings are selected on a yearly basis, and the task of leading the discussion rotates among members. The group involves no cost. It is not open to the public.

Detective Fiction —

American Association of University Women

This group focuses on detective fiction. It uses the AMA Iowa detective genre fiction list as a base in choosing readings. The person leading discussion chooses the particular book. The group follows up on its discussions by listening to audio-tape lectures, meeting authors at book signings, and several members attend the Detective Fiction Convention.

Twenty-two members of diverse ages compose the group. All are (and must be) members of AAUW, which involves payment of dues, but this is the only cost. Monthly meetings have been occurring for three years on the third Tuesday, in the Abrahams' Library Conference Room, 9111 Fort Street, from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Great Books Discussion Group

This group has been meeting for over thirty years, led by the same person. Its present venue is at Swanson Library, 90th and Dodge Streets. The group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from September through May, 6:30-8:30 p.m. New members are always welcome, and there are no costs involved other than purchasing the books (approximately \$20). Those interested should contact Sylvia Cohn, 553-7419.

The group generally uses the readings provided by the Great Books Foundation. This year it is covering Series 3 of those readings. On occasion, the group amends the Great Books list, substituting other selections.

About sixteen members belong to the group, with around ten attending any session. Age of participants range from approximately thirty to seventy-five years, with a rough average age of sixty. Slightly more women than men participate.



Just Desserts

For twelve years, Just Desserts has been meeting monthly in members' homes. There are twelve members, for twelve months. Meetings are not open, and new members join by invitation of current members. All members are women in their mid-thirties to early forties, with college education.

At each meeting, the next month's book is selected by presentation. Each member must present as many as six books a year so the membership can choose among these presentations for its readings. The member presenting the winning book, leads its discussion and prepares background information on it. No fees are involved.

New Neighbors Book Club

Anyone who belongs to New Neighbors League may join this monthly book discussion group, which has been meeting for thirty-five years. About sixteen people attend any meeting. The group covers a variety of reading, voting on selections based on recommendations. Members are all female, ranging in age from young adults to older people, and most are college graduates. Occasionally the group entertains a visitor who can make relevant observations on a particular reading.

Norma Hansen Book Group

For twelve years, this group has met monthly in members' homes to discuss a mix of literature, with fiction dominating the fare. Leadership rotates among the members. The leader chooses the book, hosts the meeting, and leads discussion. Members are all women in their thirties and forties. The only costs involved are buying the books and providing treats when hosting. Participants number among the joys of their group: reading what they might not have broached otherwise, and sharing the support and friendship of other members.

The Sunday Night Bookclub

The Sunday Night Bookclub has been meeting in members' homes for the past two years. All ten members are women, mostly between the ages of thirty-five and fifty-five, with college educations. Some have advanced degrees.

Participants select readings by member concurrence. In fact, one of the groups great pleasures is receiving recommendations for discussion from others who are voracious readers. The group uses its leader to prepare background information on the work under discussion. No cost is involved, other than the books' purchase.

Third Thursday Book Club

Third Thursday Book Club reads "anything", but mostly best sellers. About twelve of the twenty-five members, (women aged thirty-five to fifty), attend any meeting. Meetings occur monthly in members' homes. The group, extant for three years, chooses readings by discussion and agreement, with one member usually volunteering to lead a given selection. The group charges a yearly nominal fee for mailing reminders and book lists.

The Tuesday Literary Guild that Meets on Monday but Formerly Met on Thursday

This group of about a dozen middle-aged professional women has been meeting monthly in each others' homes for twenty-five years. The group has no fee and no leader, selecting readings by popular vote. Members enjoy seeing an idea from a different point of view, brought out by the discussion.

UNO Faculty Women's Club Book Group

This group of a dozen, comprised of faculty wives and women faculty members over forty, meets monthly in members' homes. In its four-year existence, it has considered works by Nebraska authors, and readings suggested in the "Let's Talk About It" series. The group also spent one year reading books primarily

about women in various stages of life and time. The May meeting occurs at a local bookstore, where members hear a presentation on topics, authors, etc., and then vote on selections for the following year.

UNO Faculty Women's Mystery Book Discussion

As the name implies, this group discusses mysteries chosen by the eight to twelve members of the group. Meetings occur in local restaurants on designated Saturdays. All members are female, over forty. One member volunteers to lead discussion. There is no cost involved, other than dues paid to the UNO Faculty Women's Club.

Women's Reading Group

This newly formed group of twelve meets monthly at a local church parlor to discuss books dealing with women's issues. Readings are recommended by participants, and chosen by consensus. All members are college-educated women over thirty.

York Area

York College and Community Book Discussion Group

For twenty-five years, this group has welcomed new members, including those from the public. The group meets five Sundays during the school year, at 2:30, at Levitt Library L001.

Originally a Great Books group, the club now reads Nebraska authors and biographies, primarily. The twelve members vote on the reading list. All selections must be in paperback, which many members buy, while others borrow from the library or friends.

Men and women both participate in this group. All are over sixty. Most are college-educated. Members note the triple joys of their association: reading good works they may never have otherwise approached; sharing inspirational thoughts, new insights, or serious concerns; and developing friendships.

Appendix Groups Open to the Public

Columbus

Columbus Library Book Club

Meets: 7:00 p.m., at the Library, on the last Thursday of each month
Contact: Richard Toof, 564-0146

Lincoln

Circle IV, First Plymouth Church

Meets: 11:30 a.m., at The Gathering Place, 1448 'E' Street, on the third Tuesday of each month

First Plymouth Church, Circle 5

Meets: First Plymouth Church, 20th & 'D' Streets, in the Library, on the third Tuesday of each month during the school year, and in summer, at a member's home

Postheterosexual Book Discussion Group

Meets: The Gathering Place, 1448 'E' Street, monthly

Great Books Discussion Group

Meets: 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. at the Gere Library, 56th and Normal Boulevard, (except during construction at the Gere, the group meets at the Bennett Martin Library, 14th & 'N' Streets, fourth floor Conference Room), on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, September to May, EXCEPT in November, the group meets on the first and third Thursday. There is no December meeting.

Contact: Barbara Leffler, 488-6287

Reading Together (for children) sponsored by Lincoln City Libraries

Meets: In several locations, for six weeks during the summer, at several different times.
Contact: Lincoln City Libraries Coordinator for Young People's Services, 471-8500.



Some Brief Tips for Forming and Sustaining Book Discussion Groups

Appendix Continued

Newman Grove

Newman Grove Book Discussion

Meets: 1:15 p.m., at the Library, on the fourth
Tuesday of each non-summer month

Norfolk

AAUW Book Group

Meets: In members' homes, with summer meetings
in the park

Contact: Donna Goossen, 371-5268

Norfolk Area Book Discussion Group

Meets: 9:30 a.m., in the Library Meeting Room, on
the last Wednesday of each month (third
Wednesday in November and December).

Contact: Library Reference Librarian

Omaha

Great Books Discussion Group

Meets: 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Swanson Library, 90th &
Dodge Streets, on the second and fourth
Mondays of each month, September to May

Contact: Sylvia Cohn, 553-7419

York

York College and Community Book Discussion Group

Meets: 2:30 p.m. at Levitt Library L001 on five
Sundays during the school year.

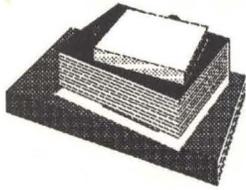
- ✓ Find Charter Members
- ✓ Decide What You Want to Read
- ✓ Obtain Books
- ✓ Determine a Format for Discussion
- ✓ Set a Regular Meeting Date and Time
- ✓ Find a Place to Meet
- ✓ Invite Others to Join Your Group
- ✓ Publicize Your Meetings
- ✓ Secure a Sponsor for Your Group

*A Guide for Forming and Sustaining
Book Discussion Groups* edited by
Barbara Leffler, will help your group
in choosing a reading list, suggest
ways in which groups can attract and
retain members, and offer tips on how
to deal with difficult participants.

For a copy of this guide please contact
the NCB.

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

— Oscar Levant



Books Nebraska Book Discussion Groups are Reading

Aldrich, Bess S.	A Lantern in Her Hand	Kennedy, Wm.	Ironweed
Arnow, Harriette	The Doll Maker	King, K.	Cricket sings
	Pilgrim at Tinker Creek	Kingsolver, Barbara	Animal Dreams
Buck, Pearl	The Good Earth	Kushner, L.	Why Bad Things Happen to Good People
Carter, Forrest	The Education of Little Tree		Main Street
Cather, Willa	Song of the Lark	Lewis, Sinclair	The Fifth Profession
Chatwin, Bruce	On the Black Hill	Morrell	Song of Solomon
Courtenay, Bryce	The Power of One	Morrison, Toni	Women of Brewster Place
Conway	The Road to Coorain	Naylor, Gloria	Life and Death in Shanghai
Crichton	Jurassic Park	Nein Chen	Private Demons
De Mille	The Charm School	Oppenheimer	Evergreen
Deauveux	Knight in Shining Armor	Plain	As God is My Witness
Dorris, Michael	A Yellow Raft in Blue Water	Rosenberg, Carl	Run with the Horseman
Dowling, C.	Cinderella Complex	Sams	All My Grandmothers Could Sing
Drabble, M.	The Middle Ground	Sonnberger, J.	Mosquito Coast
Edgerton, Clyde	Walking Across Egypt		Presumed Innocent
Flaubert, Gustave	Madame Bovary	Theroux, Paul	Accidental Tourist
Fletcher	Outback Station	Turow, Scott	Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant
Follet, Ken	Pillars of the Earth	Tyler, Anne	Lincoln
Franklin, Miles	My Brilliant Career		The Color Purple
Friedman	From Beirut to Jerusalem		Meridian
Godwin, Gail	Father Melancholy's Daughter	Vidal, Gore	The Book of the Dun Cow
Gresham	The Firm	Walker, Alice	It's Not the End of the World
Johnson	Crossing the River		
Jones, L.	Great Expectations	Wangerin, W.	
		Welsch	

*Nebraska
Writing and
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THE HOMESTEAD

The homestead house
is vacant —
three generations gone
from the soil
where its timbers of
100 years plus
lay decaying.
Weeds smother the lawn.

The old, red barn
is vacant.
Three generations walked
its floors,
climbed into its mow,
the trample of
cows and horses
now hushed.

Doors and windows gone,
birds and insects nest.
Broken glass lies
shattered here and there.
Spider-nations web
corners, cross ceilings and rafters.
The wind groans
as it sweeps through
hollow spaces.

Parcels of dawn and sunset
drift in where
boards and windows
once sealed in treasures.

Silence of night
fills the empty
spaces.

— Darlene M. Swartz Miltner
Lincoln, Nebraska

AT THE ANTIQUE ARCADE

Once again,
I blend into yesterday,
my mind driven there
by the hand-held plow
furrowing deeper into the past,
and by memories
of my own nostalgic mind
sifting through each
treasured relic before me.

Today, I cherish
the rust of two cream cans,
that now, I can call mine,
their sweet, creamy aroma
soured by time
shall landscape the corners
of my house.

Two weeks ago
I became the proud owner
of my wife's whim —
a cast iron vat
which she has given new life —
its present lard-free days
full of blue bachelor buttons.

Tomorrow, perhaps my own hands
will be calloused by
the hand-held scythe
I'm about to purchase,
for the hay field
standing next door.

And tonight,
my wife and I shall drift
off to sleep together
in the loft
of our lantern-lit barn —
the coyotes and owls
singing us to sleep,
and I'll dream
of each visit here
where I can relive
at least part of the past,
and take that part home with me
to reap and save.

— Jim Bahm
Norfolk, Nebraska

The 1992 Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival? "Great!"

Over 90 persons attended the 1992 Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival at Central Community College in Columbus, on May 30th. The Festival featured National Book Award winner for fiction, John Casey.

In his keynote address, Casey reminded us that when we write on that which we know best, whether by experience or research, our best writing results. During his visit, Mr. Casey shared insight into his award winning novel *Spartina*, and into his approaches to writing. John Casey is on the English faculty of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville.

A second special guest at this year's Festival was Diane Osen, project director of the National Book Foundation from New York. Osen not only shared information about the foundation and fielded questions, but also shared her expertise as a teacher of writing by serving as a respondent for the individual manuscript conferences.

The Festival sessions were led by Ted Kooser, poet; Shelia Reiter, free-lance writer and educator; David McCleery, author, newsletter editor, and versatile entrepreneur; Leon Satterfield, news columnist, author, and educator; Muffy Vrana, author and etiquette expert; Lorraine Duggin, poet, fiction writer, and educator; Connie Yost, educator, humorist, author, and storyteller; and Robert Reed, science fiction writer. All were given high accolades in the Festival evaluations. The overall

participant response to the Festival was very positive with comments like: "Time well-invested," "Really worthwhile," "Inspiring," "Relaxed yet informative," "Great!!"



Novelist and National Book Award Recipient John Casey signs books at this year's Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival held in Columbus

Suggestions for future Festivals included doing a two-day Festival again, having more time for individual conferences, having shorter and more sessions, keeping it all the same, and suggestions for other session topics like romance writing, mystery writing, and inspirational writing. Children's writing, skits, entertainment and writing, and more sessions on poetry were also requested. Some liked having the annual published books, while others were pleased with the possibility of

continuous submission possibility with the *Nebraska Center for the Book Quarterly*.

While there were many attending for the first-time, some had attended all but one of the twelve Festivals. These individuals received a special tribute. The Festival was wonderfully multi-generational with the oldest participant award going to George Wycoff of Bellevue who was 93.

We were delighted with the suggestions for next year's Festival location and will follow up on them with no hint here until we're sure. Stay tuned.

— Mel Krutz, Co-Chair



Listening to Nemerov

A town called Hermann is hosting the Missouri Writers tonight. Three winners of the poetry contest will read their winning poems.

We listen. My friends and I listen. We listen to the winners. We listen to a string quartet of women in spring frocks playing gentle music. Then we prepare to listen to Howard Nemerov, famous poet and teacher. He's the main speaker for this evening.

He's introduced. A tall, erect, aging man with a silver crew cut and a very baggy seat to his pants. He rises from the audience, walks slowly up some steps to an old podium on stage, leans on it, and peers out at us over his granny glasses. He seems bemused. He speaks with hoarse difficulty, slowly sips some water from a glass, coughs deeply, wipes his mouth with a large handkerchief, and tells us, while coughing deeply again, "I'm not diseased. I've been grievously ill this past year." A deep breath follows, another deep cough, and he begins. His pleasure in words becomes our pleasure.

He speaks of fellow writers — "ones who write what they know. It doesn't take them long." He stops and looks at us over his glasses in feigned puzzlement and asks, "That one too short for you? Here's another short one. It's a spring poem:

*Bees to flowers
Flies to shit."*

It takes a minute for it to register. Then our laughter rolls out of us.

He's famous for sonnets, this man who is tiring, his voice fading on him. He tells a story about one of

his college students calling him at 3:00 AM to ask a few questions and just chat with him about his work. She told him of two friends who were writing papers on poets, too, one on W.B. Yeats, and one on Emily Dickinson. Then she crowed over the phone, "But they can't call them. I can call you. Isn't it wonderful?"

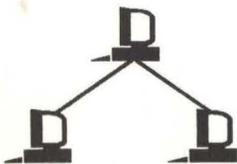
He told us he agreed with her. "Yes. I'm not ready for one of those unlisted phone number like those other two have."

Listen to his written words now, just a few:
Painters make images. Poets make images. Both poet and painter want to reach the silence behind the language. Both poet and painter want their work to shine, not only in daylight, but (by whatever illuminating magic) from within; maybe even more from within than by daylight, for many of their works in times now past had not the object of being viewed in daylight, but went to do their magic in caves, in tombs, among the dead, and maybe as a substitute for daylight.

He worked his magic on us one April evening in Hermann. He died the following July.

— JoAn Staudinger
Lincoln, Nebraska

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Nebraska Online

Nebraska Online, the computer-supported information and communications component of the Nebraska Development Network, provides a variety of electronic information and communication services to economic development professionals, librarians, educators, and entrepreneurs. Through the system Nebraskans have access to a wide range of databases, news services, and other resources. Utilizing an events calendar, electronic discussion groups, and electronic message system, Nebraska Online facilitates communication among Network participants.

Nebraska Online provides timely, current access to unique information that can help Nebraskans compete in the global economy. As a key component of the Network, Nebraska Online seeks to improve the quality of local and statewide business environments, and to facilitate and support community-based economic development.

Information sharing is the key to Nebraska Online. Information sharing depends upon community-to-community and region-to region cooperation. It depends on an interactive cooperation between information gatherers, brokers, and users. It depends on professionals and volunteers dedicated to assisting, developing, and enhancing each others' efforts to build community economic vitality. Citizens across Nebraska may obtain and share information by dialing into Nebraska Online, using any personal computer with a modem to access the following services:

Nebraska Development Services Directory
Calendar of Events

Electronic News Service
Bulletin Board Referral Service
Electronic Databases

Future enhancements include an Electronic Message Center, with connections to other statewide and national networks, job databases, and additional information databases. Since Nebraska Online will continue to grow according to information needs, Nebraska Online users will help shape the future of this information and communication service.

If you would like more information, including how to access Nebraska Online, please call the Nebraska Online Help Desk at the Nebraska Library Commission 402-471-2045 or 800-742-7691.

"And what is a little book or two, when there is so much greatness in the world hidden all around us? These good things that appear in print seem so meager, so slight, so publisher-touted, in this country of a hundred million people. Now one or two little books — making an impression for two years, forgotten utterly in five — that is not enough, when you think what there might be, what might come out of people.

But if (as I wish) everybody writes and respects and loves writing, then we would have a nation of intelligent, eager, impassioned readers; and generous and careful ones, not mere critical, logy, sedentary passengers, *observers* of writing, whose attitude is: "All right: entertain me now."

— Brenda Ueland
from *If You Want to Write*



Help Support the Nebraska Literature Festival

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.

Short-sleeved Grey/Ash \$11.95 + tax (M,L,XL)

Long-sleeved Green \$14.95 + tax (M,L,XL)

Sweat Shirt Teal Blue \$19.95 + tax (M,L,XL)

Note: Sweat Shirt mentions 1992 Kearney dates!

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) \$_____
- _____ Teal Blue Long-sleeved Sweat Shirts
(\$21.24 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: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail to:
Heritage Room
Lincoln City Libraries
136 South 14th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

HEAT

Moving sluggishly
Legs bogged down
Sweat dripping round
Waves of heat
Slowing heart and breath
Triggering panic in my breast

It's so hard to see
Or think or feel
I want to growl and
Stomp and throw
My stomach churns
Without relief

Bright sun shining
Beauty to the eye
Warmth soaks to my bones
Life giving, filling sharing
I celebrate
Winter, spring, and fall

Summer comes to make
Me hide from your
Bright face and glowing rays
A mole to be till equinox
How amazing, friend and foe
All in one.

— Kathy Cook
Lincoln, Nebraska

*Nebraska
Writing and
Storytelling
Festival*

Poets Adopt Detroit Libraries

Twenty poets have adopted 15 Detroit library branches and five suburban libraries in order to promote use of the library and to encourage writing as a means of recreation and self-expression. The Adopt a Library/Poet in residence program is a collaboration of the Detroit Public Library, and Broadside Press, a Detroit publisher, and funded by the Michigan Council of the Arts and Cultural Affairs, Friends of the Library, and Comerica Bank. The poets, all represented in Broadside publications, will offer six sessions of two-hour long workshops. The library's Service to Shut -Ins and Retirees is taking poet Murray Jackson on its visits to nursing homes, to give readings. The program at the Gray branch library uses poetry as therapy for ex-offenders and substance abusers. Music is part of many of the programs, used to enhance the rhythmic aspects of poetry.

Center Seeks Books in Spanish for Library

The Lincoln Hispanic Community Center is looking for donations of books or periodicals in Spanish to build up its library of materials for Spanish-speaking clients. Children's books are especially needed for families to borrow and read to children. To donate books, call the Hispanic Community Center, 402-474-3950.

*Nebraska
Writing and
Storytelling
Festival*

UNTITLED

I watch you on the shore
reading your book
with a look of contentment on your mouth,
Your bronze body supine
in the chaise longue
your big toes reaching toward the sun.
I'd love to taste them with a long, lusty, lick
and savor the saltiness still there
from the sea.

— Kate Cook
Columbus, Nebraska

"I think that one possible definition of our modern culture is that it is one in which nine-tenths of our intellectuals can't read any poetry."

— Randall Jarrell



From the Editor: Things That Make You Go HMMMM

— David McCleery

Here are some interesting passages I recently came across:

"For the sins of the learned, heaven permitted the invention of printing. Yet the invention of printing is to be regretted."

"[Printing] has proved a great blow to literature. Nobody can maintain that printing has produced greater poets or philosophers or historians than they who wrote when books were confined to manuscripts."

"People who deserved to be able to read, did read, and now that nearly everybody can read, few people deserve to do so, for few go beyond a newspaper."

"It is but a small minority who even aspire to study a novel. What is the result? The result is that authors endeavor to reach that vast public which, in no age and in no country, has cared for the pleasures of literature."

". . . bad books are multiplied, weeds are deliberately sown, the good seed is choked, the rare good books are lost among the weeds, like wheat obscured by flamboyant poppies."

"The number of journals which tell people 'often quite erroneously' just as much about a book as well as satisfy an easy curiosity, assist in keeping down literature. Circulating libraries lend them aid, by 'sitting tight' when a book is asked for, by not supplying it, and by waiting until the public has forgotten the subject. They do not need to wait long."

You might think these quotes were taken from last week's *Time* or *Newsweek*, or someone's address to the National Book Foundation. But they are from a nineteenth century book, *The Pleasure of Literature and the Solace of Books*, compiled by Joseph Shaker and Andrew Lang. HMMMM

Library Cutbacks Risk Mediocrity

[Omaha's] City Hall, for the second straight year, is considering a budget that could lead to cutbacks in library hours . . .

A city that treats its libraries as an expendable luxury instead of a communitywide necessity risks a slide into mediocrity. A good library system is part of the basic mission of municipal government. Forward-looking cities try to improve their library systems, to make the libraries more convenient to the public and to encourage a love of learning, reading and knowledge . . .

One reason kids don't read better is that they don't read enough. Perhaps they come from non-reading homes, where television is the babysitter. Perhaps they never received books as a gift. Or perhaps they live in a community that placed low priority on reading, books and maintaining a high standard of library service.

— *Omaha World-Herald*

Interview with Mid-America Publishers Association's Jerry Kromberg

Jerry Kromberg is the executive director of the Mid-America Publishers Association (MAPA). MAPA's office is based in Lincoln.

NCB: Jerry, why don't we begin with a brief description of MAPA.

Kromberg: MAPA is a trade association comprised of independent publishers in the Midwest, independent publisher being primarily small publishers. We don't really like to use the term small, but a good definition would be those publishers producing ten or less publications a year. Most of our members seem to fall into that category with some exception. We do have some fairly sophisticated publishers in the seven figure sales category. But for the most part we have a lot of author-publishers that have written a book and rather than try to have it published commercially decided to publish it themselves. In the course of marketing their book they developed the technique and know-how and have gone on to publish more of their own books and perhaps books written by somebody other than themselves.

NCB: What is the potential membership for an organization that caters to the "small" publisher? How many publishers in the Midwest have published less than ten books in one year?

Kromberg: We have a mailing list of close to five-thousand publishers. Now many of these are ones who have written one book and published it and have no plans of doing it again. With the advent of desktop publishing it's become relatively easy to produce a professional looking book. So it's

tempting to a lot of people to publish their own material. The problem is that when they finally end up with five hundred, or a thousand, or five thousand books on their dining room table, or their garage or basement, the question then arises "what are you going to do with them? How do you market them?" And this becomes an area for expertise. MAPA spends a lot of time trying to educate or assist members in marketing their product. A lot of our members or publishers fall into the area of "niche publishers". They're interested in some specific area, self-help, religion, medicine, cook-books, or a trade of some kind. Our appeal is to the small independent publisher which does not have in-house nor can they hire the expertise it requires to do an extensive marketing campaign. They look to us, and they look to their colleagues. MAPA provides an opportunity for networking.

NCB: What other ways is MAPA beneficial to publishers?

Kromberg: We have a bi-monthly newsletter that provides information. We provide cooperative marketing opportunities in that we'll offer booths at trade shows and exhibit members' books for them. We have some joint marketing programs, like joint mailings. We provide relevant books at a discount, group health insurance. Plus we have an annual conference and other smaller conferences throughout the year that deal with some of the things we've talked about: marketing, production, finance. But it gives the opportunity to network with colleagues, vendors, and suppliers.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



MAPA INTERVIEW CONTINUED

NCB: How did MAPA develop?

Kromberg: About five years ago, John Kremer of Fairfield, Iowa thought it would be a good idea to form an association and invited a group of publishers to meet in Chicago. A group of us joined with John to incorporate and institutionalize the effort. We then became the MAPA. John, who is a publisher, ran the thing ad-hoc, and we got a board of directors together, and started planning from there. It then got to a point where it was a little too much for John to handle on the side without any compensation. So we began looking for an executive director and hired a professional firm, but it only lasted a few months. So the board approached me about taking over the executive directorship.

NCB: How do you see the publishing climate for a small publisher?

Kromberg: It's very difficult to get published commercially these days, and the temptation to publish your own work is very high because of the advent of desktop publishing and short run printers. I'm not going to say that self-publishing is a wise thing to do, because more often than not these publishers fail. But if you really want to take it seriously, an association like MAPA can be a lot of help. The investment in the membership, and the investment in attending a conference is well worth it in terms of success or failure in a venture. Even if it tells you not to do it, it's worthwhile.

NCB Membership Benefits

When you become a member of the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB) you are showing support for books, reading, libraries, writing, and literacy in our state. Moreover, members become partners of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Members of the NCB receive this newsletter four times a year. Organizational members may submit items for our calendar of book and literacy events in Nebraska. Members are also invited to special programs sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, and are welcome to attend the annual meeting. They may run for vacant seats on the 15 person board and, of course, cast their ballots for persons running for such seats.

The Nebraska Center for the Book is a non-profit corporation in the state of Nebraska.

If you have comments or questions of the Nebraska Center for the Book please write to:

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



NCB Individual Membership

Renewal

New

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone with area code (not for directory use): Home _____ Work _____

Will you serve on a committee? _____ Comments: _____

Each year we will publish a membership directory.

Help us learn your Center for the Book interests by circling all that apply:

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

Sample Individual Listing:

Note that directory of individual members will not include telephone numbers.

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

Please enclose a check in the amount of \$15.00 made out to "Nebraska Center for the Book."

Mail your check and this form to:

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



NCB Organizational Membership

Renewal New

Name of organization: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone with area code (for directory use): _____

Name and title of contact person: _____

Additional information about organization: _____

(Attach sheet if needed)

**We will be publishing a membership directory
so Center Members will be aware of interests and services.
Circle all the Center for the Book interests that apply to your organization:**

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

Sample Organizational Listing

Note that the directory of organizational members will include a telephone number, a contact person with title, and a brief description of the organization.

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.

**Please enclose a check in the amount of \$25.00 made out to "Nebraska Center for the Book."
Mail your check and this form to: Nebraska Center for the Book, c/o Lincoln City
Libraries, 136 South 14th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508**



Welcome New Members!

New members as of August 15, 1992

Organizational

Nebraska School for the Deaf
Omega Cottonwood Press
Frontier Bookstore
Shepherd's Staff Family Book & Gift

Omaha
Alma
Columbus
Columbus

Windflower Press
Wooden Horse
Kearney Regional Writers Group
Southeast Community College-
Corrections Division

Garland
Gaithersburg, MD
Holdrege

Lincoln

Organizational memberships allow the organization to exhibit at the Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival and the Nebraska Literature Festival without charge.

Individual

Liz Conley
Barbara Fawl
Lynette Broderick
Karla Wendelin
Pat Gildersleeve
Gerry Cox
Audrey P. Long
Michael Argello
Elizabeth Randall
Evelyn Haller
Linda Deeds
Monica McClure
Birgit Young
Ruth Thone
Russell LaBeau
Betty Barker
Mary Anderson
Jim Bahm
Lynn Baxter
Peter Beeson
Alice Blackstone
Alice Brown
Barabara Jean Carlson
Michael Collinworth
Kate Cook
Karla Decker
Carol Lee Doeden
Virginia Duvall
Vivian Ecker
Henry Filbert

Lincoln
Lincoln
Lincoln
Lincoln
Lincoln
Grand Island
Lincoln
Palmyra
Lincoln
North Platte
Grand Island
Lincoln
Lincoln
Lincoln
Franklin
Grand Island
Norfolk
Lincoln
Lincoln
Omaha
Columbus
Silver Creek
Columbus
Columbus
Lincoln
Lincoln
Cook
Schuyler
Albion
Lincoln

Geraldine Gilbert
Amy Goering
Kathryn Hain
Norma Heinicke
Nelia Hense
Dennis Hillen
Dorothy Koepke
Donna Kortje
Norma Larson
Mary Maas
Joan Marr-Nicholls
LaRayne Meyer
Darlene Miltner
Mark Miller
Marie Mueller
Irene O'Brien
Judith Ottmann
Patricia Pettey
Thomas Plotts
Alice Primrose
Dee Ritter
Mary Sharpe
Leatta Stortvedt
Kay Vetter
Ruth Ann Vogel
Cliff Pountney
Pam Svoboda
Paul Neukirch
Morton Stelling
William Stibor

Cedar Bluffs
Omaha
Ulysses
Seward
Lincoln
Creston
Norfolk
Norfolk
St. Edward
Stanton
Lincoln
Pilger
Lincoln
Genoa
Seward
Columbus
Dorchester
Wahoo
Omaha
Newman Grove
Lincoln
Columbus
Norfolk
Central City
Stanton
Omaha
McCook
Seward
Lincoln
Lincoln

300+ MEMBERS!!

NEBRASKA POETRY ON TAPE



VOICES OF THE PLAINS

Meet the varied and vibrant poets who make up Nebraska's rich literary landscape on these rare studio recordings of contemporary Nebraska poets and writers reading and discussing their work. Hosted by David McCleery.

'First-rate and priceless . . . These recordings are important . . . An opportunity to hear some of Nebraska's fine poets read and discuss their work.'

— Hilda Raz
Editor, *Prairie Schooner*

Marilyn Coffey
Susan Strayer Deal
Lorraine Duggin
Charles Flowerday
Walter Gholson III
Twyla Hansen
Kent Haruf
Nancy Peters Hastings
Sally Herrin
Joan Hoffman
William Kloefkorn

Ted Kooser
W.M.E. we Langa
Amil Quayle
Hilda Raz
Ella Robinson
Bob Ross
Mark Sanders
Roy Scheele
Don Welch
Les Whipp
and more!

COMING THIS WINTER FROM
A SLOW TEMPO PRESS



PEBBLE CREEK

A Book Length Poem by Amil Quayle

**WRITE US
FOR A FREE CATALOG**



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2746 EVERETT
LINCOLN, NE 68502**

LEAVES OF GRASS A GRASSROOTS 'ZINE

Editor David McCleery

ISSN 1064-5551

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE LAST
THREE YEARS (Where have you been?)

12 issues \$15.00
(Good writing isn't cheap!)

Recent issues have included:

Ernie the Cat on quantum physics
cartoons from Jay Garrison
Amil Quayle on Edward Abbey
an interview with Naomi Brill
Stuff by folks around the country
who you've not heard of . . . yet!

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Charles Flowerday on "The Business of Poetry"
Poetry from Jim Cihlar, Dr. John Walker and Greg
Kosmicki to name just a few!

Upcoming issues will include: Stuff
from Roy Scheele, Greg Kuzma, Nancy Peters
Hastings, Amil Quayle and lots more!

See why national magazines like
the *Utne Reader* are talking
about *Leaves of Grass!*
Here are what others have to say:

"Leaves of Grass is expanding!"
— Albert Einstien

*"While reality is fabulous, LOG
is a close second."*
— Henry David Thoreau

"You're boring me."
— a lady on the bus

"Co-op" Poetry!!
Stop by our table at the
Nebraska Literature
Festival and contribute a
line to a "co-op" poem
which Marilyn Coffey will
read that afternoon at the
open mike!

Nebraska Center for the Book

Board of Directors Vacancies

The 1992 Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Center for the Book will take place at 3:45 P.M., November 13, at the Midtown Holiday Inn in Grand Island. In addition to reports, there will be the election of five board members to the 15 - member board. The board sets policies for the Nebraska Center for the Book, determines activities, and controls Center assets. Board member terms are three years.

Qualifications for board membership are:

- 1) Current, paid-up individual membership in the Nebraska Center for the Book.
- 2) A strong interest in the mission of the Nebraska Center for the Book: the state-wide promotion of literacy, reading, books, libraries, and writing in Nebraska.
- 3) Willingness to serve for three years and to attend quarterly board meetings and committee meeting. Committee meetings are at 10:00 A.M. on the same day as the board meetings, followed by lunch and the board meeting, which normally ends at 3:30 P.M.

If you are interested in running for a position, please submit your name and a brief statement of background and special areas of interest by **October 15, 1992**. You are encouraged to be at the annual meeting on November 13, 1992, but you need not be present to run for board membership. During the annual meeting each Center member (individual or organizational representative) will be able to cast one vote for each of the five vacant board positions.

If you are interested in serving on the board of the Nebraska Center for the Book, submit your nomination to:

Dick Allen, President
Nebraska Center for the Book
c/o Lincoln City Libraries
136 South 14th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508

Questions regarding board membership may be addressed to the above address, or you may reach Dick Allen during regular business hours at 402-471-2045.

 Panels and Discussions

 Bookfair

 Poetry and Fiction Readings

 Writers and Writing

 Visual Art

 Music

 Videos
and lots more!!!!

THE SECOND NEBRASKA LITERATURE FESTIVAL

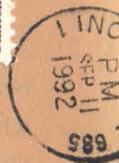
September 25 - 26, 1992

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Co-sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book



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



Southeast Library System
Attn Kate Marek
c/o Union College Library
3800 South 48th Street
Lincoln, NE 68506

THE SECOND NEBRASKA LITERATURE FESTIVAL

September 25 - 26, 1992

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Co-sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book

Friday, September 25 : High School Literature Festival

8:45 a.m. - 3:10 p.m. UNK Nebraskan Student Union

Friday Evening, September 25 : Nebraska Literature Festival Opening

Friday Evening Events \$12.50 * (\$15.00 at door)

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Museum of Nebraska Art Featuring Hilda and Robin Neihardt

8:00 p.m. UNK Fine Arts Recital Hall, Drama "Honor Song for Crazy Horse"

Saturday, September 26 : Nebraska Literature Festival

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. UNK Nebraskan Student Union Panels, Slide Talks, Poetry and Fiction Readings, Workshops, Videos, Bookfair, Native American Tipi
\$3.00 registration, children free (See reverse side for complete details)

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. UNK Fine Arts Walker Gallery Art Display and Reception

4:15 p.m. & 6:15 p.m. UNK Fine Arts Recital Hall "A Vision for All" Musical / Narrative Performance based on Neihardt's "Death of Crazy Horse"
\$4.00 * (Advance registration advised)

* Pre-register for Opening and Closing events by sending appropriate amount to Nebraska Literature Festival, Heritage Room, Benner Martin Library, 136 So. 14th St, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

 University of
Nebraska at
Kearney



*Willa Cather Bess Streeter Aldrich Wright Morris
John G. Neihardt Mari Sandoz Loren Eiseley*


Nebraska
Humanities
Council


Nebraska Arts Council

THE SECOND NEBRASKA LITERATURE FESTIVAL

September 26, 1992 Nebraskan Student Union University of Nebraska at Kearney

	PONDEROSA ROOM B & C Panels and Discussions	COTTONWOOD ROOM Literature and Diversity	ART GALLERY Open Mike	INFORMAL LOUNGE Invited Readings	CEDAR ROOM Writers and Writing	OAK ROOM Videos	MUSIC ROOM Family Center
9:00 - 9:50 a.m.	<i>"History and Social Science in Best Streeter Aldrich"</i> Harl Dahlstrom	<i>"Plains Indian Tales"</i> Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones	Open Mike <i>Poetry and Fiction Readings</i>	J.V. Brummels Twyla Hansen Bob McEwen	<i>"Louise Pound: Nebraska Writer, Scholar, and Athlete"</i> Evelyn Haller	<i>Mari Sandoz</i> "The Story of Mari Sandoz"	Story Reading
10:00 - 10:50 a.m.	<i>"The Art of Wright Morris"</i> Joe Wydeven Frances Kaye Nancy B. Johnson	<i>"The Creative Talent of Weldon Kees"</i> Robert Knull Steve Shively Norman Geske	Open Mike <i>Poetry and Fiction Readings</i>	Betty Stevens Mary Kathryn Stillwell Barbara Schmitz	Mystery Writing Workshop <i>Diane Kirkle</i>	<i>John G. Neihardt</i> "Voice of the Plains"	Story Reading
11:00 - 11:50 a.m.	<i>"Willa Cather: The Country and I Had It Out Together"</i> Robert Harwick Hal Nagel Betty Kort	<i>"Speeches of Malcom X as Literature"</i> George R. Garrison	Open Mike <i>Poetry and Fiction Readings</i>	Roy Scheele Lee Martin Mark Sanders	Fiction Writing Workshop <i>Robert Clougherty</i>	<i>Native American</i> "Ancient Spirit, Living World"	Story Reading
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.	BOX LUNCH: Aspen/ Willow/ Maple BOOKFAIR and Author Book Signing: Atrium & West Antler ART EXHIBITS: <i>"The Magical Essence of Willa Cather's Childhood"</i> and <i>"Old Jules Country"</i> : Gallery NATIVE AMERICAN TIPI with Phyllis Stone, Rosebud Sioux: Courtyard						
2:00 - 2:50 p.m.	<i>Mari Sandoz and Her Sense of Place</i> Donald Green Ron Hull Barbara Rippey	<i>"Tillie Olsen's Radical Vision"</i> Linda Kay Pratt	Open Mike <i>Poetry and Fiction Readings</i>	Steve Behrendt Marilyn Coffey Nancy Welch	Publishing Workshop <i>Mark Sanders</i>	<i>Willa Cather</i> "The Writer and the World"	Story Reading
3:00 - 3:50 p.m.	<i>"J.G. Neihardt as Western Historian"</i> James C. Work Joseph C. Porter Joe Green	<i>"Loren Eiseley: His Message For Our Time"</i> Paul A. Johnsgaard William Kloefkorn Jane Stillwell - Smith	Open Mike <i>Poetry and Fiction Readings</i>	Art Homer Lorraine Duggin Larry Holland	<i>"Literature and the Paperless Book"</i> David McCleery	<i>Wright Morris</i> "Conversations with Wright Morris"	Story Reading

4:15 -
5:15 p.m.
AND
6:15 -
7:15 p.m.

FINE ARTS RECITAL HALL.
"A Vision for All"
(Dramatic / Musical Performance)

4:00 -
8:00 p.m.

FINE ARTS WALKER GALLERY
Exhibit

Major funding and support for the Second Nebraska Literature Festival provided by:
University of Nebraska at Kearney
Nebraska Humanities Council
Nebraska Arts Council
University of Nebraska Foundation at Kearney

For Festival information contact: Susanne George
University of Nebraska at Kearney 308-234-8294

For motel information contact: Kearney Area
Chamber of Commerce 800-652-9435

Legend

1. Nebraskan Student Union
2. Calvin T. Ryan Library
3. Fine Arts Center
4. Parking
5. Parking
6. Parking
7. Parking

