

Mari Sandoz Heritage Society Conference

*Mari Sandoz
and Her Literary
Contemporaries*



Mari Sandoz both admired and found special inspiration in John G. Neihardt

March 26-28, 2009

Chadron State College

*With Keynote Speaker Joseph Wydeven
and a special Wright Morris Exhibit*

*This conference is supported in part by the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society Endowment
and the DeMarco Conference Speaker Endowment*

2009 Sandoz Conference Schedule

All events and activities will be held at the Chadron State College Student Center unless otherwise noted

Thursday, March 26

- 1:30 pm Gallery Talk by Phyllis McCain, cousin of Wright Morris, *Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center*
- 3:00 pm Sandoz Society Board meeting (*open to the public*), *Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center*
- 5:00 pm Dinner on own – (*Student Center or Olde Main Street Inn, 115 Main Street, recommended*)
- 6:00 pm Registration
- 7:00 pm Welcome and opening remarks by Dr. Janie Park, president of Chadron State College, and Lynn Roper, president of the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society
- 7:30 pm “History and Mystery: Mari Sandoz and Wright Morris Imagine the Plains” by Joseph J. Wydeven, Professor Emeritus, Bellevue University (Nebraska)
Presentation followed by book signing and light refreshments.

Friday, March 27

- 7:30 am REGISTRATION AND COFFEE & ROLLS
- 8:30 am “Bess Streeter Aldrich—Mother, Neighbor, Writer” by Carol Miles Petersen, Ph.D., Omaha, Neb.
- 9:15 am BREAK
- 9:30 am Literary Influences Session
“The Influence of Franz Boas on Mari Sandoz, Zola Neal Hurston and Ella Deloria” by Michael Cartwright, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Chadron State College
“From One ‘Artist and Great Historian’ to Another: The Indebtedness of Mari Sandoz to Amos Bad Heart Bull” by Daniel Schweitzer, Omaha, Neb.
“The Pioneer in Bess Streeter Aldrich, Willa Cather, and Mari Sandoz,” by Dan Holtz, Ph.D., Peru State College
- 11:00 am BREAK
- 11:15 am “Finding Fathers: Mari and Jules Sandoz and John and Nicholas Neihardt” by Tim Anderson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 12:00 pm LUNCH Buffet
- 1:30 pm Literature and Plains Landscape Session
“Ecocritical Perspectives on Wright Morris” by Rodney P. Rice, Ph.D., South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
“Painting with Words: Landscapes and the Creative Process in the Works of Willa Cather and Wright Morris” by Diane Quantic, Ph.D., Wichita State University (Kansas)
- 2:45 pm BREAK
- 3:15 pm “Mari Sandoz and Nebraska Literary Collection” by Mary Ellen Ducey, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Archives and Special Collections
- 4:15 pm Free Time
- 5:30 pm Reception, *Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center*
- 7:00 pm Sandoz Celebration Banquet and awards presentation, *Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center*

Saturday, March 28

- 7:00 am Coffee at Sandoz Center Atrium
- 8:00 am Eleanor Barbour Cook Museum of Geology Tour – CSC Math and Science Building

2009 Sandoz Conference Registration

Name Badge and Mailing Information

(Please copy and use a separate registration form for each person)

Date: _____ Name _____

Organization or Institution (if applicable): _____

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

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

A complete conference registration includes morning coffee and rolls, all conference sessions and activities, refreshments, lunch, reception, and one ticket to the Sandoz Celebration Awards Banquet on Friday. If you cannot attend the banquet please indicate below.

-----Conference Early Registration----- (Before March 4)

Member: \$55 Non-Member: \$75 \$ _____

-----Conference Late Registration----- (After March 4)

Member: \$65 Non-Member: \$85 \$ _____

_____ I will **NOT** be able to attend the Sandoz Celebration Awards Banquet on Friday evening.

I would like _____ extra Sandoz Celebration Awards Banquet Ticket(s) at \$25 per person \$ _____

Name(s) for banquet guest(s): _____

If registering for meals, please note any dietary restrictions or allergies here:

- Sorry credit cards cannot be accepted. Please use checks or purchase orders.
- Currently enrolled students may attend the Thursday and Friday sessions at no charge, but must pay for any meals.
- Do not mail registration forms after March 20. You will need to register at the door after that date.

-----Membership-----

_____ I am a current member of Mari Sandoz Heritage Society, or _____ I wish to join the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society \$30 per year (Individual) or two years for \$55 \$ _____

Please return the completed form and payment to:

**Cindy Evert Christ
Mari Sandoz Heritage Society
2301 NW 50th Street
Lincoln, NE 68524**

\$ _____

**TOTAL
AMOUNT
ENCLOSED**

Refund policy: A full refund is available with notice prior to March 20. A letter or email requesting the refund should state the registrant's name and address. No refunds will be made after March 20 as we are contracted to pay for food and materials even if you do not attend. Weather-related refunds are made on an individual basis.

A Mari Sandoz Heritage Society Conference
March 26-28, 2009
Chadron State College

Mari Sandoz on Her Contemporaries

From *Letters of Mari Sandoz*, Edited by Helen Winter Stauffer, University of Nebraska Press, 1992.

To Carlton Wells...In one decade the region was settled and while stragglers deserted, the problem was what one finds so superbly portrayed in *My Antonia* and *O Pioneers*—one of adjustment rather than staying at all at any price...Altogether, you see, there is little actual duplication of conditions between the material of Willa Cather and that in *Old Jules*.

Of course, one real difference lies much deeper than the material—the difference between an artist the caliber of Miss Cather, and an ordinary plug frontier historian with a craving to write! (p. 88)

Dear Bill Bueno...A few people who might be interested in my book, and would have a special interest in the material:...John G. Neihardt, *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, author of *Black Elk Speaks*, *Songs of the Indian Wars*, etc. His approach to the Sioux was mystical but I think he would like my book anyway. He approved what I was trying to do. His Black Elk is the boy by that name who visits the Crazy Horse lodge. (p. 193)

To Bruce Nicoll: Now you've hit upon a real book for the Nebraska Centennial. Get Wright Morris to do it in picture and text. This would be a fine contribution and I could go on with my own work...

I don't know why I didn't think of Wright Morris for the Nebraska book in the first place. He will make a fine unified job of it. I like books where the writing and illustration are by the same individual. (p.428)

Mari Sandoz Heritage Society
2301 NW 50th Street
Lincoln, NE 68524

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Save with EARLY REGISTRATION before March 4