

**Wright Morris Centennial Conference**  
**Celebrating the Centennial Year of Wright Morris' Birth**  
**in the city of his birth, Central City, Nebraska**  
**Central City High/Middle School Complex,**  
**2815 17th Avenue (Hwy 14)**  
**Sponsored by The Lone Tree Literary Society**  
**Saturday, October 9, 2010**

- 8:30 a.m. Registration  
Coffee and Rolls
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- 9:15 a.m. Joseph J. Wydeven, "Wright Morris, Nebraska Novelist and Photographer: Images of His Boyhood in *Will's Boy* and *The Home Place*"
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. David Madden, "Observations of *The Home Place*"
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch available on-site by Merrick County Relay for Life
- 12:30 p.m. Susanne Bloomfield, "Making Do: Wright Morris' Cora and her Sisterhood"
- 1:30 p.m. Steven Arkin, "Wright Morris' California Years"
- 2:30 p.m. Panel - Discussion and Questions
- 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. Tours  
Central City -- Wright Morris Boyhood Home; Cahow Barber Shop  
Furnishings at Merrick County Historical Museum  
Chapman - Cahow Barber Shops; Morris Grave at Chapman Cemetery
- 5:00 p.m. Conference Concludes - Lone Tree Literary Society offers a sincere "Thank You" to all who attended or contributed in any way to make this a successful event.

**Speakers**

**Stephen Arkin:** Steve Arkin was a Professor of English at San Francisco State University and a colleague of Wright Morris. This association became a close friendship. The two men maintained the friendship in Morris' declining years. Arkin conducted one of the last interviews with Morris during a showing of Morris photographs at San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 1992. In 2002, after deaths of Wright and Jo Morris, Arkin was appointed Executor of the Wright Morris Literary and Photographic Archives.

**Susanne Bloomfield:** Susanne Bloomfield is an English professor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney specializing in Great Plains Literature. She holds the Martin Distinguished Professorship at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Specializing in the Literature of the American West and Creative Nonfiction, she was awarded the 1998 Mari Sandoz Award from the Nebraska Library Association for her contributions to Nebraska. Past President of the Western Literature Association, she is an active presenter for the Nebraska Humanities Council's Speaker's Bureau. A life-long resident of Nebraska, her personal connections to Morris's works are strong, she often teaches Morris' works in her classes.

**David Madden:** David Madden is Louisiana State University Robert Penn Warren Professor of Creative Writing, Emeritus. He wrote "the first book on Morris, and among the first essay, from 1961 on, and many articles since." Presently, he is working with the Nebraska Press on a Morris reader to be published next year. Among Madden's works, he has made presentations on Wright Morris and other topics along with having published novels, poems, short stories, essays, literary criticisms, and textbooks.

**Joseph Wydeven:** Joseph Wydeven is Professor Emeritus of Bellevue University, specializing in Great Plains Literature. He received his Ph.D. from Purdue University in American Studies and English. He is author and presenter of many articles on Wright Morris and his works. Wydeven published the book *Wright Morris Revisited* after interviews with Morris and has been involved in Morris programs and projects through the years. He is a presenter for the Nebraska Humanities Council Speaker's Bureau. In 2005, Wydeven received the Mari Sandoz award from the Nebraska Library Association.

2010 One Book, One Nebraska  
 "The Home Place" by Wright Morris

Mail this form to:  
 Lone Tree Literary Society  
 c/o Marilyn Heins  
 2018 17th Ave.  
 Central City, NE 68826

Advanced Conference registration is \$20 per person (\$25 at the door) students \$15.  
 Please enter your advanced registration by September 15, if possible, as this is a first-time event, it will help with planning.  
 Lunch will be available on site, as a fund raiser for Merrick County Relay for Life.  
 Checks should be made to the Lone Tree Literary Society.

or Phone: 308-946-3719

or visit the Website:  
[www.wrightmorris.org](http://www.wrightmorris.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Registration at \$20 (If paid at door \$25) \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Student Conference Registration at \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!**

# The Lone Tree Literary Society....

### Board Members:

- Martha McGahan
- Marilyn Heins
- Roxanne Brandes
- Nancy Johnson
- Beth Pullen

### Morris cousins invited to share family stories:

- Betty Nunnally
- Phyllis McCain
- Jim Sander

Original Wright Morris  
photographs on display  
are courtesy of  
the Gorgen family.

Sharon Bishop, English Teacher  
at Heartland Community School  
will provide a display of  
student photography inspired by  
Wright Morris' work

### Additional Events in Central City happening Oct. 9 are:

**The Nebraska State Hand  
Cornhusking Contest -**  
at the Fairgrounds.

**The Quilt  
and Craft Show -**  
at the School  
Complex.



U.S. Postage Paid  
PRSRT  
STD  
Central City, NE  
Permit No. 27

**The Lone Tree Literary Society**  
2018 17th Avenue  
Central City, NE 68826  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Wright Morris Centennial Conference  
is Supported by:*  
The Lone Tree Literary Society  
The Merrick County Lodging Tax  
The Merrick Foundation, Inc.  
The Nebraska Humanities Council



# WRIGHT MORRIS CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE

*Celebrating the centennial  
year of Wright Morris' birth*

## Oct. 9, 2010

**WRIGHT MORRIS  
CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE**  
*Celebrating the  
centennial year  
of Wright Morris' birth*  
**Saturday, October 9, 2010**

