# Railroading the Plains Is Theme of Dakota Conference

Railroading is the theme of this year's Dakota Conference, the Center for Western Studies' national conference on the Northern Plains, which will meet April 20-21, 2007, on the campus of Augustana College. The conference annually attracts more than 80 speakers and 300 attendees from as many as 20 states. This year, for example, presenters are coming from Texas, Arizona, Utah, and even Norway.

The conference is dedicated to examining contemporary issues affecting the Northern Plains region in their historical and cultural contexts. Perhaps no business or technology has had a more significant impact on the Northern Plains than the railroad, and recent

View the conference program online at www.augie.edu/cws/dakotaconference.html Send in your registration form today.

news stories on the expansion plans of the DM&E, for example, testify to the railroad's continuing importance to the region. Ten of the conference's 25 sessions will address the topic of railroads.

Nationally recognized transportation historian Don L. Hofsommer, author of the award-winning Steel Trails of Hawkeyland: lowa's Railroad Experience, The Tootin' Louie: A History of the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway, Minneapolis and the Age of Railways, and The Great Northern Railway: A History, will be a featured speaker.

Often credited with "opening up" the Plains to Euro-American settlement, agriculture, and industry, the railroad must also be viewed as a conduit of fundamental change for traditional Plains Indian culture.

The marketing of the Plains to immigrants by railroad companies, the decline of the buffalo herds on which traditional Plains Indian culture relied, and the reorganization of Indian communities onto reservations are all interrelated. Charmaine White Face, an Oglala Sioux author and founder of Defenders of the Black Hills, will speak about the connection between railroads and indigenous people.

A special feature of the conference is the Northern Plains Autograph Party Breakfast, to be held Saturday, April 21, beginning at 7:15 am. More than 30 authors, including Hofsommer, as well as western writer Charles Robinson III and railroad historian Rick Mills, will be present to sign copies of their books. This session, which includes breakfast, is free and does not require registration.

The recipient of the Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of South Dakota and the Northern Plains is Dr. Robert C. Steensma.

Along with the five presenters who will be receiving cash awards for papers they gave at the 2006 conference, Steensma will receive the Cultural Heritage Award at the Saturday luncheon, which will also feature a panel on

Continued on page 3

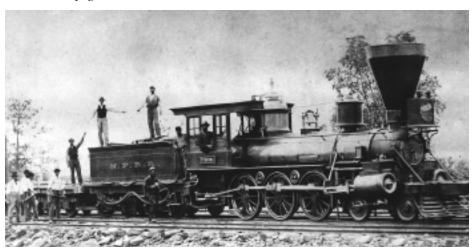
## Al Gore Highlights 11th Boe Forum

A new attendance record was set on January 23rd when former Vice President Al Gore spoke to over 4,000 in



the Elmen Center. So popular was the event that by early January the CWS staff was forced to turn away an additional 1,000 more requests for tickets.

Student attendance was high for the Elmen Center talk, and an additional 300 students crowded into the Fantle Building for a 4 p.m. students-only news conference. Over 100 Augustana students had come from three January Interim courses—one of them, General 492E "Toward a Sustainable Continued on page 2



#### CWS Support for the Peace Prize Forum

As its second "Boe Forum" event in early 2007, the Center on March 10 sponsored a midafternoon talk by Dr. Laban Coblentz, representing the International Atomic Energy Agency, winner, along with Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, of the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Peace Prize Forum, held each year at one of the five Lutheran colleges of Norse ancestry, was held on the Augustana Campus on March 9-10. Organizers of the event invited the Center's Boe Forum committee to sponsor the major speaker during the two-day event, and when Dr. ElBaradei, Nobel Prize winner in 2005, was unable to take part-because of his attendance at negotiations with North Korea-the Boe Forum Committee agreed to sponsor Dr. Coblentz as a Boe Forum speaker.

The Saturday event was advertised widely as "free and open to the public," as Governor Nils Boe had requested in his will, and the Governor, himself of Norse extraction, would have approved of the Center's support for a Nobel Peace Prize winner. Dr. Coblentz's talk, against the misuse of atomic power, was followed by a reception in his honor in the Fantle building and a lively question and answer session in which he pointed out the far greater danger posed by terrorists with stolen atomic bombs as compared with ICBMs.



Dr. Laban Coblentz answers questions during the reception at the Fantle Building

Boe Forum continued from front

World: Can Science and Religion Guide Us Toward the Promised Land?"—was a close fit to VP Gore's theme for the evening: "Thinking Green: Economic Strategies for the 21 st century."

The former Vice President's message was based on his documentary film, "An Inconvenient Truth," which the Center had provided in DVD form to several student groups ahead of the talk. The film, which went on to win two Oscars, pointed out that human beings are the cause of global warming—now evident from increases in air and water temperatures around the globe, including widespread melting of ice and snow

Huseboe, spoke to the all-student news conference in the Fantle galleries, met with 92 diners afterward at the president's dinner in his honor, addressed more than 4,000 in the Elmen Center, answered student-generated questions addressed to him by Dr. Jetty L. Duffy-Matzner (of the Chemistry Dept.) and met nearly 300 well-wishers at the Fellows Presidential Residence after his talk. He left by private jet shortly after 10 p.m., a full day for a man who is at present America's most sought-after speaker.

The Center owes a resounding vote of thanks to the dozens of Augustana personnel who helped to make the visit a success.



Former Vice President Al Gore speaks to more than 300 high school and college students at the Fantle building January 23rd.

and a rising global sea level. Already, Gore pointed out, enough CO2 has been pumped into the air to alter life on earth for thousands of years to come. The good news, although it is already very late, is that Gore's efforts have been a great stimulus to action in the U.S. Congress, as well as in capitals around the world. Remedial measures, we are assured, will require significant changes at every level of society worldwide. The alternative, to do nothing, Gore pointed out, is not only shortsighted but suicidal.

The events of January 23 were the result of several months of planning by CWS staff—and others on the campus. V.P. Gore's plane arrived just in time for him to make the first of the events on his itinerary. He autographed a stack of his books, met privately with President Oliver and Dr.



Former Vice President Al Gore revealed his sense of humor during the Boe Forum.

# Archives Continuing Source of Information about the Region

n the last issue of the newsletter, we reported on several recent books that have acknowledged the CWS archives.

Over the past few months, a number of researchers have made use of the archives for such projects as a traveling exhibit on South Dakota and World War II being assembled by the South Dakota State Historical Society; a study of Lakota winter counts; a biography of Ella Deloria; and renovation of historic Sioux Falls buildings.

Several students have visited the archives for their research papers. Elizabeth Almlie, a history major at Augustana, used the collections for her paper on Civil War veterans in Minnehaha County, which she will present at the Dakota Conference. Tim Baustian, a student at Northern State University, found his time in the CWS archives valuable. He wrote, "I would like to give you and your intern [Kristin Foggia] a

big thanks for helping me out with my research. Your archives contained a lot of the information I was looking for and so much more! I do have to compliment you on your facilities and archives . . . and I will certainly advertise your department positively to many of my fellow students at NSU."

The National Association of Social Workers-South Dakota Chapter recently completed a project, through Joan McMillan and Mary Freeman, to transcribe a memoir by early South Dakota social worker Fern Chamberlain, whose papers, including the memoir, are on deposit at the Center for Western Studies. A major article in the *Argus Leader* (March 1, 2007) reported Chamberlain's being named Social Work Pioneer by the national association. Copies of the transcribed memoir were deposited at CWS.

# Best Wishes Lisa!



The Center's Office Coordinator, Mrs. Lisa Hollaar, has resigned her position in order to join

the staff of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls as office manager. Lisa joined us in early 2001 and has seen the Center through its move from the ground floor of Mikkelsen Library to the Fantle building. She has shown herself to be efficient, well-organized, and genial—the very qualities that the Center has needed. A reception was held in her honor on March 22. Best of luck, Lisa, in your new position!

## Endowment Campaign Underway; Center Seeking NEH Grant

Momentum is building for the Center's endowment campaign, with the Board of Directors and National Advisory Council being asked for gifts during the next two months. The purpose of the endowment campaign is to provide ongoing funds for the Center's key program areas including the archives and library programs, art programs, Dakota Conference, and publications program. It will also strengthen the Center's established building fund. The overall goal is to boost the endowment by \$1.15 million over the next five years. This would provide approximately \$57,500 a year for programs. We are also applying for a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The 4:1 match would provide \$287,500 toward the goal, with the need for the Center to raise \$862,500.

"We have a wonderful new facility and our next priority is to increase our endowment,"

Dakota Conference continued from front "Railroading the Plains Today."

The Dakota Conference is funded by major grants from the Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, which awarded a \$15,000 grant to the

Executive Director Dr. Art Huseboe, said. "This campaign will allow the Center to strengthen its current programs as well as pursue new programs that will benefit the College and the region."

In addition, we are raising \$150,000 for compact shelving for the archives. To date, \$31,000 has been committed to this project.

"We encourage members and friends to consider a gift to this very important campaign," Development Committee Chair Susan Hauff said. "It is an opportunity to ensure a strong CWS into the future."

The Center's endowment campaign coincides with Augustana's overall comprehensive campaign, which is currently in the planning stages. For more information about the endowment campaign or giving opportunities, please contact Paul Krueger, Director of Development, at (605) 274-4007 or paul.krueger@augie.edu.

Center, the South Dakota Humanities Council, Richard and Michelle Van Demark, the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission, and the Mellon Fund Committee of Augustana College. Additional gifts are listed in the printed program.

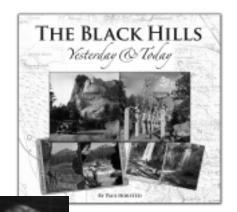
#### New Tax Law Allows Tax Free IRA Rollovers

The IRA rollover provision signed into law as part of the Pension Protection Act in August of 2006 provides tax incentives for donors age 70½ and older to contribute IRA assets to educational institutions and other nonprofits, such as the Center for Western Studies at Augustana. Donors may exclude from adjusted gross income the amount of "qualified charitable distributions" up to \$100,000 from regular or ROTH IRAs. This opportunity may be ideal for you! The law remains in effect until December 31, 2007. If you are interested or need more information please contact Paul Krueger, Director of Development, at (605) 274-4007.

#### In the CWS Galleries...

#### **THROUGH APRIL 21**

The Black Hills Yesterday & Today: A Horsted



This popular exhibit features historic photos of towns and landmarks in the Black Hills matched with modern photos taken from the same camera points by Paul Horsted. The exhibit opened January 10 and concludes April 21, the weekend of the Dakota Conference. Paul will be participating in the Northern Plains Autograph Party Breakfast on April 21. Paul is the author of The Black Hills Yesterday & Today, Custer State Park: From the Mountains to the

Plains, and Exploring with Custer: The 1874 Black Hills Expedition.



This exhibit will honor the work of Robert Aldern, South Dakota artist, and Artist-in-Residence and Director of Liturgical Arts at Augustana. Throughout his distinguished career Bob has been an Art Professor at Augustana and the University of South Dakota, known around the region for his liturgical art. We will be displaying several pieces from his personal collection. An opening reception and gallery talk is scheduled for May 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. A gallery talk will take place at 5:00 p.m.





This exhibit and sale will feature the work of 20 or more artists who are members of Artists of the Black Hills. Two and three dimensional art will be on display and for sale. Artists of the Black Hills was founded in 2005 as an organization of professional artists, artisans, and galleries with a common goal of establishing the Black Hills region as a prime source of art of the highest quality. Find out more about the organization at www.artistsoftheblackhills.org. The organization has an annual show in Rapid City. This will be their first show on this side of the state and the Center is honored to host it.

#### **FALL 2007** Yang Yang: A Retrospective

In collaboration with Augustana's Eide/Dalrymple Gallery, the Center will display a retrospective of the work of Yang Yang, a 1987 Augustana graduate and former faculty member in the Art Department. The Eide/Dalrymple gallery will feature Yang Yang's most recent works. A joint reception and gallery talk will take place on October 5 during Augustana's Homecoming, Viking Days. Yang Yang creates figurative paintings and sculptures of unconventional forms. Lui Qi Wei, curator of the Museum of Fine Art in Shaanxi, describes Yang Yang's work as combining the quality of the "Oriental mystics with tragic magnificence." The medium of Yang Yang's works range from works on paper and canvas to sculptural works in fiberglass, ceramic or bronze.



#### New Members Elected to CWS Board and Council; 2007 Officers Elected

CWS added two new members to its Board of Directors recently and three members were elected to second terms in December. Several new members were also elected to the National Advisory Council in December.

Dr. L. Adrien Hannus of Sioux Falls, SD, joined the Board in January. Dr. Hannus is Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Archeology Lab at Augustana.

Richard L. Muller of Vermillion, SD, joined the Board in February. Richard teaches in the Business School at the

University of South Dakota. He is also host of "South Dakota Focus" on South Dakota Public Television.

Re-elected to a second three-year term on the Board were Dr. Milt Hanson, professor emeritus at Augustana; John McIntyre, retired educator and former state senator, and Dr. V.R. Nelson. professor emeritus at Augustana.

Recognized for their service on the Board were outgoing Board members **Don** Anderson, Dr. Gary Earl, and Dr. Gary Olson.

Officers elected for a one-year term

were Chair, Lynn Aspaas; Vice Chair, John McIntyre; Recording Secretary, Rosemary **Draeger**; and Deputy Recording Secretary, Tony Haga. The Immediate Past Chair is Dr. Gary Earl.

Five members were elected to the National Advisory Council. Each will serve a five-year term. New Council members are James Krause of Pauma Valley, CA; Dr. Elaine McIntosh of Green Bay, WI; Ronald R. Nelson of The Hague, Netherlands; Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve of Rapid City, SD, and Dr. Lloyd Svendsbye of Saint Louis Park. MN.

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## 27th Annual Art Show & Sale a Success

The Center's 27th Annual Artists of the Plains Art Show & Sale has been declared a success, that according to the artists who participated and organizers. The event was held February 16-18 at the Holiday Inn City Centre, downtown Sioux Falls.

This was the first year the event was held at the Holiday Inn, and the larger venue allowed the Art Committee to invite 25 artists, seven more than previous years. Artists represented seven states including South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, and Missouri.

Despite winter weather conditions on opening night, a large crowd was present for the awards program, which was emceed by Art Committee Chair Lynn Aspaas. "Best of Show" awards were presented to Donald Montileaux and Edward Thomas. "People's Choice" awards were presented to Russ Duerksen and Roger Wermers. Judges for the awards were Art Committee Chair Lynn Aspaas, USD Art Professor John Day, and Augustana Art Professor Tom Shields. Augustana President Rob Oliver and Roger Currier from Cumulus Media/Results Radio helped present the awards.

Artists who participated were: Mark Anderson, Sioux Falls, SD; JoAnne Bird, Brookings, SD; Arne Bortnem, Sioux Falls, SD; Bryan Bortnem, Rutland, SD; Bonnie Brahms, Humboldt, SD; Daniel Brueggeman, Henley, MO; Larry DeCoteau, Dunseith, ND; Pati Deuter, Ree Heights, SD; Russ Duerksen, Sioux Falls, SD; Jerry Fogg, Sioux Falls, SD; Deb Gengler-Copple, Hubbard, NE; Marian Henjum, Sioux Falls, SD; David Huebner, Bushnell, SD: Nancyjane Huehl, Vivian, SD: Karen Kinder, Brookings, SD; Barbara McGee. Peterson, IA; Donald



(L to R) Front: Russ Duerksen - "People's Choice Award", Roger Wermers - "People's Choice Award," Paul Krueger - Director of Development. Back: Roger Currier - Cumulus Media/Results Radio, Edward Thomas - "Best of Show Award," Donald Montileaux - "Best of Show Award," Rob Oliver - Augustana President, and Lynn Aspaas - CWS Board and Art Committee Chair.

Montileaux, Rapid City, SD; Harvey Rattey, Glendive, MT; Gisele Robinson, Evanston, WY; Paul Schiller, Sioux Falls, SD; Joshua Spies, Watertown, SD; Edward Thomas, Decatur, NE; Karlys Wells, Clear Lake, SD; Roger Wermers, Estelline, SD, and James Whartman, Hemingford, NE.

The Center is grateful to Cumulus Media/Results Radio for their overall sponsorship of the show, Great Western Bank for sponsoring the awards, and all of the businesses who purchased an ad in the program.

The artists enjoyed steady traffic all weekend and comments were very positive about the room and the downtown location.

"We are committed to maintaining the level of quality of artists and will continue to look for ways to make the show even better," Paul Krueger, Director of Development, said.

Next year's event is scheduled for February 15-17, 2008, at the Holiday Inn.

# "RAINBOW CAFÉ," THE JUNE EVENT 2007 STYLE!



For 17 years the Center has produced a June dinner-theater event that combines history, entertainment, and fine dining in one colorful package. Starting with "The Rushmore Dream" in 1990—Herbert

Krause's one-act play about the struggle of Gutzon Borglum to find a mountain to match his artistic vision—the Center's staff and Board have sought each year to find "something completely different."

The 2007 version, to be called "Rainbow Café" and scheduled for a June 19 performance at the Ramkota Convention Center, will be a musical revue of playwright

Ron Robinson's 40-year career as a composer of musical comedies on Western themes, from "Mucho Gusto" to "Whatever Happened to Radio?" to "Aces and Eights"-the love story of Wild Bill Hickok and Agnes Lake and Wild Bill's end in a Deadwood saloon. Ron has had a long and illustrious career as the Center's directorproducer-performer of nine June shows, and "Rainbow Café" will be his opportunity to put on stage once more a "rainbow of talent." many of them musicians and singers-among them Lisa Grevlos, Callie Brick, Phil Kappen, Terry Walters, Sam Coffee, and Eric LeVan—with whom he has worked in the past. Watch your mailbox for an invitation to arrive! For more information or sponsorship opportunities please call (605) 274-4007.

#### **CWS BOOKS**

Sioux Falls, South Dakota: A Pictorial History



(New and Enlarged Edition) By Gary D. Olson and Erik L. Olson \$39.95

The Geography of South Dakota (Third Edition) By Edward Patrick Hogan and Erin Hogan Fouberg \$21.95

**Memory Songs (poems)**By Lydia Whirlwind Soldier \$12.95

# CWS WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER REDESIGNED

The Center's Website took on a new look in January. The new design also includes different navigation, with the goal of making it even easier for visitors to the site to find information they are looking for. The next step is to add an on-line gift shop, with a simple system for ordering specialty items and books. Watch for more information and features in the coming months. Visit the site at www.augie.edu/cws. You may also notice our newsletter has a fresh look!

#### MILDRED WHITE INTERN



Kristin Foggia, from Maple Grove, MN, is the Mildred White Scholarship Intern at CWS. She is a history/education and German major at Augustana

College and plays on the college's women's soccer team. She began her internship in January and has been working on a variety of projects in the archives. Kristin plans to do her student teaching in the fall of 2007. Other Augustana students who work at CWS are Kelli Kappenman, Dorothy Jacobsen Scholarship Intern, Claire laenisch. Ashlev Feller, and Torri Keenan All Runner. Former White Scholarship Intern Laura Plowman is completing her student teaching this spring and will graduate in May. She will return as a summer intern at CWS, funded by gifts from Tom and Elaine McIntosh and Charley and Betty Gutch.

# Buffalo Chips...

CWS member **Frank Boyce** passed away on December 8, 2006. He was 80. Frank and **Lois** have been loyal supporters of the Center for years. He worked at his family business, Sioux Falls Construction Company, throughout his career. He was named president and CEO of the company in 1958.

One of the Center's long-time members and an art collector of note as well as a physician passed away in Santa Barbara, CA, on March 11. He is **Dr. Harry Farrell**, Sioux Falls pediatrician and president of the Civic Fine Arts Center, and a collector of fine art. His gift of six Oscar Howe pieces to the Center for Western Studies forms the core of its Native American collection. Among the pieces is Howe's most famous, "Sioux Indian Woman with Child." It was painted at Dr. Farrell's request as a professional exchange for medical care he had provided for the Howe's little daughter, Inga Dawn. The piece was displayed for many years in Dr. Farrell's waiting room in Sioux Falls and now can be seen at the Center. Our sympathy goes out to Bill's widow, Hazel, whom he married in 1995 and moved with her to Santa Barbara, and to the Farrell children and stepchildren and other family members and friends.

CWS member **Dr. John W. Harris** passed away in Sioux Falls, SD, on February 2, 2007. Dr. Harris served as Superintendent of Schools in Sioux Falls from 1968 to 1992. John Harris Elementary School was named in his honor in 1991.

A friend of the Center and Augustana College passed away on November 25 in Bear Lake, Ml. He was **Walter Simmons**, an Augie alum and a veteran newspaperman. In 1995 the Center honored Walt for his reviews as an *Argus Leader* editor. The occasion was the Center's June Event, "A Century of Great Entertainers in South Dakota." Among the impersonated entertainers was the famous contralto Marian Anderson, whom Simmons had reviewed in 1938 when she sang a program in the Washington High School auditorium. Simmons was pleased to be invited and traveled from his home in

Potomac, MD, to help the Center celebrate. After leaving Augustana College in 1929, Simmons wrote for the *Argus* and then was invited to take over the editorship of the Chicago Sunday *Tribune*. A long stint as a war correspondent followed, during which Walt wrote a biography of South Dakota's ace Marine pilot, **Joe Foss**. The Center extends its sympathy to the family and friends of this remarkable writer.

By an interesting coincidence, the Center recently received as a gift a print by James M. Sessions, "Joe Foss Downs Another." Donors are Suzanne Fuller and her sister Ginger Smith. The print is almost identical to the painting on the dust jacket of Simmons's book *Joe Foss, Flying Ace*, showing Foss in his Grumman F4F shooting down a Japanese Zero fighter. Thank you, Suzanne and Ginger!

New CWS National Advisory Council member Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve is the recipient of the 2006 Governors Award in the Arts, sponsored by South Dakotans for the Arts and the South Dakota Arts Council. Among her many publications, including Completing the Circle and Grandpa Was a Cowboy and an Indian, is the essay she contributed on the topic of the traditional Sioux family today to A New South Dakota History.

CWS member **Rev. Dr. Richard W. Solberg** passed away November 15, 2006, in Grass Valley, CA. Richard taught in the History Department at Augustana for several years, beginning in 1945.

**Pauline Teagarden**, spouse of Dakota History Conference founder Dr. Ernest Teagarden, passed away in March. Along with her husband, Pauline was a frequent attendee at the Dakota Conference, and often served as a session chair.

In January, CWS Director of Research Collections and Publications Harry Thompson spoke on the topic "New Developments in South Dakota History" in the Adult Forum at First Lutheran Church. "What's in the Archives" was his topic for the Augustana Golden Vikings in February. In March, he presented "Telling Our Norwegian-American Story" at the Augustana Academy for Seniors.



#### APRIL

- 12-13 Book Sale-Mikkelsen Library
- 13-14 S.D. State Historical Society Annual Meeting–Pierre
- 20-21 Thirty-ninth Annual Dakota Conference–Fantle Building
- 21 Paul Horsted Exhibit ends
- 25 Board of Directors meeting
- 25 Augustana Service Awards and Retirement Reception

#### **MAY**

- 1 Bob Aldern Exhibit opens–CWS galleries
- 7 Dakotah Corral-Westerners meeting
- 12 Board and Council Spring Retreat
- 20 Baccalaureate and Commencement

#### JUNE

- 4 Summer classes begin
- 19 Rainbow Café—June dinner-theater event at the Ramkota, directed by Ron Robinson
- 22-24 Nordland Fest
- 24 Nordland Heritage Foundation Annual meeting
- 27 Board of Directors meeting

#### JULY

1 Artists of the Black Hills show & sale opens—CWS galleries
No Board meeting in July

#### **AUGUST**

22 Board of Directors meeting



#### BAYLORS RECEIVE TUVE AWARD

For their generous support of the Center for Western Studies and Augustana College, Les and Mary Baylor were presented with the Tuve Award last fall. The award recognizes donors who have given \$100,000 or more cumulatively. We are grateful to the Baylors for their ongoing and generous support of CWS. Les was a personal friend of Herbert Krause. The Baylors divide their time between Rapid City, SD, and Green Valley, AZ. Due to health problems, Mary was recently moved to a nursing home. We wish them both well.

#### **SUPPORT THE 2007 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN**

We are grateful to the more than 700 members who have already supported our 2007 membership campaign. We are on our way to reaching our goal of \$151,355 and 817 members. If you haven't joined yet, please send in your gift soon. July 31 is the deadline.

Benefits of membership include: first notice and guaranteed tickets to the Boe Forum, all Center newsletters and catalogs, invitations to artistic, social and educational events, and a 10% discount at the CWS Book and Gift Shop. **Thank you for your support!** 

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