

**Nebraska Center for the Book
Annual Meeting
Center for Great Plains Studies, Lincoln, Nebraska
November 5, 2006**

The Annual Meeting was preceded by a luncheon to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Nebraska Center for the Book. Past presidents were invited and many past board members also attended the festive event held at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln. 2006 President Mel Krutz presided and introduced special guests including John Cole of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, Norman Geske, and Dick Allen, first president of the Nebraska Center for the Book. Chuck Peek also contributed to the reminiscences of past presidents.

Following the luncheon, the Annual Meeting convened at the Center for Great Plains Studies. The minutes of the 2005 meeting were approved as read.

Nominating Committee of Sherry Houston, Jane Smith and Shelly Clark introduced prospective board members Guadalupe Mier and Cinnamon Dokken and recommended approval of the nominees. The nominations were approved.

Outgoing President Mel Krutz told of attending the Idea Exchange at the Library of Congress and the theme of her term as outreach across the state. She mentioned the renewed three year affiliation with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and mentioned the hard work of individual board members. She recognized the work of the Nebraska Library Commission, Humanities Council and Arts Council. She also recognized members at large. Mel leaves us with a vision to broaden our involvement statewide through the Nebraska Book Festival and to continue to strengthen the Nebraska Community of the Book. She alluded to Jimmy Durante's song "I Remember the Day I Read a Book."

Keynote Speaker John Cole, Director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, was introduced. Dr. Cole was granted Admiralship in the Nebraska Navy by Governor Heineman and presented by Rod Wagner. Cole cited the activities and origins of the Center for the Book nationally.

Board members Nancy Johnson and Erika Hamilton presented the Jane Geske Award (to an organization, school or library for outstanding contributions to Nebraska) to the English Department of the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Don Welch introduced calligrapher Art Pierce and read *The Marginalist* which the latter had done in calligraphy.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.