

**Nebraska Center for the Book  
Annual Meeting  
Oct. 28, 2007  
Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln**

President Linda Trout opened the meeting.  
Minutes from last year's annual meeting accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report will be added to these minutes.

New members accepted: J.V. Brummels, Rebecca Faber, Marjorie Sizeman

Jane Pope Geske Award—Mel Krutz presenting. Norman Geske, former director of the Sheldon Art Gallery, gives this annual award in honor of his late wife Jane. It is given to honor a Nebraska literary/literacy organization or institution. This year the Award goes to the Plum Creek Literacy Festival, Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska operating since 1996 when they hosted 200 people to 2007 when 7,207 people attended the three day event. Participants and attendees come from many states and all the counties of Nebraska. 1500 people were turned away because of space from this year's event but they will be the first accepted next year. Leah Serch, one of the founders of Plum Creek, and Vickie Gremmel accepted the award.

Mel Krutz treated the Board and other attendees of the Annual Meeting to Jimmy Durante's rendition of "The Day I Read a Book."

Linda Trout, as President, gave her overview of the past year of the Center for The Book. The presidency itself was in transition since the last Annual Meeting when Jane Smith became president and was forced to resign for health reasons. She was followed by Mel Krutz and Sherry Houston before Linda Trout took the reigns.

Letters about Literature continues to be a big part of the Center for the Book under the able leadership of Lauren Riedesel. Awards were presented in March to the state winners.

In May Mike Cartwright attended the Center for the Book Idea Exchange in Washington D.C. held annually in May for representatives of state centers. Linda Trout attended the National Book Festival held in September.

Nebraska Book Festival Report – Michael Cartwright presenting as Festival Director  
-- Concept – this was the 16<sup>th</sup> year and it seems to be a well-respected event.  
--Venue – The event moved to downtown Lincoln using five locations including the Bennett Martin Library, the Lincoln Children's Museum, the Nebraska History Museum, the State Capitol & Rotunda and the outdoor mall.  
--Program – 104 people involved in the program as writers, publishers, booksellers

- Children's programming – two programs by Kim Brown, ghost stories and music by the String Beans. Free admission.
- 16 institutions collaborated.
- Next year's dates – Oct. 16, 17&18 with roughly the same venue. The keynote will be Kent Haruf.

The Nebraska Library Association and Nebraska Educational Media Association will host their annual joint conference in Lincoln the same week.

Diana Johnson from Stromsburg won the NCB drawing.

The next quarterly meeting of the Nebraska Center for the Book will be November 10, 2007 in York, Nebraska.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Scott