February 4, 2007
NEWSLETTER

Editor: Melanie Dietzel, 479-442-8600  Please send upcoming events to this email address: melaniedietzel@cox.net

OMNI CENTER--UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS and CALENDAR

Omni/C.A.T. Connections

Omni C.A.T. Forum Schedule:
  Tuesdays, 6:00p.m.
  Thursdays, 6:00p.m.
  Saturdays, 2:00p.m.

Free Speech TV (FSTV) sponsored by Omni
  3:00a.m. – 9:00a.m. – This is where you'll find in depth reporting and documentaries as well as lectures and speeches by, and interviews with, intelligent, insightful minds including Noam Chomsky, Robert McChesney, Dennis Kucinich, Helen Caldicott, Shirin Imbadi and Medea Benjamin.

  Democracy NOW with Amy Goodman: Daily 7:00a.m., Sundays 6:00p.m.

Omni Book Samplers: Book Samplers give a five minute book report or read a five minute excerpt from a book. Omni Book Samplers include Dick Bennett, Jon Zimmer, Mendy Knott, Tom Kennedy

Short Takes: Taping at C.A.T.
  New Taping Schedule:
  Every Monday night, from 5:00p.m.-6:00p.m., C.A.T. will be doing Short Takes live. This will be a great opportunity for time sensitive material, live entertainment, or anything else that is expressive.

  For the folks who don't want to go on camera live, you can still record your short take from 6:00p.m.-6:30p.m. Both the live and recorded short takes will air the following week as usual.
  If anyone has any comments or questions, please feel free to contact C.A.T.

  Viewing Times: 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m., 11:00p.m.

Omni News and Current Events featured on Short Takes:
  Presented by Cliff Hughes, Dick Bennett

--FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH—
--February 5, Monday - Probable date for President to submit annual budget to Congress
--February 5, Monday, 6:30p.m., M11 Organization Planning Meeting, Fayetteville Public Library, Contact: Greg Moore 841-2855 or gmoore@memberserve.com
--February 7, Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Robert McAfee, Climate Change Messenger Power Point Presentation at United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville—Dr. Robert McAfee is one of the Al Gore team that is fanning across the nation spreading the word on this crucial issue. He is has a PhD in climatology and is VERY qualified. We are lucky to have him come to speak in Fayetteville, and we hope that you'll be there, and bring a friend to hear this important message.
--February 11, Sunday, 6:30p.m., DIRTY PRETTY THINGS, Omni Center Video Underground, United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville--From Academy Award Nominated Director Stephen Frears (The Queen, High Fidelity) comes this suspenseful look at the hidden world of illegal immigrants. Nigerian exile Okwe (Chiwetel Ejiofor) and Turkish chambermaid Senay (Amelie’s Audrey
Tautou toil at a west London hotel. When Okwe stumbles upon the hotel’s dirty secret, he is placed in an impossible dilemma. A decent man, how can he do the right thing - given his precarious status - and still protect the people he cares about?

Video Underground shows FREE political, social, and current event videos every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 6:30 pm. These movies are shown at the OMNI CENTER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND ECOLOGY located at 902 W. Maple in Fayetteville, on the main floor of the Presbyterian and Disciples United Campus Ministry.

Visit us: http://www.northwest-ark.com/vu/

--Freedom to Marry Week—February 11-17, 2007
--February 12, Monday - Freedom to Marry Day
--February 12, Monday, Abraham Lincoln’s Birthday
--February 13-14, 1945, Bombing of Dresden
--February 14, Wednesday - Valentine’s Day
--February 15, Susan B. Anthony’s Birthday
--February 15, Thursday, 5:30p.m. Potluck/6:00p.m. Business - Omni Steering Committee Meeting, Deep End of United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville
--February 18, Sunday, 6:30p.m., HOWL, at Nightbird Books, 557 S. School, #103, Fayetteville. HOWL(Her Words Out Loud) - Women are invited to bring your own poetry, prose and music to share, or to bring another woman's work that is meaningful to you. Both men and women are invited to join us as listeners.
--February 19, Monday – Presidents' Birthday (federal holiday)
--February 21, Wednesday - Christians commemorate Ash Wednesday (The beginning of Lent)
--February 21, Wednesday, 7:00p.m., THE INVISIBLE CHILDREN, a special Omni Video Underground at United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville. We were inspired by a group of students at Fayetteville High School who are working to raise awareness and funds to help the children of Uganda who are being abducted and forced to join militias as soldiers. They are working DIRECTLY with a school in Uganda. The students from FHS will be at this special showing to talk about their mission before the film.

Please SPREAD THE WORD and come out to see this highly acclaimed film and to encourage these young activists!

--February 21, Wednesday, Daisy Bates Day (state holiday)
--February 22, Thursday, George Washington's Birthday
--February 27, Tuesday, Anti-Slavery Day (world-wide)
--April 21, Saturday, Springfest on Dickson Street, Fayetteville. Mark your calendar, put on your thinking caps! Omni will once again have the Omni Folk Stage in the Walton Arts Center Rose Garden. This is the day for Omni’s maximum public exposure. What are the best ways to share our vision with our neighbors?

For more information on how you can get involved, contact Jamie Ulick 442-0573 or jamesulick@aol.com

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS--UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

--February 4-15, 9a.m.-5p.m.weekdays/1p.m.-5p.m.weekend of Feb. 10-11, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; February 20-March 9, Reception 4-6p.m./exhibit 6-8p.m., Philander Smith College, UNEMBEDDED: Four Independent Photojournalists on the
War in Iraq, Photographer to Speak at UAMS and Philander Smith College on War Experiences

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health is hosting a traveling photo exhibit Jan. 30 to Feb. 15 to raise awareness of the Iraq war’s impact on public health. The show will reopen at Philander Smith College on Feb. 20 and run through March 9.

This event is non-partisan, open to the public and free of charge.

Titled “Unembedded, Four Independent Journalists on the War in Iraq,” the 60-photograph exhibit is by four independent photojournalists – including Thorne Anderson, formerly of Arkansas. The photographers’ rare access to Iraqi life allowed them to capture provocative images without accompanying the U.S. military. More information is available at www.unembedded.net.

The exhibit photos will be accompanied by displays, developed by the UAMS COPH, about the war’s effect on human health and the environment in Iraq, as well as impact on returning U.S. veterans, their families, and communities. Placards will include information about nutrition, water quality, health care infrastructure and mental health issues in Iraq, and statistics about U.S. veterans’ potential long-term physical and mental disabilities and the economic costs of the war.

The exhibit can be viewed at UAMS from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the weekend of Feb. 10-11. The exhibit area may be accessed by crossing the catwalk from the hospital parking deck. Parking and a shuttle is also available during business hours on weekdays from War Memorial Stadium.

The exhibit will be displayed at Philander Smith College at the Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center from Feb. 20 to March 9. Exhibit hours Monday through Friday are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays, Feb. 24 and March 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Philander Smith College opening reception will be 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 20, at the Harry R. Kendall Center, with extended exhibit viewing from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The “Unembedded” exhibit is based on a book by the same name that was published last year by Chelsea Green Publishing. The book contains 150 photos, including those in the exhibit. The exhibit’s tour includes stops at other universities, galleries and community centers. The show will travel from Little Rock to the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The UAMS College of Public Health is co-sponsoring the exhibit with the Arkansas Coalition for Peace and Justice, the event’s primary local sponsor.

For more information about the UAMS exhibit, please call (501)526-6632 or email DockterNancyE@uams.edu. For information about the Philander Smith College exhibit, please call (501)975-8505 or (501)370-5279.

-- February 6-13, Darwin Day 2007, University of Tennessee, Knoxville - "Evolution and Medicine"

Darwin Day 2007 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville will take place over The theme for this year’s events is "Evolution and Medicine," and focuses on the impact of evolution in understanding disease and public health. We will have a documentary film screening, two prominent speakers who will be giving evening talks for the general public and additional focused talks, and a workshop for area teachers on integrating evolutionary topics in the public school curriculum. The teacher workshop will be held off-campus at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, and all other events will be held at various locations on the campus of the University of Tennessee.

Current sponsors for 2007 events include: The Haines-Morris Fund, Division of Biology, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Department of Microbiology, Department of Psychology, Department of Anthropology, Department of Biochemistry & Cellular & Molecular Biology, Graduate School of Genome Science and Technology, and College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences at the University of Tennessee.

-- February 10, Saturday, 6:00pm, 3rd Annual Toma Mi Corazon (Take My Heart) Silent Auction and Tex-Mex Dinner at Quapaw United Methodist Church, 1601 S. Louisiana St., Little Rock - It’s That Time Again! Great Food, Art and Great Valentine’s Day Gifts!

Presented by The Center for Artistic Revolution, CAR, Dinner and Preview Party Begins at 6:00p.m., Silent Auction Begins at 7:00pm. Do you like great art? Are you in the mood for some delicious Tex-Mex food? Would you like an opportunity to not
only purchase incredible art by area artists, but to also get a really unique Valentine’s Day gift for that someone special? Are you inspired by justice, equal rights and fairness? Do you want to be a part of the movement for Fairness & Equality for ALL Arkansans? Do you want to actively support social justice work?

Then this is the event you have been waiting for!

Wooden hearts have been given out to artists, school children, community activists, and community members. They are returned finished in a variety of mediums: metal, wood, paint, fabric, mosaics, found objects, collage, etc.

Tickets for the preview party dinner: $15.00 in advance; $17.00 at the door. Student tickets are $10.00 with I.D. Admission to the silent auction is free. The proceeds from this event go to support CAR’s community organizing and cultural arts program work. To purchase tickets call 501-244-9690 or e-mail ArtChangesU2@sbcglobal.net

***NOTE: Help get the word out. Forward this message to your e-lists, friends and family. Center for Artistic Revolution, CAR, P.O. Box 2300 N. Little Rock, AR 72114, (501) 244-9690 ArtChangesU2@sbcglobal.net

--February 13, 12:30 to 4:30, ARKU 507-508, Diversity Training - “Diversity: Our Campus-Building a More Inclusive UofA” (Session 2)
--February 16 - February 18, Friday through Sunday, Eureka Springs, Arkansas - VALENTINE’S DIVERSITY WEEKEND. For information, contact www.diversitypride.com
--March 6, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m, ARKU 513-514, Diversity Training - “Diversity: Our Campus-Building a More Inclusive UofA” (Session 3)

WHAT’S GOING ON?---CURRENT EVENTS

ERA BEFORE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Two excellent NWA legislators, Rep. Lindsley Smith and Sen. Sue Madison, have introduced the Equal Right Amendment into the state House and Senate for ratification. Governor Mike Beebe has endorsed this effort, and according to the polls, the ERA is favored overwhelmingly by Americans. Retrograde male lawmakers, and some retrograde women such as Phyllis Schlafly who heads the conservative Eagle Forum that’s been lobbying against the Arkansas ERA effort, have stood in the way of the amendment’s adoption. The ERA needs only three more states for ratification as a constitutional amendment.

Please contact your state legislators and encourage them to support the ERA’s ratification, and encourage your friends to contact legislators and let them know how important this is for women’s equality. You might write to Gov. Mike Beebe, Lt. Gov. Bill Halter, Sec. of State Charlie Daniels, and Treasurer Martha Shoffner thanking them for their support on this. You can find names, phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses of Arkansas state officers and legislators at the Arkansas government’s website http://www.state.ar.us/. Use the pull-down menu under "Government" at the top of the web page.

THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS WORKER’S JUSTICE CENTER PRESENTS A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS ENTITLED JUSTICE FOR WOMEN IN THE POULTRY INDUSTRY.

CENTRO DE JUSTICIA PARA LOS TRABAJADORES DEL NORESTE DE ARKANSAS PRESENTA JUSTICIA PARA LAS TRABAJADORAS EN LA INDUSTRIA AVÍCOLA.

Where:
At the Jones Center for FamiliesRoom 113 (the music room)
En el Jones Center for families Salón 113 (el salón de música)

When:
Every Tuesday at 7:00pm beginning February 6,2007 and ending March 3,2007.
Todos los martes principio 6 de Febrero y la conclusión 3 de Marzo.

Contact:
Workshops/Talleres:

**February 6, 2007 at 7 pm:**
Staying Healthy: Reducing Repetitive Motion and Other Common Poultry Workplace Injuries.
Licensed massage therapists Rebekah Wood and Melanie Pyron will present self-massage techniques and ways to maintain your health while working at tasks that require repetitive motion.

**February 13, 2007 at 7 pm:**
Know Your Rights: Workplace Safety Training
Tom Carson of the University of Arkansas Labor Education center will present: Safety and health rights in the workplace. Including how to document injury or dangerous working conditions while protecting your job.

**February 20, 2007 at 7 pm:**
Taxes: Question and Answer About Filling Out and Filing Tax Forms. If you have specific questions you would like answered, call the Worker's Center at (479) 750-8015 before February 15th. We will address as many of these questions as we can during the workshop. Be sure to bring relevant tax forms with you.

**February 27, 2007 at 7 pm:**
Women in the Workplace: Dealing with Sexual Harassment and Discrimination. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission will present: The rights of women in the workplace including pregnancy leave, sexual harassment and other issues women deal with in the workplace.

**March 3, 2007 at 7 pm:**

Building a Community of Workers: Where Do We Go From Here? This session is for women who want more information about creating workplaces that pay fair wages, are safe and free from discrimination and harassment. Small groups will talk about issues in the workplace and what the Worker's Center can do in the future to create workshops or other education organizing opportunities for Hispanic women in the poultry industry.

3 de Marzo del 2007 de 7:00 pm:

Conservando una comunidad de Trabajadores ¿Para donde vamos? Esta sección es para las mujeres que quieren obtener más información para crear lugares de trabajo que paguen salarios justos, se sientan seguras y libres de ser discriminadas y acosadas. Pequeños grupos se reunirán y hablarán sobre temas laborales y lo que el Centro de trabajadores podrá hacer en un futuro para crear talleres de trabajo u otro tipo de oportunidades educativas para las mujeres latinas en la industria avícola.

**CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY IN FAYETTEVILLE**

We need to act fast. You may have heard of the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association’s Brooks-Hummel Nature Reserve Project (see fayettevillenatural.org). If FNHA can raise $247,000 by February 28th, they will ask the city to provide an additional $247,000 for the purchase of the land. So far FNHA has raised $117,000 for the project, and they may soon get a matching $50,000 grant, so this project is really doable.

If you would like to contribute in OMNI’s name, please send me (Steven Skattebo) a check written out to "OMNI," earmarked clearly (by writing "FNHA" in the memo line). I will wait until February 10th, then I will write a check from OMNI to FNHA for the total amount collected. If you need a 501(c)(3) contribution letter, I can provide that for you.

In the event a sufficient amount is not received to fund this project, I can refund your contribution.

Thank you
Steven Skattebo
OMNI Treasurer
2103 Loren Circle
Fayetteville, AR 72701

**STOPPING THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR, SUDAN**

Since early 2003, the Sudanese military and government-sponsored militias have carried out targeted killing of black Africans in Sudan’s Darfur region. 400,000 people are dead, tens of thousand of girls (as young as eight) and women brutally gang-raped, 2.5 million displaced and at risk of starvation (whose refugee camps are now under attack), 90 percent of Darfurian villages have been destroyed.

The state of Arkansas and the Universities of Arkansas (through public employee retirement schemes and endowments) unknowingly invest more that 10 billion dollars in equities, bonds, etc. issued by companies that finance and provide infrastructure that aids the government of Sudan’s conduct of genocide.

If you wish to help stop the genocide in Darfur, contact your state legislators and University Board of Regents and ask them to divest from companies that are linked to the genocide in Darfur, Sudan.

For more information, contact [http://sudandivestment-arkansas.blogspot.com/](http://sudandivestment-arkansas.blogspot.com/) or email stand@uark.edu to reach the Arkansas Sudan Divestment Taskforce, c/o Students Taking Action Now: Darfur, ARKU A665, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.
OMNI MULLINS LIBRARY PEACE BOOK AND FILM COLLECTION

The endowed collection is composed of four subject areas: VICTIMS, NONVIOLENCE, INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING, WHISTLEBLOWING. Rationale: In a world in which the value of victory over others too often predominates—militarists, imperialists, dominionists, bigots—, these books and films foreground the value of caring for the victims of economic, military, and religious depredations.

Nonviolence is a chief value underlying the protection and rescue of the victims of the world. In the word "Satyagraha," the name Gandhi gave to a way of overcoming injustice, "satya" means the search for truth and "agraha" means persistence. Inseparable from Satyagraha is "Ahimsa": that is, "a-himsa" (hims: desiring to kill): the effort to avoid killing until the desire to kill has been replaced by love for others and justice.

The "search for" and the "effort to" remind us of Gandhi’s lifelong "experiments with truth." Investigative journalists and whistleblowers are two kinds of people who assist us in our search for truth. Working outside centers of power, these journalists are dedicated to the persistent exposure of corruption and discovery of truth, always the essential initial step toward justice.

Working inside governments and corporations, whistleblowers take great economic and even life-threatening risks to expose wrongdoing and return truth and honesty to ruling enterprises.

Thanks to Molly Boyd, Mullins has a news rotator item about the "Peace" collection. You can see it at http://libinfo.uark.edu/. You may have to click the reload button on your browser several times to get it to come up.

Or, you can view it directly through the feeds at http://libinfo.uark.edu/info/whatsnew.asp. Notice on that "What’s New?" page, we have added a new link to "Collection News," which features the Omni Center Collection. You can access it directly on http://libinfo.uark.edu/info/collectionnews.asp.

CALL FOR PAPERS
From the Center for Human Rights and Civil Liberties to be presented at the second Annual Conference on Human Rights: Genocide in the 20th and 21st Centuries: Cases, Causes and Cures (Other topics also welcome on human rights or civil liberties) March 23-24, 2007, Liberal Arts Building on the Hattiesburg, Miss. campus of Southern Miss.

LOOK WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO -- HAPPENINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED

OMNI CENTER’S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
It was a full house at Omni’s Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, January 26. After a potluck dinner and social time, we moved upstairs into the United Campus Ministries’ Chapel for musical entertainment from Omni’s own Co-vice presidents Kelly Mulhollan and Donna Stjerna (Still on the Hill). Joining Donna and Kelly was eight-year-old Alexis Wilkins who performed a song that she had composed at age six. After listening to her sing at age eight, it’s hard to imagine how great this remarkable talent will be at eighteen.

Art Hobson presented a tribute to Omni’s Co-founder Dick Bennett who is stepping down as president. Then Dick introduced the incoming officers: Gladys Tiffany and Melanie Dietzel, Co-presidents; Kelly Mulhollan and Donna Stjerna, Co-vice presidents and Steve Skattebo, Treasurer.

Since there are too many committees to have had break-out sessions for all, Gladys Tiffany, coordinator for the meeting chose four focus issues: Global Warming, Darfur Divestment Project, M11 Peace March and Rally, and Creating a Culture of Peace—What Does It Mean? Following the 45-minute sessions, we came back to the chapel for a report from each group. The groups had decided when their next meetings would be to work on their issues.

Everyone who attended the membership meeting filled out an interest sheet that will help the
steering committee know who is interested in what projects as we move through the year. Thanks to the
dedication and perseverance of John Ray and Marc Quigley, Omni now has a data base where we can enter
names of new members and what their interests are. Those who joined or renewed their memberships
received a Omni New Members Manual that was designed by Susan Idlet.

The executive and steering committees look forward to an exciting year as we grow in membership
and projects as we continue our mission of a culture of peace in an earth restored.

"THOMAS PAINE DAY" GATHERING

On January 29th, Thomas Paine's 270 year birthday anniversary, 20 people gathered for dinner to
commemorate and learn more about that important, unsung, uncelebrated American hero. People from many
areas of interest took part in making known how much Paine influenced them and how he changed, and can
still change, world events by our following his rational way of thinking.

Event organizer, Jack Makens, introduced Paine by giving a short history of his life. Some were
amazed to learn that Paine had given our country its name, "United States of America," and that he has been
called the "Father of the American Revolution." Talks followed by Mary Slaughter, Bill Harter, Dick Bennett
and Cheryl Cerell.

Mary, 91 year olds, said that she "was excited that Representative Lindsley Smith's Bill HB1317
pending to be passed in the Arkansas Legislature opens the door to a long overdue tribute by establishing a
'Thomas Paine Day' on January 29th." She continued, " It also opens the door of educating Arkansans as to
why we have the good fortune of being American citizens, rather then British subjects."

Professor Bill Harter focused on an education method, Occam's Razor, that is so sadly lacking today.
William of Occam (circa 1300's) said "The less assumed at first the more we derive later." It is a
technique, used in science producing logical efficiency. On this point Harter connects Occum to Paine, saying
"Occum may have shared some of the insight and courage for which we admire Paine." Professor Harter sees
the absence of this vital factor in the reasoning process produces unsound reasoning throughout our nation,
and that affects progress towards peace within our nation and in relationships with other nations. It is vital
in this nuclear age to have rational elected leaders as the stakes are paramount to humanity's survival. At
home we have the "difficult balancing act" as Bill points out: "The two Toms (Paine and his friend Jefferson)
both noted that Democracy is a difficult balancing act that requires an educated populace." Here, then, as
Bill sees it, is the crux of the problem. The solution: Add Occum's Razor to the reasoning process and greatly
improve the standard of education and maintain the balance that is difficult but necessary for a Democracy
and in order to find peaceful solutions to international problems.

Dick Bennett's topic was, "Tom Paine Against War." Dick stated, " Tom supported warring by the
people against tyrants for liberty and rights--the U. S. and French revolutions specifically. But he opposed
other wars, on three grounds: 1) they are irrational--impractical, costly, damaging to winners and losers: 2)
they are immoral, inflicting misery upon combatants and civilians; and 3) they result in power concentrated in
the executives, domestic repression, state terror. The true greatness of a nation is measured by the
humaneness and liberty of its people, not by its pursuit of military victories."

Cheryl's Cerell discussed the "Age of Enlightenment" and Right Ideas. "The age of enlightenment (the
age of science), stated Cheryl, influenced Paine, Franklin and Jefferson by their use of a tool known as the
Scientific Method; separating right ideas from mere personal opinion or mystic beliefs. Truth, can be a
threatening thing to those who wish to cling to superstition, or for those who wish to control others by
capitalizing on the ignorance of others." She went on to say that, " It takes courage to speak the truth, and
Thomas Paine was a master at it. Most don't know how to apply the Scientific Method to their daily lives and
are in constant battles trying to control others to their biased preferences. Like Paine, we must find
methods based on the Scientific Method for solving problems peacefully and on a win-win-win basis if
civilization is to survive."

(Note) Bill HB1317 is still in Committee or has reached the floor of the house. Therefore, any person can
give its support in the passage of this Bill by e-mailing, FAXing or phoning Representatives. For more
information on how to contact members of the Arkansas Congress, contact Jack Makens: 444-8149 or
b4ethics@yahoo.com
RAPID RESPONDERS GET REPORT FROM FREE PRESS MEDIA REFORM CONFERENCE

We enjoyed a dynamite RR writers group meeting Saturday morning thanks to Louise Montgomery and Melanie Dietzel who presented a summary of their experiences at the third annual Conference on Media Reform held in Memphis, Tennessee January 12 through 14.

Melanie highlighted her experiences in different workshops. Louise used an effective combination of computerized audio recording and printed handouts. Both women reported that the energy was high, the conference’s 3500 participants were inspired.

While many speakers impressed both Louise and Melanie, Bill Moyers seemed to be the most popular. His talk can be found at truthout.com in three formats.

We were pleased to have as a special guest George Arnold, editorial columnist in the Northwest Arkansas office or the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. George agreed to conduct a presentation for RR next month (March) on editorial policies, effective letters and other tips and insights that he has gained from his long career in newspapers.

State Representative Lindsley Smith (Democrat from Fayetteville) gave us insight on the current status of ratifying the ERA in Arkansas. The current ERA effort has been around over 30 years and must gain ratification of three fourths of the states in order to be accepted as an Amendment to U.S. Constitution. Three more states are needed. Ratification must take place in the Arkansas General Assembly; there will be no public vote. She urged us to contact as many state senators as we could and urge them to vote for ratification. Tentatively, our March 3 meeting will be held a Fayetteville Public Library.

Submitted by Larry Woodall

OMNI SEEKS A WORLD FREE OF WAR AND THE THREAT OF WAR, A SOCIETY WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL, A COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY PERSON’S POTENTIAL MAY BE FULFILLED, AN EARTH RESTORED. GRASSROOTS NONVIOLENCE, WORLD PEACE, HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL and ECONOMIC JUSTICE, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROTECTING SPECIES AND THE EARTH.

CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

  · Phone: (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.
  · Fayetteville Office: 251-1380

--Senator Mark Pryor: Web Site (see contact link): www.pryor.senate.gov;
http://pryor.senate.gov/contact/
  · Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908
  · Main District Office: 500 Pres. Clinton Ave., Suite 401, Little Rock, AR 72201
  · Phone: (501) 324-6336 Fax: (501) 324-5320

--Congressman John Boozman, District 3, 12 counties from Benton to Washington
  · Lowell Office: 479-725-0400. 213 W. Monroe, Suite K, 72745. Steve Gray, coordinator of office. Web site (with contact link): http://www.boozman.house.gov/ Heath Hasenbeck, intern (one of them). Boozman’s new office in Lowell is located at 213 West Monroe in Lowell between I 540 and Business 71. To reach that office take Exit 78 off I - 540 and go east. You will be on Hwy 264 which is also West Monroe. The office is in the Puppy Creek Plaza, past the McDonald’s on the right. His suite is in the back of the complex to the left.
  · Harrison Office: 870-741-6900; 402 N. Walnut, Suite 210, Harrison 72601.
  · DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldng., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.