

## VISITORS' LOG: THE *NEW LETTERS* GUEST BOOK

On November 8th, 2008, **Robert Stackhouse** and **Carol Mickett** joined Robert Stewart and others for a dinner at the home of Dick Belger, of the John and Maxine Belger Family Foundation, which supports the Belger Arts Center in Kansas City; on November 14, **Sean Hill** visited Kansas City to record a discussion of his poetry collection *Blood Ties & Brown Liquor* for *New Letters on the Air*; award winning playwright **James Still** visited with Angela Elam on January 16th to discuss three new plays debuting in 2009; **Mia Leonin**, a guest of the Midwest Poets Series on November 20th, was interviewed the next day by *New Letters on the Air*; poet and film-maker **James Bogan** stopped by our offices on January 26th; **Robert Day**, best-selling author of *The Last Cattle Drive*, and Fred Whitehead,

author of articles on free thought, met with Robert Stewart on January 31st for dinner and lively discussion; on February 5th, Robert Stewart, director of the Midwest Poets Series, brought in **Debra Marquart**, winner of the 2007 PEN USA Award for Essay. The evening provided great poetry, blues and nonfiction; **C.D. Wright**, former Poet Laureate of Rhode Island and author of a dozen collections of poetry and prose, met with the *New Letters* staff for lunch on March 10th, while visiting as the Cockefair Chair writer-in-residence; on March 11th, C.D. Wright joined UMKC's creative writing faculty for a discussion on the relationship between poetry and the political life of a country, and what she means when she suggests that "poetry doesn't protect you anymore."