From Wisconsin Poets

Three years ago when Carl Haywood asked me to collect and edit a selection of poetry for each issue of Transactions, I leapt at the chance to share the joy and insight that I find in poetry with members of the Academy and other readers of the journal. I have been nothing but astounded and immensely pleased at the level of support I have had for this project from the Academy Board, the staff of Transactions, and the poets themselves, who have given unstintingly of their work and their time. This ground swell of interest and support found perhaps its epitome with the recent publication of the special issue of Transactions entitled Wisconsin Poetry, an anthology of three hundred poems by sixty-five Wisconsin poets, which represents the largest and most comprehensive collection of Wisconsin poetry published in nearly fifty years.

I am especially thankful for the interest and support expressed to me by members of the Academy I have met at readings throughout the state held in conjunction with publication of that special issue. It is a direct result of that interest, and the efforts of Carl Haywood, that there will be an ongoing session devoted to Wisconsin poetry at the yearly meeting of the Academy, as well as sponsorship of the publication of individual collections of poetry by Wisconsin poets.

The editorship of Transactions is changing, along with the site of its publication. I am sure that poetry will continue to be a part of Transactions as well as a part of the mission and service of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters.

Bruce Taylor