

campaign focus

BIRGER SANDZÉN



David Cook chats with a guest in front of Red Farm and Wheat Shocks, 1950, at the reception in Denver.

Campaign Update

Goal: \$3,000,000

Collected to Date: \$1,270,353

(as of June 30, 2009)

Over the coming months, the Connections Campaign will be hosting several receptions across Kansas as we continue to spread the news about the campaign. One of the highlights of each reception is that we bring several large oil paintings from the Gallery's permanent collection. For more information about a particular reception, please contact the Gallery.

Current Schedule:

July 20: Wichita, Emprise Bank

September (TBA): Kansas City

October 1: Hutchinson

October 11: Lindsborg (Hylningsfest)

November (TBA): Topeka

December (TBA): Clay Center and McPherson

Sandzén Returns to Denver!

In our continuing effort to extend our outreach and influence, we co-hosted a series of events in mid-June at the David Cook Galleries (DCG), Denver, Colorado. Because of the generosity and hard work of David and Linda Cook, Carrie Wasse Miller, and the rest of their staff, it was an enormous success and we were able to meet hundreds of people.

In addition to two oil paintings and several watercolors from our collection, several Denver-area collectors agreed to lend their Sandzén artwork for the 2-day open house and exhibit. We believe it was the first-ever, solo Sandzén exhibit held in Denver! All told, more than 30 oils, 6 watercolors, and 2-dozen prints were wonderfully exhibited for the limited engagement.

Over 50 people came to a private reception on June 18 at DCG to see the exhibit and listen to a presentation about the Sandzén Gallery and the Connections Campaign. On Friday night, the 19th, Ron Michael, our curator, gave a wonderful lecture about Sandzén (Sandzén and the New Land) to a standing room only crowd of over 100! After a very nice article about Sandzén and the open house in the Denver Post on the 19th, between 600 and 700 people toured the exhibit.

All told, it was an amazing success and a great reminder of not only how popular Sandzén continues to be, but also how much love and enthusiasm people have for his art.

Campaign Leadership

Mark & Stacy Parkinson, *honorary co-chairs*
Ranee Koger, *campaign co-chair*
Ruth Browne, *board chair*
Larry Griffis, *gallery director*
Clay Myers-Bowman, *development director*

visit sandzen.org for campaign updates

BIRGER SANDZÉN MEMORIAL GALLERY

Creative Gifts Through Retirement Plans

by Vern Henricks, *campaign counsel*

Do you feel you have more than enough funds in your IRA to provide for the future financial well-being of you and your loved ones? If so, it may be convenient for you to make a gift from the surplus.

It can be gratifying to know that the funds you carefully saved over a lifetime may be given now or as part of a prudent estate plan. Since funds remaining in these plans can be subject to both income and estate taxes, it may be wise to make charitable gifts in this way and leave other assets to loved ones.

You may recall the Pension Protection Act, which Congress recently extended through 2009. It gives individuals who are at least 70½ years of age the opportunity to make tax-free charitable gifts from IRA's to qualified charities. Donors may choose to make charitable distributions (from traditional or Roth IRAs) in any amount

up to \$100,000. A couple with separate IRAs could each give up to that amount. Individuals who are required to take unneeded IRA withdrawals, and others who have experienced limitations on tax benefits in the past, will find the renewed provision of particular interest.

This benefit only applies to gifts made prior to December 31, 2009 unless further extended by Congress. See your IRA administrator for more information.



Guests enjoy the opening reception of the Sandzén exhibit at David Cook Galleries in Denver.