

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHITMAN MEDAL

A commemorative Whitman medal, designed in 1976 by Henri Lagriffoul and struck by the French mint, is now available for purchase. The medal, pictured below, comes in copper (costing 160 francs, about \$30), brass (235 F), and silver (1960 F). Medals can be ordered from Monnaies de Paris, 11 Quai Conti, 75270 Paris, Cedex 06.



NEW DRUM-TAPS

Gwasg Gregynog, a fine Welsh press specializing in limited editions, has announced the publication this autumn of *Wrenching Times*, a selection from Whitman's *Drum-Taps*, with an introduction and notes by M. Wynn Thomas, and with color wood engravings by Gaylord Schanilec. According to the press announcement, Thomas has arranged the poems "in a new and illuminating sequence," and Schanilec's "finely detailed multi-colour wood engravings capture the American landscape with a savage accuracy." Details, including price, are available from Gwasg Gregynog, Newtown, Powys SY16 3PW, Wales.

1855 LEAVES OF GRASS FOR SALE

Catalogue 1 (new series) of *Thomas A. Goldwasser: Rare Books* (P.O. Box 11727, Berkeley, CA 94701) lists a first edition of *Leaves of Grass*, "the only known copy preserving the uncorrected first state of the title leaf, without any copyright notice." According to the catalogue copy, the book is "a very good, bright copy" and "may be a press-room leftover, a gift, or a salvage copy." It is priced at \$15,000.

BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRIES

So that the Current Bibliography can remain as complete as possible, scholars are encouraged to send *WWQR* offprints of or citations for articles, notes, or book chapters that they have written about Whitman. When readers come across newspaper articles, journal articles, or book chapters about Whitman, they are encouraged to send copies and full citations to *WWQR*. All such correspondence should be addressed to Ed Folsom, Editor, *WWQR*, 308 EPB, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242.

“PURE GRASS”: WHITMAN PERFORMANCE PIECE

With support from the South Dakota Arts Council, Bruce A. Noll has been offering performances of his one-man dramatic program called *Pure Grass* to audiences in South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa. Evolving over the past two decades, “Pure Grass” dramatizes excerpts from *Leaves of Grass*, emphasizing “nature, love, death, equality of the sexes and the similarities of human experience.” For schedules and bookings, contact Bruce A. Noll, Director, Educational Media Center, University of South Dakota, 414 E. Clark Street, Vermillion, SD 57069-2390.

AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION

The second annual American Literature Association meeting was held May 24-26, 1991, in Washington, D.C. The session on Walt Whitman, moderated by Jerome Loving (California State University, Fresno), included Calvin Bedient (UCLA) on the beautiful and the sublime in Whitman, Kenneth Price (Texas A&M University) on Harvard’s response to Whitman, Ed Folsom (University of Iowa) on Whitman’s reconstructive poetics in “Ethiopia Saluting the Colors,” and Sherry Ceniza (Texas Tech University) on nineteenth-century women’s responses to the 1860 *Leaves of Grass*. Next year’s meeting of the ALA, to be held in San Diego, will feature special sessions honoring the Whitman centennial.

WHITMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

The Whitman Studies Association is an international group devoted to promoting research and writing related to Walt Whitman and his work. The WSA organizes the Whitman sessions for the annual meeting of the American Literature Association, and it serves as a facilitator for the distribution and exchange of Whitman-related scholarship. Membership in the WSA is available to interested scholars for \$5.00 per year. Current subscribers to the *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* can join the WSA for \$3.00, and new members of the WSA who add a subscription to *WWQR* will receive a discounted subscription rate of \$10. To join, complete the form below and send to Ed Folsom, Whitman Studies Association, 308 EPB, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242.