

## NEWSLETTER: February 2007

January began with our return from a 2500 mile road trip that included the Phoenix Grand Canyon Baha'i Conference. Over 3000 people attended from all over the United States and other countries in the world. The main theme was practical ways to bring about peace on earth, and maintain its proliferation, starting with individual prayer and active participation in an education process on how to wage peace, not war.

Mary Ellen and I left Phoenix the day after Christmas, traveled to the Navajo Reservation and visited friends there. Heading for the little town of, Corona, New Mexico, we passed through Gallup where, more than a decade ago, the first Native American Film Festival was held. I was invited to open the event with the first showing in 60 years of, "The Redskin," a movie starring my Dad, Richard Dix. It had been lost for those many years. A faithful fan found it in the Kennedy Performing Arts Museum in Washington, DC. Memories of the crowded theater and hundreds of people, Native American and Americans from all backgrounds, standing and applauding a silent movie made in 1927, remain with me to this day. I'm happy to say the Native American Film Festival is still going on today.

By the time we got to Corona, New Mexico, a gigantic winter storm was being reported on all the news programs. We witnessed Denver, Colorado, buried in snow on TV, said good-bye to our friends, and were chased out of the state by the leading edge of the snow storm.

We stopped to visit long time friends of mine in St. David, AZ, then on to Tombstone, "the town to tough to die." We witnessed the staged gunfights, had a bite to eat in the famous, Kate's Saloon," and I bought a black, cowboy hat for our upcoming visit as guests at "The Roy Rogers Film Festival," which we will attend February 17 & 18.

I have been asked to bring photographs from the past and present, the movies, TV Shows and head shots to be signed for fans there. Mary Ellen and I have been pleasantly surprised at how many fans request signed photographs at other Film Festivals we have attended, some bringing one sheet advertisements and posters from movies I have worked in through the years. Next month I'll report on the event.

As I have said before, "There are no strangers, only friends we haven't met yet." We'll keep you posted on other film festivals and other activities coming up this year.