

FROM THE PRESIDENT

For the past 48 years Western Plains Arts Association has been providing our Northwest Kansas area with an array of cultural opportunities. This past year saw good attendance and an enthusiastic response to the choice of programs. As we are getting ready for our 49th season, WPAA continues to offer programs to appeal to a variety of tastes.

This is the time of the year that communities are planning 4th of July patriotic events. WPAA is mindful that honor and respect for our country is an essential part of the Arts. For that reason, scheduling one of the US military bands is always a priority. Programs featuring American and/ or Kansas history are also included.



On the tentative list of programs is the US Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors in October. A returning favorite storyteller—Pippa White—will present "Voices from Ellis Island." Celebrating Kansas history, Ann Birney will do a program on Amelia Earhart.

Thanks to all who support WPAA in any way. There is no doubt that arts organizations would not be able to exist without the support they receive from their communities. WPAA's support comes largely from our local citizens--businesses and members.

I am looking forward to this season's programs. There is a tentative list of 17 programs, so there should be something for everyone.

Sincerely, Wilma Mai

TENTATIVE PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 2018-19 SEASON

This is a tentative schedule and all programs are subject to change. Please check the program booklet which will be printed later this summer for more definite information on performances.

Sunday, September 16, 3:00 p.m. From Branson THE CARL ACUFF SHOWBAND will do a variety show of new and old country, gospel, comedy, do wop and roll'n'roll music at the Hoxie H S Auditorium.

Sunday, September 23, 3:00 p.m. DERIK NELSON & FAMILY will perform '40s & '50s jazz standards, '60s & '70s pop/rock hits and chart toppers of today infused with their signature sound of velvety harmonies. Cultural Arts Center, Colby

Sunday, September 30, 3:00 p.m. ST. LOUIS BRASS, one of America's longest standing brass quintets, will share their expertise in great brass music. Cultural Arts Center, Colby

Sunday, October 14, 3:00 p.m. (2:00 p.m. M. T..) Hailed as rich and captivating, the ALTIUS QUARTET is a dynamic string ensemble that communicates a strong musical voice in their diverse repertoire. Goodland H S Auditorium

Mon., Wed. October 15-17 WICHITA CHILDREN'S THEATRE will present "Little Red Riding Hood" in area schools. Quinter, Oakley, Colby, St. Francis, Goodland, Winona

Tuesday, October 16, 7:30 p.m. WICHITA CHILDREN'S THEATRE will present "Little Red Riding Hood" in a public performance. Rawlins County H.S. Auditorium, Atwood

Thursday, October 25, 7:30 p.m. The U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND JAZZ AMBASSADORS will perform a rousing show of concert and patriotic music. Cultural Arts Center, Colby

Saturday, November 3, 7:30 p.m., Finalists on America's Got Talent, SONS OF SERENDIP will play classy, spiritual and timeless music.. Cultural Arts Center, Colby

Sunday, December 9, 3:00 p.m. The BAR D WRANGLERS will entertain the whole family with their music and comedy stage show geared especially for the Christmas season. Cultural Arts Center, Colby

Sunday, January 13, 3:00 p.m. Icons of Western Music, the legendary SONS OF THE PIONEERS will perform their unique style of Americana. Oakley H.S. Auditorium

Saturday, January 26, 7:30 p.m. RIDE INTO HISTORY with ANN BIRNEY will do a show about Amelia Earhart. Gateway, Oberlin

Sunday, January 27, 7:30 p.m. RIDE INTO HISTORY with ANN BIRNEY will do a show about Amelia Earhart as well as a presentation for students the next day. Quinter H.S. Auditorium

Continued next page

Decorative border with stars and text: Kansas Army National Guard 35th Infantry Division Band A PATRIOTIC CONCERT Wednesday July 18th, 7:30 pm Colby Community College OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

MEMBER PROFILE

Sharon Springs residents Dean and Mildred Schemm have been attending WPAA programs for most of the past 48 years and have been either members or sponsors for an undetermined number of years. They believe that music is important to a community and that WPAA is a group of individuals and businesses that are instrumental in bringing good music programs to the people of Northwest Kansas. According to them it is good that people can enjoy music here



rather than having to drive to distant places to see and hear the same kind of programs that are provided by WPAA at a reasonable cost.

Mildred has a long history of being a musician herself. As far as can be determined she began playing piano for Sunday School in about 1943. She attended Bethany College for a year studying music and returned to Sharon Springs and married Dean Schemm. Mrs. Johnson, long time pianist at Sharon Lutheran Church, retired and Mildred assumed that role which continues to this day. At times she shared that role and that of choir director with Arla Homburg and Eunice Mai, both of whom have been supporters of WPAA. The Schemm family provided a pipe organ when a new church building was built in 1953 which Mildred played until the organ tuner recommended discontinuing using it due to deteriorating electrical conductors inside the organ. A thank you to Mildred for actively playing piano or organ in a church setting for 75 years.

150th ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF BEECHER ISLAND

The formation of a "Special Forces" team of 50 western scouts under Maj. George A "Sandy" Forsyth and their epic fight for survival on an Arickaree sandbar in far eastern Colorado stands as one of the most unique sagas in American military history.

Four events are planned to commemorate the 150th anniversary of that battle with lectures and re-enactors appearing at 4 different locations relevant to the history. Descendants of the scouts as well as representatives of the Plains Tribes who fought to protect their hunting grounds will be at some of the locations.

Locations are Fort Harker, Kanopolis, Aug 25-26; Fort Hays Historic Site Sept. 1-2; Fort Wallace Museum, Sept. 8-9 and finally Beecher Island Memorial Assn. near Wray, CO. during the weekend of Sept. 15-17 with their 119th Reunion of Forsyth Scouts. Re-enactors, a black powder shoot, races games, music and a quilt display will be part of the observances. Go to Facebook "Beecher Island Battle Memorial Association".

Excerpts from "Guardians of Fort Wallace Quarterly"

Season continued

Sunday February 10, 3:00 p.m. In an African-style Cirque du Soleil, **CIRQUE ZUMA ZUMA** will perform their amazing dance and acrobatic feats. [Oakley H.S. Auditorium](#)

Sunday, February 24, 3:00 p.m. C.T. (2:00 M.T.) **PIPPA WHITE** will present "**Voices from Ellis Island**" as the first experience of life in America for millions of immigrants.

[Wallace County H.S. Auditorium, Sharon Springs](#)

February. 25, School presentation in Sharon Springs and St. Francis

Sunday March 10, 3:00 p.m. The **PEACHERINE RAG-TIME SOCIETY ORCHESTRA** recreates the syncopated stylings of a bygone era underscored by classic silent film features. [Oakley H.S. Auditorium](#)

Monday, March 18, 7:30 p.m. The popular **CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES** troupe gives the gents a chance to shine in their new show called "**Rise Up, O Men**". [Oakley H.S. Auditorium](#)

Sunday, April 7, 3:00 p.m. With American roots and Celtic soul, **SWITCHBACK** will play an exciting mix of mandolin, guitar and bass as well as share their velvety vocal blend. [Oakley H.S. Auditorium](#)

TBD, Pride of the Prairie Orchestra

This is a tentative schedule and all programs are subject to change. All program times are listed as Central Time and those in the Mountain Time zone are noted.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD

The annual meeting of WPAA was held April 1. Wilma Mai was elected as president Marilyn Meier, president-elect, Jan Barnum secretary and Betty Hockersmith as treasurer. The president serves for two years. Eric and Roxey Yonkey are Media Correspondents.

A thank you to David Leopold for his 16 years of service as treasurer. It was much appreciated by the board and members of WPAA. Taking over those responsibilities is new board member Betty Hockersmith of Oakley.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Ruth Smith of Winona and Chelsea Schmitt of Atwood were accepted as new board members. Evelyn Engel is retiring from the board after 8 years of service representing Oakley. Also retiring after being a board member from Atwood for 24 years was Carole Luedders.

COMMUNITY CALENDARS

ATWOOD Rawlins Co. H.S. Friday, July 6, 7 pm and Sunday July 8, 3 pm. Disney's "The Jungle Book - Kids"
COLBY

Picnic in the park at Fike Park Wednesdays at noon to 1:00 through July 18. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket plus a lunch. Music while you eat by various groups.

Pickin' on the plains

July 20-22, Bluegrass and Folk Festival, at Fairgrounds

GOODLAND

Goodland High School; Friday July 20, 7 pm MT and Sunday July 22, 5 pm MT. Disney's "Cinderella - Kids"
Carnegie Arts Center

July 9-12, 9:00 am; A study of Heroes

July 23-26, 9:00 am; Head Straight for the Castle
July Exhibit; Rebel Kay Mahieu

CARNEGIE ARTS CENTER,

Tuesday through Thursday 12-4 p.m.

Saturday 10-4 p.m.

785-890-6442

<http://goodlandarts.org/>

HOXIE H.S Auditorium July 13, 7 pm and Sunday July 15, 3 pm. Dreamworks' "Shrek the Musical Jr."

WALLACE

Fort Wallace Museum

September 8-9, Assembly of Forsyth Scouts and Battle of Beecher Island event. One of 4 locations recognizing the 150th anniversary of the battle.

Summer hours [April-October], Monday-Saturday; 9-5, Sunday; 1-5. All times are Mountain Time.

PICKIN' ON THE PLAINS

Yet again, you're guaranteed to enjoy some of the most wholesome entertainment to be had at Pickin' On The Plains 2018. We welcome The Gibson Brothers: Two-time IBMA Entertainers of the Year, Two-time IBMA Vocal Group, and several SPGMA awards. These guys do it right! As most of you know, this festival doesn't just bring out one hot-shot band. Special Concensus toured worldwide, released 18 albums, and were nominated for a Grammy. The Farm Hands received over 40 awards and nominations since their inception in 2010. We're blessed to have them back as their schedule includes over 150 dates per year. These are only a few of the top-notch entertainers on the list this year, so check out the **Bands** page for the full lineup!

<http://www.pickinontheplains.com/>

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UNDERWAY

Board members are in the process of contacting current members and sponsors for the 49th WPAA season programs. If you have not been contacted or know of someone interested in being a sponsor or member please contact someone on the board member list on page 4 of this newsletter.

SUMMER STREET FESTIVAL

The Main Street Arts Council (MSAC) is pleased to present the 2018 Main Street Summer Theater Festival providing performance opportunities for Northwest Kansas area youth.

Under the direction of Bonnie Cameron, executive director of the MSAC, the festival will feature performances throughout July in three locations: Atwood, Hoxie and Goodland. Cameron is assisted by student interns Mattie Higley, Atwood; Sophia Hampton, Atwood; Tabor Rucker, Hoxie; Jacqueline Chacon, Atwood; and Kathryn Haffner, Hoxie. Kayla Tiemeyer, Rawlins County High School music teacher, is directing the Atwood production. Ticket prices range from \$8 to \$15, Children under 5, free. See places and dates in **Comm. Calendars**

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT Jan Barnum and the Colby Flea Market *by Amie Kendrick*

If you're wanting to have a fun experience inside from the heat this summer, head down to Franklin and walk into the Colby Flea Market! Whether you are looking for something to upcycle, or vintage glassware, cupboards, seasonal decor, or small shadowbox items, you can find it there!

Owners Scott and Jan Barnum and Bruce and Deb Johnson opened the store four years ago, and it has been going gangbusters ever since! Director Deb Johnson is very knowledgeable regarding items of worth, and has the rooms tastefully decorated and pleasing to the eye! You won't come away empty handed, even if you didn't plan on finding something!! The store's area is somewhere around 2500 square feet with two large display rooms currently, and a separate warehouse storing treasures Deb can locate if you know what you are needing. There are hundreds of consignors and vendors, and they are always adding new inventory. Deb's catch phrase is, "We sell memories", and if you have an idea of what you are seeking, she will know where in the store to find it, or an acquaintance who might be willing to part with it!! Many comments from the community say that it is such a wonderful service to know their treasures are being enjoyed by someone else when they no longer have room for them.

The business has been included in Jan and Scott's Western Plains Arts Sustaining Membership listing for the past two years.

WPAA BOARD MEMBERS

Cheyenne County

St Francis; Helene Landenberger, *Althea Lebow, Marsha Magley

Decatur County

Jennings; Lynn Tacha

Gove County

Grainfield, Denise Packard

Grinnell, *Leona Dickman

Quinter, Denise and Randy Wittman

Logan County

Oakley, Donna Albers, Betty Hockersmith, treasurer, Connie Singer, Shane Stephenson,

Winona, Ruth Smith

Rawlins County

Atwood, Millie Fisher, Charles Peckham, Chelsea Schmitt

Sheridan County

Hoxie, Marilyn Meier

Sherman County

Goodland, Curtis Duncan *Eric and Roxie Yonkey

Thomas County

Brewster, Lesa Juenemann

Colby, Jan Barnum, Katina Brenn,

Kenneth Gatlin, Kevin Juenemann, Amie Kendrick, Sandy Wilks.

C C C, Pat Ziegelmeier, Executive Director

Wallace County

Sharon Springs, William and *Wilma Mai

Wallace, Cecil & Jayne Humphrey Pearce

Weskan, Vernon and Mary Beth Akers

* denotes community contact person



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

<http://kansasarts.org/> Kansas Citizens for the Arts

www.maaa.org/ Mid America Arts Alliance

www.hppr.org High Plains Public Radio

www.colbycc.edu/ Colby Community College

<http://goodlandarts.org/>

The WPAA Newsletter is Published 3 times yearly by Western Plains Arts Association for its members and friends. We welcome your comments and suggestions. at mailbox@maifarms.com

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