

WPAA NEWSLETTER

“A KALEIDOSCOPE OF THE ARTS”

Volume 12, Issue 1

February, 2006

Please note

The Vienna Choir Boys will be at 4:00 p.m. central time instead of 3:00 due to travel time from the previous concert.

The Bethany College Handbell Choir is to be rescheduled. Watch for an announcement at a later date.

The Goodland and Sharon Springs concerts are at 3:00 p.m. CT, 2:00 p.m. MT

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KANSAS CITIZENS for the ARTS *Grassroots support for arts and education*

The mission of Kansas Citizens for the Arts is to provide statewide leadership in promoting the interest of citizens of Kansas in advocacy, funding and education for the arts. Support comes from public and private funding.

The KCA annually holds a Legislative Arts Day at the State Capitol Building in Topeka. This year the Arts Day will be March 9, 2006. The day will include a Continental breakfast reception at 7:30 a.m. Membership meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. when the Governor and legislators will speak. There will be music and visual arts by Kansas students, and time to visit with legislators and provide arts advocacy information.

Membership is open to parents, grandparents, interested patrons of the arts, educators, concert attendees, etc. Anyone wanting more information on an opportunity to support the arts can go to the KCA website: www.kansasarts.org.

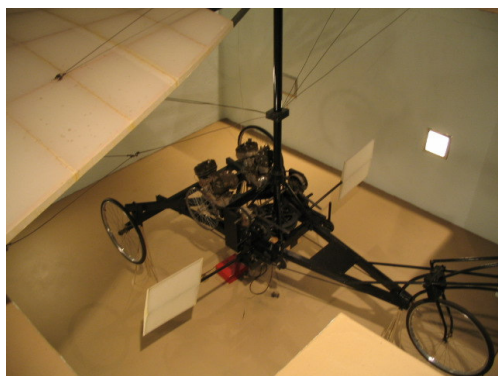
The KCA participates in the Music Educators National Conference “World’s Largest Concert”. Some of our WPAA members attended the mini-convention concerts at Hays on December 3, 2005, to hear honor choirs and honor bands made up of students from Northwest Kansas.

High Plains Museum at Goodland

By: Bill Mai

Home of America’s first patented helicopter

The High Plains Museum, located at 1717 Cherry in Goodland, is best known as the home for the full-sized, automated replica of the first patented helicopter in America. Two Rock Island machinists began building a flying machine in 1909 and the patent was applied for on March 8, 1910. At about that time a maiden flight was attempted,



the machine crashed and never flew again. Later the inventors, Purvis and Wilson, who had formed Goodland Aviation Company with the help of local investors, left town. This important piece of very early flight his-



tory is but a small part of what is displayed at the museum. There is much more to see about the history of Goodland, Sherman County and Northwest Kansas. The mu-

(Museum continued on page 2)

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seum has a collection of over 8,000 objects to let visitors of all ages discover the past. There are numerous dioramas, to scale and life size, that depict the stories of individuals and groups who have lived in the area. There is the furnished pioneer soddie and offices of professionals who practiced in Goodland.

There are depictions of century ago farming implements and businesses. Events such as the dustbowl, the depression and early transportation are chronicled.

On display is a buggy similar to one used by Dr A C



Gulick when he arrived in Goodland in 1900. Also on display is the 1902 Holsman automobile purchased by him to aid him in his visits to the sick. There are several displays depicting Gulick's 57 years in Goodland as a general practitioner, optometrist, obstetrician and coroner.

Each museum has its own atmosphere and at The High Plains Museum it is about pioneer life and adapta-



High Plains Museum

Feedback From the Kids at School

One of several letters from 2nd graders Oct 14, 2005

"Dear WPAA, Thank you for letting the 3Little Kittens perform for us. I liked the part when I am Cat scared

his brother. I also liked when Alley Cat played with his ball. I hope we will be able to see another play." Aaron



from a 6th grade student

"Thank You for sponsoring the Three Little Kittens. We are glad that we are able to have the Childrens Theatre here at Winona, KS. Thank You." Gus

President's Column

Dear Patrons of the Arts,

It's hard to believe that 2006 is here and our year is half over. I do believe the best is yet to come.

I wanted to comment on performance etiquette. This is on the last page of our program booklet each year. I made a change from previous years. The last item used to say "Applaud warmly. Do not whistle."

I removed the last sentence and I will explain why.

Formerly, our programs may have all been more classically oriented. I do believe that at an opera, ballet, symphony, or chamber music performances, that whistling would not be appropriate. More recently when we have Branson shows, dancing shows or singing performances, I believe that the artists perform better when there is more response from the audience. I think they would almost feel slighted if all we did was applaud warmly.

I felt this very strongly at the beginning of last year's Branson show. As a performer myself, I felt their pain at not getting much of a response from the audience at first. As we relaxed and cheered them on, their performance improved and we all had a great evening together.

I trust that our members can be sensitive to the times when just applauding is appropriate—like the Vienna Choir Boys; or more responsive--such as at a jazz or country music performance. I did not want our members to feel intimidated by the "Do Not Whistle." sentence if the situation was warranted, so that is why I removed it.

On another note, I must tell you that I have been your President for the last two years (my, how time flies!) and it has been my honor and privilege to serve you and this organization. I have grown and stretched my comfort zone, but isn't that what makes life interesting? I will remain an active member because I believe so strongly in what we are doing—bringing unparalleled performances to rural Kansas at an unbelievably low price!

Retiring President,

Leona Dickman



Program Schedule for 2005-06 Season February thru April

This is the latest listing of programs for the 2005-6 season. Any changes will be posted on the WPAА website if they occur . All programs are listed on Central Time

FEBRUARY

5, Sunday 3:00 p.m., at Quinter High School Auditorium, *A dramatic presentation. Ride into History* will present *Fighting Beside My Brother* in a public performance and do a school show the next day.



19, Sunday, **The Bethany College Handbell Choir** may be rescheduled.

26, Sunday, **4:00 p.m.** at Colby High School Auditorium. The world-renowned **Vienna Choir Boys** will present an amazing concert of widely varying vocal selections.

MARCH

5, Sunday, 3:00 p. m.(2 p.m. MT), Goodland High School Auditorium; **The Pride of the Prairie** Orchestra

will present a variety of selections.

14, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Oakley High School Auditorium. *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, a zany musical about the madcap adventures of chorus girl Lorelei Lee, will be presented by **Windwood Theatricals**. The musical is packed with lively melodies which evoke the fancy-free age of the late 1920's.



26. Sunday, 3:00 p.m. at Gateway, Oberlin. **Donna Tucker** and jazz quartet will come home to north-west Kansas with an exciting show of varied selections.

APRIL

9, Sunday, 3:00 p.m. at Hoxie High



School Auditorium. The **Golden Dragon Acrobats** will present a sensational show combining breathtaking acrobatics and traditional dances of spellbinding beauty.

18. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Oakley High School Auditorium. The **Colorago Children's Chorale** will do a school



workshop and an evening concert.

30. Sunday, 3:00 p.m. (2:00 MT) at Sharon Springs High School Audi-



torium **The Alferd Packer Memorial String Band** will do a show of contemporary and traditional bluegrass and American folk music.



Community Calendars

Colby

Saturday, May 20, 7:30 p.m. **Pride of the Prairie Orchestra** concert at Colby High School Auditorium.



Goodland

The Carnegie Arts Center, located at 120 W 12th is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

February, **Elementary School Art Show**, K-6 artwork

March, **Bobbi Kerth**, Watercolor/Oils

April, **Jr. High/High School Art Show**, 7-12th artwork;

4-H Favorite Foods Show, table-setting judging.

April 28-30, **Dinner Theater**

May, **George Phillippy**, Syracuse, Sculpture & Photography.

June, **Oriental Rugs**, Textiles



Oberlin, at The Gateway Civic Center

Saturday, February 18, 6:30 p.m., a dinner theater featuring Blue and Gray Brass Brigade, patriotic music from the American Revolution.

Sunday March 12, 2:00 p.m., "Oberlin Area Concert Band" and

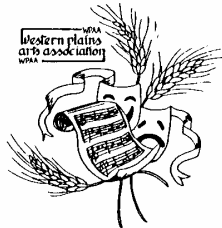
"Rendezvous" will perform both "pop" and concert band selections.

April 22, 7:30 p.m., Wes Thibodeaux and the Cajun Travelers



Colby Community College

1255 SOUTH RANGE
COLBY, KS 67701



The WPAA Newsletter is Published 3 times yearly by Western Plains Arts Association for its members and friends. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Send to WPAA Newsletter, 2160 Field Rd, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 or billm@maifarms.com

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Sharon Springs, William V and *Wilma Mai

Wallace, Cecil & Jayne Pearce

Weskan, Vernon and Mary Beth Akers

* denotes community contact

* Denotes local contact person

Western Plains Arts Association

<http://www.wpaa.us> That is the Western Plains Arts Association website. Any notices of program changes will be posted there. Times and places of performances and program schedule are posted. Check the site for links to sponsors, locations and performers.