

VOICES

~ SEPTEMBER 2010 ~

THE PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL, INC.

★ Bill Gossman Named SMAHC 2010 Prairie Star ★

The Southwest Minnesota Arts and Humanities Council is proud to present **Bill Gossman as the Prairie Star for 2010**. This award was established to honor a distinguished artist whose work exemplifies the highest quality of art in the SMAHC region. **New London artist Robert Mattson**, nominated Gossman for this award. Mattson wrote "Bill grasps and practices the essence of what it means to be an artist and lives it day to day. Simply put, Bill is the finest potter I have ever known. His work equals or surpasses that of others the world over."

Interview with Bill Gossman

Where were you born – where did you grow up? Tell a little bit about your childhood. I was born in St Paul MN in 1953 and spent my school years in Rochester MN. I have two brothers, one older and one younger. I had a pretty normal childhood and grew up with lots of kids my own age in the neighborhood. We lived on the edge of town then and my pals and I spent a lot of time out in the woods, down by the creek.

Where did you go to school – public school and college? After I graduated from high school I went to Mankato State College for two years and I realized that the academic route wasn't for me.

When did you first begin to be interested in art and specifically in pottery? Being a normal kid I had a normal interest in art right from childhood. Growing up I was always encouraged to draw and paint and it felt good. I can still recall making a small piece of pottery with coils in kindergarten and wishing I could take it to our fort down by the creek and use it for a drink of cool creek water.

What took you abroad to work in Denmark and Africa and how long were you gone? What are some highlights of your stay? When did you return to Minnesota and what brought that about? I went to Denmark to visit a girl in February 1979. I helped on the family dairy farm and eventually went into business with her brother, buying a small sawmill. I had originally hoped to find work at a pottery studio or workshop since I had been making a living as a potter already for several years by then. *Continued on Page 7*



◆ Public Art 101 Workshop ◆

Are you interested in having public art in your community? Are you wondering how to involve artists in placemaking and public improvement projects? **SMAHC**, in partnership with **Forecast Public Art**, invites you to learn about the exciting field of **Public Art** and how you can get started with your own art projects. Forecast presenters will review recent national and international public art projects and provide a step-by-step guided tour through the process of developing a public art project. Participants will also engage in a discussion on the benefits that public art can bring to your communities. This workshop is particularly for city managers, parks & recreational directors, community developers, nonprofit developers and library directors.

The workshops will be held on **October 6, 2010** at the Historic Dayton House in Worthington and **October 7, 2010** at Prairie's Edge Casino in Granite Falls. The workshops begin at 1:00 PM with a session called "**Public Art 101**" followed by a **Public Art Grant Workshop at 4:30 PM**. There will also be a grant writing workshop for **SMAHC Individual Artists (Developing, Career) Grants at 6:30 pm**. These workshops are free but pre-registration is required. For more information or to register for the workshops, call the SMAHC office at (800) 622-5284 or (507) 537-1471.

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BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SMAHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The **Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Council** announces that they are actively looking to fill open Board positions. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone who loves the arts to help enrich and support an active arts environment in our region. Board members help direct the work of the SW MN Arts & Humanities Council in supporting artists and arts organizations in our region through grants, workshops, and technical support.

Each of the 18 counties in the SMAHC region has one voting representative on the Board of Directors. The Board members meet in Marshall on the fourth Monday evening of the month to make policy and management decisions and to share ideas and information. The positions are voluntary, but travel expenses are reimbursed.

There is immediate need to fill the following vacancies:

★ Cottonwood County - 2 yr. term ★ Lincoln County - 2 yr. term ★ Murray County - 1 yr. term

There are board openings for 3 yr. terms beginning 1/1/11 (to be elected at the Oct. 30 Annual Meeting) for the following counties:

★ Chippewa County ★ Kandiyohi County ★ Lac qui Parle County
★ Lyon County ★ Meeker County ★ Yellow Medicine County

You can read a short synopsis of the responsibilities of a SMAHC board member at www.smahc.org/board.htm.

You can also download the SMAHC Board of Directors application form from the website: www.smahc.org/board.htm or for more information contact the office at 800-622-5284 or 507-537-1471.

Join Us for the 2010 SMAHC Annual Celebration

The **2010 Annual Celebration** promises to be the festive arts social event of the year in the SMAHC region. This gala happening will be held at the **Crow River Golf Club in Hutchinson** in the banquet facilities of their newly built clubhouse. The evening will feature a "**Mad Hatter**" party theme. Guests are invited to wear their mad hatter creations. So start working on your hat creation now. Make them as large or small, outlandish or funky as you would like. If you come without a hat, you can make one at the door. There will be a prize for the "best" hat. We will have some great entertainment to enjoy. And, of course, there is the great SMAHC auction that has been so successful over the years.

We will be honoring our **2010 SMAHC Prairie Star** and **Prairie Disciple**. The Prairie Star is **Karl "Bill" Gossman** who is an extraordinary potter from New London (see the article on page 1). The Prairie Disciple is the late **Ruth McKinney** who worked tirelessly for arts promotion in SW Minnesota. Please honor these recipients with your presence.



Pictured above is a group of SMAHC supporters from Pipestone.

Begin now to talk up this great event within your arts organization and plan to bring a carload of folks. We would love to

break the 200 mark in attendees - something we haven't done since our first Annual Celebration. We will be awarding a prize to the arts organization that brings the most members from their organization to the Annual Celebration. More information many more details will be put on our website (www.smahc.org) in the coming weeks and invitations with registration cards will be sent out in early October.



Pictured above is a group of SMAHC supporters from Willmar.

Plan now to attend! We'll see you there!

Upcoming Deadlines for Schools and Individual Artists

There are some important deadlines coming up for schools and individual artists. The deadline for the **Arts & Learning Grants, Round 1 is Monday October 4, 2010**. This grant program is designed to advance arts education in schools and communities in the SMAHC region through artist/teacher/community partnerships, to support the arts as essential to education and daily life and to enrich the communities of the SMAHC region through the arts.

The Arts & Learning Program will provide financial and technical assistance to schools, communities and nonprofit organizations to involve professional artists to strengthen school and community art programs. An Arts & Learning field trip grant is intended to increase the exposure of students to professional artists through visits to artists' studios, performances by professional theatre, dance or musical groups, readings by writers, visits to art galleries, exhibitions and other locations pertinent to the creation and exhibition of art.

Grants are available for up to **\$2,500 for Artist Residencies, \$750 for Pre-packaged Theatre Residencies and \$600 for Field Trips** or 90% of the total project cash costs, whichever is less.

The deadline for the **Individual Artist Career & Development Grant Programs are December 8, 2010**. Please note that this is the only deadline for this grant program. The SMAHC Individual Artist grant program is designed to aid in career development and arts activities of artists living and working in the eighteen counties of southwestern Minnesota served by the Southwest Minnesota Arts and Humanities Council. It is made possible by funds provided by the McKnight Foundation and the State of Minnesota.

The **Career grant awards up to \$5000** to aid area professional artists. Career artists are defined as those who, for the most part, are at an advanced stage in their career development and have been acknowledged as established artists by other artists and arts professionals within their chosen field. An established artist is expected to have a significant performance, publishing, or exhibition record.

The **Development grant awards up to \$1,500** to aid area emerging artists. Emerging artists are defined as those who, for the most part are at an early stage in their career development. An emerging artist is expected to have a limited, yet clearly promising performance, publishing, or exhibition record.

It is advisable that you submit your grant well ahead of the grant deadline date. If you submit a grant at least a couple weeks before the deadline date, most problems can be identified and corrected by the deadline date, including errors that would make your application ineligible. If you submitted the grant right on the deadline date or you postmark it on the deadline date, there can be no corrections or changes to the grant.

There will be workshops for these upcoming grant programs. The workshop for the **Arts and Learning will be on September 9, 2010 at 4:00** at the SMAHC Office in Marshall. The workshop for the **Individual Artist grant program is November 9, 2010 at 4:00** also at the SMAHC Office in Marshall. There will also be workshops on October 6, 2010 at the Dayton House in Worthington and October 7, 2010 at the Prairie's Edge Casino in Granite Falls. These workshops begin at 6:30 PM. The workshops are free but pre-registration is required. Call the SMAHC office at 800-622-5284 or email smahcinfo@iw.net to register.

To see more deadlines and dates, visit the SMAHC website - www.smahc.org.

How To Contact SMAHC

Have a question to ask of SMAHC? Click on the "Contact Us" link (on the left side). You can also get there by clicking on the "Have a comment or question" link. You'll find that link at the bottom of most of our pages.

Have a calendar item you want to submit? Click on the "Submit an Event" on the Calendar or Opportunities pages.

Have a link to share? Click on "Send a Link" on the Links Page.

You can also contact us the old fashioned ways - by email: smahcinfo@iw.net or by telephone: **800-622-5284 or 507-537-1471**.

SMAHC's activities are funded in part by an allocation from the MN State Legislature, an allocation from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund as appropriated by the MN State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of MN on Nov. 4, 2008, the McKnight Foundation, and donations from individuals, businesses, organizations, cities, and counties.

GALLERY LISTINGS

SMAHC Art Gallery currently features the work of fiber artist Victoria Hanna from Canby through September 30. Kristi Fernholz photography exhibit opens on October 11. The artist reception will be October 14 from 5 - 7 PM. The gallery is located at the offices of SMAHC, 1210 E. College Drive, **Marshall** (enter the east side entrance in the middle of the building). The hours are 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Call 800-622-5284 or 507-537-1471 for more information.

Nobles County Art Center, 407 12th Street, **Worthington**. Textile artist JoAnne Alberda exhibit from August 22 through September 27. Hours: M-F 2:00 to 4:30 PM. Free. Information: 507-372-8245.

Marshall Area Fine Arts Council (MAFAC), 109 N. 3rd Street, **Marshall**. Sept 7 - October 9 Barb Hawes Exhibition. October 12 - November 27 Micah Luke Exhibition. New Hours: Tues-Fri 12:00-5:30 PM. Evenings and Saturdays by appointment. 507-532-5463. www.mafac.net for more information.

ARTmeyerson Gallery Robert Mattson Retrospective "Avant Garage: Four Decades of Art." Exhibit starts October 1. Opening Reception is October 23, 5 - 7 PM. The gallery is located at 105 4th St. North, **Atwater**. The gallery is open Friday afternoons and by appointment. Free. For more information, email ellam@frontier.com or call (320) 212-2702. To read more about this event, visit: www.smahc.org/artmeyerson.htm

The Carnegie Cultural Center located at 205 N. Freeman Ave., **Luverne**. Hours are Tuesday – Friday, Noon-5:00 PM & Saturday, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 PM. Call 507-283-8294 for more information.

Robert Remick Gallery/Cottonwood County Historical Society, 812 Fourth Avenue, **Windom**. Free. Hours: M-F 8-4 PM & Sat 10-4 PM. Sept 12 - Nov. 20 Aaron Horkey. The opening reception will be on Sept. 12, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. For more information, call (507) 831-1134 or email cchs@windomnet.com. Read more about this exhibit at www.smahc.org/horkey.htm.

Java River Café, 210 S 1st Street in Montevideo. September exhibit features water color artist Bradley Hall. October exhibit features the work of Tamara Isfeld. Regular cafe hours are Monday - Friday 6:00 AM - 6:00 PM and Saturday 6:00 AM - 4:30 PM.. Visit their website at www.javarivercafe.com/

Clay Coyote Pottery, 17614 240th St. **Hutchinson**. Regular Hours are Monday - Saturday 10-5 PM and Sun Noon-4. You can always call ahead for an appointment. Check out www.claycoyote.com or email Betsy or Tom at claypot@hutchtel.net.

Tokheim Pottery, 2057 361st Ave, **Dawson**. Visit www.tokheim-stoneware.com/ for more information about the gallery or call 320-769-2142.

The Barn Gallery, 321 SW 4th Street, **Willmar**; The hours are 9:00 to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday and (320)-235-9500 www.thebarntheatre.com

The WEAC Gallery - Willmar Education Arts Gallery located on the first floor of the Arts Center at 611 SW 5th St, **Willmar** open 8:30-4:30 during school office hours. A wonderful spacious gallery featuring a new artist each month as well as some school art displays.

Marshall Area Arts Calendar for the latest arts events in the **Marshall** area: www.marshallareastagecompany.org/artscalendar.pdf

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Events marked with ** are SMAHC funded activities

****September 6 The Unveiling of the Universal Laboratories Fence Mural Project**, a project of the Dawson Area Historical Society in **Dawson**. The fence will be painted with a mural depicting examples of Dassel area landscape. The fence is located at the Universal Laboratories building. For more information on this project or the unveiling, email dahs@dassel.com

September 9 Arts & Learning Grant Writing Workshop at the SMAHC Office in **Marshall**. 4 PM to 6 PM.

What's Happening? ...Get it in VOICES

...Send happenings in the arts and/or humanities in your area that you would like to publicize?

Submit upcoming events for the October VOICES by **September 15, 2010**.

Date(s): _____ Times: _____
 Sponsoring Organization(s): _____
 Name of Event: _____ Admission: _____
 Location: _____ City: _____
 Contact person for inquiries: _____ Phone: _____
 Name of person completing this form: _____
 Phone & e-mail address: _____
 Brief Description of Event: _____

The workshop is free but pre-registration is required. Call 800-622-5284 or email smahcinfo@iw.net for more information or to register. The SMAHC offices are located at 1210 E. College Drive in Marshall. Read more about the grant opportunities at www.smahc.org.

September 11 4th Annual Grape Stomp at the Glacial Ridge Winery, 15455 Old Mill Road, **Spicer**; Call for Artists -Vendors The fee is \$30. Tent not required, but strongly encouraged. Space limited to approx 10 ft X 10 ft. Contact Lisa for additional information or to reserve your space. Email lisa@glacialridgewinery.com; Website: www.glacialridgewinery.com

September 11 SMAHC Organizational Panel at the SMAHC offices in Marshall. 9:30 AM.

September 11 & 12 Sculpture Workshop at the Pottery Studio in **New London**. 9 AM TO 5 PM each day. Cost: \$135 plus \$20 for materials. Arthur Norby is offering a two-day class designed to give beginners and intermediate sculptors insights in sculpture, design and skills needed to complete a sculpture in stoneware. There will be demonstrations and discussion of mold-making for those interested in bronze casting. Visit www.arthurnorby.com. For more details or email art@norbygallery.com.

September 12 Opening Reception for Aaron Horkey at the **Robert Remick Gallery** in Windom. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Read more about this exhibit at smahc.org/horkey.htm.

****September 15-18, 22-25 Rabbit Hole**, A drama by David Lindsay-Abaire 2007 Pulitzer Prize Winner at the Barn Theatre, **Willmar**. All Performances at 7:30 pm. **Tickets:** \$15 Adult \$8 Student. This compassionate drama, told with touches of wit, follows a couple's search for comfort after a heart-wrenching tragedy. For ticket information, call 320-235-9500 or email info@thebarntheatre.com. Web: www.thebarntheatre.com

September 17-18 36th Annual Hutchinson Arts & Crafts Festival at the Library Square in **Hutchinson**; Friday: 10 am - 6 pm and Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm; Free to public. Artists & crafters pay for booth space. For more information, email megan@explorehutchinson.com or visit their website at www.explorehutchinson.com/arts.htm

September 18 SMAHC Arts Legacy for Organizations and Communities Panel Meeting at the SMAHC offices in Marshall. 9:30 AM.

****September 18 Celebrate Art! Celebrate Coffee!** In Downtown **Willmar**; 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; 13th Annual Fine Arts Festival featuring a juried art show and sale, entertainment on the outdoor stage, Kids' and Big Kids' Art Activities tents, artist demonstrations, food court ~ and *free coffee* all day! Rain site - Kennedy School.

September 23 Crow River Singers community choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday evenings @ 7:00pm @ Peace Lutheran Church Choir Room in **Hutchinson**. The first practice is Thursday, September 23, 2010. Winter

Concert dates are 12/3/10 & 12/5/10, directed by Brian Brosz. NO AUDITIONS. ALL ARE WELCOME. For information contact: Holly @ 320-587-0710.

September 25 34th Infantry Division "Red Bull" Band at Memorial Auditorium sponsored by the Dawson Boyd Arts Association in **Dawson**. 7:30 PM. This concert is free! For more information, call 320.769.2955 Ext. 246 or visit <http://www.dawsonboydarts.org/>

****September 25 ARHouse Presents:** ARHouse. New works by ARHouse Co-founders Lisa Bergh & Andrew Nordin at 117 1st Ave NE, **New London**. 5-8pm. This event is free. Door prize for the first 15 visitors - an ARHouse Tradition! For more information, email andrewandlisa@charter.net or call 320-354-3432. Visit their website at www.arhousenewlondon.com.

September 27 SMAHC Board Meeting at the SMAHC Offices in Marshall. 7:00 PM

September 30, October 1, 2, 3, 7-10 Forever Plaid at the Lake Benton House, **Lake Benton**. All show times are at 7:30 PM except for the matinees, October 3 and October 10. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$9.50 for senior citizens and students. The dinner theater on September 30 and October 7 is \$27.00. For more information, email lakebentonoperahouse@gmail.com or visit www.lakebentonoperahouse.org/ or call (507) 368-4620.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

****October 1-3 The 2010 Meander - Upper Minnesota River Art Crawl.** Visit 35 studios featuring 45 prairie artisans. Visit their website to download a brochure and for other information - www.artsmeander.com/ or call 866-866-5432.

****October 2 Neal & Leandra** - Meander Weekend, at Memorial Auditorium sponsored by the Dawson Boyd Arts Association in **Dawson**. 7:30 PM. This is also DBAA's Silent Auction Fundraiser. For more information, call 320.769.2955 Ext. 246 or visit <http://www.dawsonboydarts.org/>

October 4 Deadline for Arts & Learning Grants Rnd 1

October 6 & 7 Public Art Workshop 101 presented by Forecast Public Art and SMAHC to be held in Worthington on October 6 and Granite Falls on October 7. This workshop will include a Public Art grant workshop and an Individual Artist Workshop for Career, Development. See the article on Page 1. These workshops are free but pre-registration is required. For more information or to register for the workshops, call the SMAHC office at 800-622-5284

See the latest Calendar items and Opportunities on the SMAHC Website: www.smahc.org

****October 10 The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe** by Theatreworks USA's at Memorial Auditorium sponsored by the Dawson Boyd Arts Association in **Dawson**. 2:00 PM. For more information, call 320.769.2955 Ext. 246 or visit <http://www.dawsonboydarts.org/>

October 14 Kristi Fernholz Gallery Reception at the SMAHC Art Gallery. 5 - 7 PM. Free. The gallery is located at the SMAHC Offices, 1210 E. College Dr., Marshall. Email smahcinfo@iw.net or call 800-622-5284.

****October 14 Inpulse Residency Public Performance** at the Ortonville High School in **Ortonville**. 7:00 PM. for more information, email wayne.huselid@ortonville.k12.mn.us

October 15-17 & 22-24 "The Mousetrap" By Agatha Christie presented by the Calumet Players at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center, **Pipestone**. Show times 7:30 pm except for Sundays at 2:00 pm. For ticket information, call 507-825-2020 or 877-722-2787.

October 23 Robert Mattson Retrospective "Avant Garage: Four Decades of Art." opening reception. 5 - 7 PM. The gallery is located at 105 4th St. North, **Atwater**. To read more about this event, visit: www.smahc.org/artmeyerson.htm

****October 28-31 Marshall Festival 2010, Celebration of Rural Writing & Culture** sponsored by the Southwest Minnesota State University, **Marshall**. For more information on this event and how to participate, email Anthony.Smith@smsu.edu or call 507-537-7295

October 30 SMAHC Annual Celebration at the Crow River Golf Club in **Hutchinson**. Ticket information and more details about the gala event will be on the SMAHC website at www.smahc.org.

October 30 Chris Brubeck's Triple Play performing at the Schwan's Community Center for the Performing Arts sponsored by the Marshall Area Fine Arts Council, **Marshall**. 7:30 PM. This a part of their 2010-2011 Performing Series. For more information, call 507-532-5463 or email mafac@starpoint.net.

October 31 American English - The Complete Beatles Tribute at Memorial Auditorium sponsored by the Dawson Boyd Arts Association in **Dawson**. 7:00 PM. For more information, call 320.769.2955 Ext. 246 or visit www.dawsonboydarts.org/

October 31 The Uneasy Romantics - Chopin and Schumann presented by the Southwest Minnesota Orchestra at the Schwan's Community Center for the Performing Arts in **Marshall**. 2:00 p.m. Tickets are Adults - \$9.00 and Students/Children - \$6.00. For more information, email diana.holmes@smsu.edu or call (507) 537-7103

OPPORTUNITIES

The Crow River Singers community choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday evenings @ 7:00pm @ Peace Lutheran Church Choir Room in **Hutchinson**. The first practice is Thursday, September 23, 2010. Winter Concert dates are 12/3/10 & 12/5/10, directed by Brian Brosz. NO AUDITIONS. ALL ARE WELCOME. For information contact: Holly @ 320-587-0710.

Professional Development in Dance Education Available for School Teams. The Perpich Center for Arts Education announces its fourth round of training for schools interested in incorporating dance into their local curriculum. Arts Courses for Educators~Dance (ACE~Dance) is an excellent opportunity to gain in-depth professional development in dance education from some of the best Artist-Instructors in Minnesota. During the two-year program, school teams from across the state attend workshops at the Perpich Center and receive on-site coaching and curriculum services by ACE Instructors at the schools. School teams selected to participate in the program also receive a grant to support their school's participation in the ACE program. The deadline for school grant applications is September 24, 2010. Applications may be downloaded from the Perpich Center web site: www.pcae.k12.mn.us/pdr/ace/ace_grant_2010.html or by contacting Janice Schroer at 763-591-4705.

MNArtists.org is an online database of Minnesota artists and organizations from all disciplines. It offers to Minnesota-based artists a central gathering place on the web, and will grow to become a marketplace and community hub. It offers the public a new way to explore art and get to know artists. mnavartists.org provides news and features about the local arts scene from a variety of sources and a calendar of arts events in Minnesota. Visit their website and read more at: mnavartists.org.

SMAHC Gallery.....

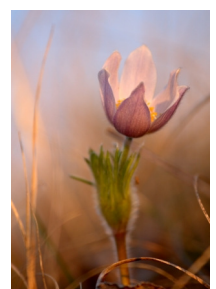


The current exhibit at the **Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Art Gallery** features the work of fiber artist, **Victoria Hanna** from Canby. Her art of weaving is distinguished by her use of woven copper wire combined with hand spun natural-fiber yarns including organic fibers such as soy, corn and bamboo. The exhibit will run until **September 30, 2010**. Visit the SMAHC Gallery Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:30 PM.

The Next Exhibit.....

The next exhibit starting October 11 will be the photography of **Kristi Fernholz**.

The artist reception will be on **October 14, 2010 from 5 - 7 PM.**



Gossman Continued from Page 1

It didn't come to pass at that time so I constructed my first wood fired kiln at the farm and made pottery when I wasn't working either on the farm or in the woods and sawmill.

In early 1981 I went to Swaziland Africa with my wife who had been hired to work with a Danish aid agency as an agronomist. Quite by chance I met a Canadian potter who was there with his wife in a similar situation. She was an English teacher at a college. Both of our respective wives earned good salaries which meant we were free to be pioneer potters. How nice that was. In 1983 my wife and I returned to Denmark, and she soon after returned to Africa. Then I met Janne, my present wife, and I continued with my pottery and became a father to two children while Janne studied to be a nurse. Before we moved to Minnesota I was working at a traditional Danish pottery workshop for a couple of years. We chose to move to the New London area because a colleague, with whom I had shared studio space in Minneapolis during the 70's, had offered me a job in his pottery studio making souvenirs for the Renaissance Faires.



How would you characterize your present work? I have been mainly making functional and one of a kind pottery since I started in the mid 70's. Now my work is a continuation of what I started years ago though much more refined and an expression of all I have seen and experienced up until now. I have also incorporated translucent porcelain into the body of materials that I use in the process. Wood kilns and wood firing also remain a part of my work since my first wood fired kiln in 1979.

Talk about the firing process – tell us about your kiln – any special techniques that you use? My present kiln is now undergoing a transformation. It is built into a hillside and is called a climbing chamber kiln. It has three chambers for ware and one for preheating air for combustion. After reconstruction, the first ware chamber, or the one at the bottom of the hill, will be enlarged to twice the previous volume. It is meant to be used as a learning tool which will enable several potters to fire their ware and learn about the wood firing process while they assist during loading and stoking the kiln. One special process I use is a "once-fire" approach to the firing procedure. This means that I forego a pre-firing or bisque firing which cuts down on fuel and time spent on loading, firing and unloading an extra time.

What would you say to encourage someone who wants to be a potter? I would first recommend that they find a potter who may allow them to help at their studio. Visit other potters and their studios, ask a lot of questions, read a lot of books and get all the hands on experience with clay that they can. Also take some sort of business or marketing class. But most importantly I would tell them to make a lot of pots and practice all the time.

What are some of your hobbies? Besides my main hobby of pottery, I also play music, and there are even a couple of groups that let me hang out with them and play along. I used to make beer and wine but now I just drink it.

Tell a little bit about your family - My wife, Janne, is an original Dane from Denmark. She is a registered nurse working with hospice and ensures we have health coverage. She makes the big bucks. Siri is our oldest daughter and graduated from art school in Boston in 2008. She plans a move to Detroit soon and has an interest in urban farming. Jais, our son, is currently enrolled in an art school in Chicago and hopefully graduates soon. Leah, our youngest, starts at the U of M in Minneapolis in the School of Design.

Congratulations to Bill Gossman on his great accomplishments and on being named the SMAHC Prairie Star of 2010. The award will be officially presented to him at the 36th SMAHC Annual Celebration on October 30, 2010 at the Crow River Golf Club in Hutchinson. Please come and help honor this distinguished artist.

Membership Continued from Page 10

Mark & Beth Johnston, Willmar
Audrey & Richard Falk, Willmar
Willmar Area Arts Council, Willmar
Arthur & Kathryn Spangler-Norby,
Willmar
Cottonwood County Commission,
Windom

Lynn Peterson, Windom
Ellen & David Copperud, Worthington
Beth Habicht, Worthington
Gail Holinka, Worthington
Nobles County Commission,
Worthington
First State Bank Southwest,
Worthington
Worthington ISD #518

Worthington Federal Savings Bank
Friends of the Auditorium, Inc.,
Worthington
The Cows Outside, William Keitel,
Worthington
United Food & Commercial Workers-
Local Union 1161, Worthington

Thanks to everyone for your support!

Big Stone County Embraces the Arts

Submitted by Deb Larson, Big Stone County

Minnesotans care about the arts. We care because the arts inspire us and spark our imaginations.

Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Funds (also known as "Legacy Funds") were awarded to the State Arts Board and regional arts councils to support three main areas: arts & arts access, arts education and arts & cultural heritage. The fund supports Minnesota artists and arts organizations in creating, producing and presenting high-quality arts activities; invests in lifelong learning in the arts; and builds bridges between Minnesotans through arts and culture. SMAHC arts legacy grants are intended for projects or activities that will create a strong arts legacy in Minnesota.



Embracing the importance of art and the impact art can have as an economic engine, representatives from Big Stone county, city, economic development and non-profit organizations have been working together to increase access to quality art experiences and bring public art to the county. Since November of 2009, this steering committee has been focused on opening an arts and culture center where artists and arts appreciators of all ages will come together to create and experience art in its many forms. On two occasions, SMAHC grants allowed the Big Stone Arts Council to hire John Davis, founder of NY Mills Regional Cultural Center and current director of Lanesboro Art Center. Mr. Davis helped increase community awareness of the cultural center initiative with a public presentation on his experience in creating a sustainable art center in a rural community. He has also given invaluable advice on possible buildings, time-lines and business plan efforts.

Recently, Big Stone County rallied behind local sculptor, Doug Holtquist, to help make his public art sculpture possible with in-kind donations to give it a granite base and permanent home on the new bike trail. "Farm Family Portrait" is a mixed media sculptural installation addressing the vanishing, evolving state of America's traditional farm family. It is a group of five Threshing Stools on a 4" thick granite platform arranged as though absent sitters are posing in their Sunday best for a traditional family portrait. This self-initiated, public art project has broad community support and

demonstrates considerable collaboration between the artist, Big Stone County,

the City of Ortonville, the Big Stone Arts Council, and local businesses: Rausch Brothers Monument, Strong Insurance Agency and LG Everist(Ortonville Stone CO.) Holtquist was awarded a SMAHC legacy grant for this sculpture.



Last year SMAHC awarded multiple grants in Big Stone County totaling \$14,631! Projects included a SMAHC Legacy Grant for Career Artists to sculptor Doug Holtquist from Ortonville, a SMAHC/McKnight Challenge grant to the Big Stone Arts Council to match increased donations to the council, a SMAHC/McKnight Arts Organization Networking & Training Grant to work with John Davis to investigate a Cultural Center Initiative in Ortonville, and an Arts & Learning grant to the Ortonville Public School for a music

residency in the high school. Big Stone Arts Council has been working with the band department at Ortonville School and the music department at CGB School to write other grants to bring artists into the schools for winter/spring 2011.

"Farm Family Portrait" was unveiled for a temporary viewing during Family Fun Day, a fundraiser for future trailhead park amenities, at Lakeside Park in Ortonville. MN Senator Gary Kubly and Representative Andrew Falk, showed their support at this fundraiser. Big Stone County SMAHC Board Representative, Deb Larson, had the opportunity to share how busy Big Stone has been growing arts access. Both legislators confirmed their support of the arts and continuing efforts in Big Stone County and applauded plans for the renovation of a building for an arts and culture center.

ODDS N' ENDS

Former SMAHC Board Member, Chuck Derby passes away

Raymond "Chuck" Derby, 69, a former SMAHC Board Member and a former employee at Pipestone National Monument, passed away at his home on Saturday, August 7th. Chuck was born and raised in the Pipestone community before going to work for the Monument in 1963. He was promoted to the maintenance supervisor position in 1967 and continued in that position until he retired in 1994. He spent the remainder of his time continuing to quarry and carve pipestone. He was a strong supporter of the monument and an active educator on Indian culture and issues.

Call for Experienced String Players

The Great Plains String Quartet and Dr. Christopher Stanichar from Augustana College are calling all experienced string players, grade 9 to adult, to join the newly formed Worthington Area Orchestra. Rehearsals begin September 16, 2010. For more information, application forms and schedules, contact Karen Pfeifer 507-372-7418 or Melanie Loy 507-727-0082. This activity is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Council, funded in part, by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature, with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

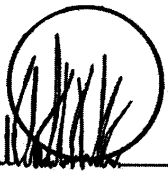
Brent Olson Awarded 2010 Best Regular Column

Brent Olson was a SMAHC Board member representing Big Stone County from 2001 to January 2007. The American Agricultural Editors Association, at their National Convention in St. Paul, awarded Olson of Otre Township, Big Stone County, the 2010 Award for Best Regular Column, for his work in *Living the Country Life*. The AAEA is a professional organization of writers, editors, and photojournalists who work in the field of agricultural media. He is the first ever recipient of this award. His columns can be read at www.livingthecountrylife.com/lifestyle/ (scroll to the bottom). You also visit his website, "Independently Speaking" at www.independentlyspeaking.com/.

The Crow River Singers

The Crow River Singers community choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday evenings @ 7:00pm @ Peace Lutheran Church Choir Room in **Hutchinson**. The first practice is Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010. Winter Concert dates are 12/3/10 & 12/5/10, directed by Brian Brosz. NO AUDITIONS. ALL ARE WELCOME. For information call Holly: 320-587-0710.

<p>2010 <i>Meander</i> Upper Minnesota River Art Crawl</p>	<p>Friday, Oct. 1 2:00-6:00 pm</p>	<p>Saturday, Oct. 2 9:00 am-6:00 pm</p>	<p>Sunday, Oct. 3 9:00 am-4:00 pm</p>
	<p>painting pottery sculpture fabric art photography jewelry & more</p>		
<p><i>Visit 35 studios featuring 45 prairie artisans!</i></p>			
<p>Special Events happening throughout Meander, including Locally Grown Food, Music & Words; Neal & Leandra in concert; and readings/book signings by the 2010 Meander Tributary Artist Brent Olson, a writer and storyteller of our region. See our website for more details!</p>			
			
<p>www.artsmeander.com</p>		<p>1-866-866-5432</p>	



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Memberships and Donations Received June 25 - August 31, 2010

52 Wing Restoration Committee, Appleton	River Song Music Festival, Hutchinson	Banner Oak Pottery, Craig Edwards, New London
Sydney Masee, Appleton	Connie & Tim Connell, Luverne	Renville County HRA/EDA, Olivia
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Carol Lundeen, Dassel	Jan and Scotty Kuehl, Madison	Ken and Marlys Knuth, Slayton
Virginia Baker, Dawson	Dr. S. Todd Pushing, Madison	Prairie Oasis Players, Slayton
Bradley & Melanie Benson, Dawson	Southwest Minnesota Weavers Guild, Marshall	Leroy & Jan Ann Peterson, Slayton
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Kraft, Walser, Hettig, Honsey & Kleiman PLLP, Hutchinson	Julie & Glen Joplin, New London	Walt & Raeanna Gislason, Willmar
		<i>Continued on page 7</i>

SMAHC Membership Form

Join SMAHC today and have your money doubled! The McKnight Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar any new or increased donations to SMAHC!

Contributions are tax-deductible. Mail your membership donation to **SMAHC, 1210 East College Drive, Ste 600, Marshall, MN 56258.**

Name/Organization _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIPS:	\$500.00 + Benefactor	\$99.00 - \$50.00 Supporter
	\$499.00 - \$250.00	Patron \$49.00 - \$ 25.00 Contributor
	\$249.00 - \$100.00 Sustainer	Business & Organizational memberships starting at \$50.00

Please consider making a gift to SMAHC as a memorial or in honor of a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion. You can also contribute on line through GiveMN.org. You can find the link on our website (www.smahc.org).