Violet Risch—SMAHC Prairie Disciple for 2008

We proudly present Violet Risch as the SMAHC Prairie Disciple for 2008. Violet’s life-long mission has been to share her love for music and further the arts in the Appleton area. She developed that love for music early in her life. She was born in Lacrosse, Wisconsin and attended schools there and also at the neighboring town of Onalaska. Her home was always filled with the sounds of happy music. Her father was an accordionist with dance bands that performed in numerous Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa towns. And early on, she took piano lessons and sang duets with her sister in church.

Through her elementary and high school years, she was involved in many musical activities, including operettas and Maypole dances, and choir and vocal ensembles. She also performed frequently as a vocal soloist. She composed and arranged two choral anthems for her high school choir and these were performed by that group in her 11th and 12th grade years. It is with this backdrop, that she was encouraged by her father to attend St. Olaf College and major in music. Once again, her college years were filled with musical activities, including singing with various ensembles and the St. Olaf Concert Choir, and performing solo recitals in her junior and senior years.

Violet began an illustrious career of teaching in 1945. She taught K-12 vocal music and music appreciation in Appleton, Bellingham and Holloway. She left the classroom after 3 years to start her family, but resumed her teaching as a private voice teacher from 1950 to 1969. She entered the classroom once again in 1966 as a Supplemental Aid (Jr. High General Music) and then in 1969 as a teacher of General Music, Jr. High Choruses, Sr. High Voice and music appreciation classes. She retired from active teaching in 1981.

Her love for music stretched far beyond her teaching experiences. She organized the Appleton Music Study Club in 1950 and it functioned for forty years presenting many events for the community and honoring high school music students with a Fine Arts Banquet annually.

**Take an Art Break!**

Join us November 1st to Celebrate Art & Celebrate Artists

5:30 pm at Jackpot Junction Conference Center outside Redwood Falls

*Live Music featuring...*

Members of Pandemonium
Steel Drum Band

Jazz duo, Ross Anderson & Pete Lothringer

Robert Whitney Violin Composition performed by violinist, Gretchen Wagner

Jerry Ostensoe, Singer/Songwriter

**Dinner**

**Silent Auction**

Costumes Encouraged
Come and Celebrate the Arts
Tickets are $30 - Registration Form on Page 2

In This Issue...

2008 Annual Celebration Registration Form ...........2
Can the Arts Help Your Community Survive? .......2
Meet Helen Devereaux.................................2
Spotlight: Marshall Area Fine Arts Council..........3
Art of Recovery...........................................3
September/October Calendar ..........................4/5
Bill Holm, McKnight Distinguished Artist ..........6
Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment ............6
Upcoming SMAHC Deadlines .........................6
Celebrate Art! Celebrate Coffee .......................7
The Meander..............................................7
New and Renewing Memberships ......................8
SMAHC Membership Form .............................8
Continued from page 1
She was also a charter member of the Appleton Cultural Affairs Committee responsible for many outstanding arts events and arranging for arts residencies at school. The committee functioned for over 30 years. She organized a new committee that plans concerts for the ‘52 Wing Auditorium Restoration project

Risch’s musical experiences over the years are numerous, including singing one summer with the Crusaders Choir in Cambridge, MA, singing with the Tyler Choraleers in Benson, singing with the Community Chorus which performed “The Messiah” annually and also performed Annual Christmas concerts, singing with two different Ladies Barbershop quartets, organizing an Adult Couple’s Madrigal Singers Group which performed at various events, and serving as choir director and Music and Worship committee member over a period of 35 years at Zion Lutheran in Appleton.

Risch has impacted many young people over the years. Her advice to young people today is involve yourself in some of the Arts. It will enrich your life more than you can possibly imagine. Risch states, “I owe much gratitude to my numerous mentors, and abundance of talent among adults and students, dedicated parents, supportive school administrators, faculty members, and appreciative audiences.”

Read more about Violet Risch - “A Q & A with Vi Risch” on the SMAHC website: www.smahc.org/vi-risch.htm

2008 SMAHC ANNUAL CELEBRATION

SMAHC will hold its Annual Celebration on November 1, 2008 at the Jackpot Junctions Conference Center. We will also be presenting awards to the Prairie Star, Robert Whitcomb and Prairie Disciple, Violet Risch. We will also be honoring our SMAHC volunteers including panel members and board members. There will be special entertainment and, of course, great food.

Costumes are once again encouraged and this year we will be awarding prizes to the best costumes.

“Take an Art Break” and join us at this great celebration! Send in your reservation form below.

Meet Helen Devereaux
SMAHC is happy to welcome Helen Devereaux to the SMAHC Staff. She has assumed the position of Office Assistant. Helen comes to us with extensive office experience. She will be assisting us with data management and entry, as well as many other general office tasks. She is enthusiastic about working for SMAHC and using her special skills.

Welcome aboard, Helen!

Can the Arts Help Your Community Thrive?
Please take part in this survey!

We invite you to take a survey about your community. The Minnesota State Arts Board and the 11 Regional Arts Councils, including the Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Council, want to hear your opinion about needs and resources in your community, and how the arts can help your community thrive. Your responses to the survey will help the State Arts Board and Regional Arts Councils set funding priorities and activities for the next several years.

Please follow the link to: http://www.theimprovegroup.com/surveys/mnarts.htm to take this survey.

It is very important that we hear from you so that we can provide services that are valuable to all Minnesotans.

After you submit your responses, you will be directed to another webpage where you can enter your contact information to be entered into a prize drawing. Prizes include:

✦ Six $500 cash prizes
✦ Twenty $100 prizes: These prizes include gift cards for gas as well as certificates for shops, restaurants, activities/tourist attractions or lodging in your area.

Complete the survey by Friday, October 3, 2008 to be entered into the prize drawing. By forwarding the survey to someone else, you will get a second chance to win when they complete the survey and enter you as the person who sent the survey to them.

SMAHC Annual Arts Celebration - Celebrating Art & Celebrating Artists
Reservation Form - Remit by October 22nd, 2008

Number in Party: __________ Total Enclosed: __________ Tickets are $30.00 per person - advanced payment required

Name: __________________________ Address: __________________________ City: __________________________
Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

Please list name and city of each additional person attending
Name: __________________________ Town: __________________________
Name: __________________________ Town: __________________________

I am unable to attend but wish to make a donation of $ _________.

The McKnight Foundation will match new or increased membership donations!

*If there are more in your party please use a separate sheet

Please send to: SMAHC, 1210 E. College Drive, Suite 600 Marshall, MN 56258
The Marshall Area Fine Arts Council (MAFAC) is celebrating its 10 year anniversary of existence in downtown Marshall. They recently celebrated this anniversary with “Celebrate the Arts” which included an Art in the Park festival, The Great American Hot Dog Feed, and an evening of music featuring the Marshall Fiddle Band, guitarist, Guy Stevermer, and Peter Ostrouschko and the Heartland Band.

In 1996, a group of community members discussed ways to promote local art talent and education, and provide space for exhibits and performances.

Their goals were:
- A community arts center open 6 days per week
- Volunteer staffing; later, a paid coordinator
- Local visual arts exhibits
- Calendar/news re: arts events and opportunities
- Art Ed. opportunities for area adults & children
- Performances, literature & music by local artists
- Professional performances by touring artists

The group revived the MAFAC, which was active in the 1980s. Financial support from the Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Council (SMAHC), The Schwan Food Company, and benefactor support from Greig & Gregerson, enabled them to open the Arts Center on Marshall's Main St. in 1998.

Since 1999, with additional financial support from SMAHC, the City of Marshall, Lyon County, corporations/businesses, plus real and in-kind member support, MAFAC has become an integral part of the community. With help from many, MAFAC continues to expand opportunities for art experiences in our area.

If you look at the goals listed above, MAFAC has certainly accomplished them all and then some. MAFAC moved into its newest downtown location on 3rd Street a couple years ago.

This new location allows them ample space for their expanded Gift Shop and their exhibition area. MAFAC has a very active exhibition schedule featuring local and regional artists. The gift shop features fine art creations from area artists including pottery, original watercolors, jewelry, textiles and carvings.

MAFAC is in the 6th year of their Presenter's Concert Series which features local, national and international musicians. MAFAC is also active in presenting summer musical concerts and a yearly Art in the Park festival.

MAFAC has a part time Coordinator and many volunteers to help staff the Arts Center. There is a very active board of 14 members who help plan events, raise funds, and actively volunteer their time on many projects.

To learn more about MAFAC and their upcoming exhibits and activities, visit their website at www.mafac.net.

**UPCOMING MAFAC EXHIBITIONS**

- **August 12 – September 13, 2008:** Robert Schwan Memorial Photography Competition & Exhibit
- **Sept. 16 – Oct. 25:** Molly Linstrom, Marshall: Watercolors & acrylics and also a glass-blowing artist
- **Oct. 28 – Nov 29:** Carol Ceynowa, Luverne, Pottery and Oils

**UPCOMING MAFAC CONCERT SERIES**

- **All My Favorites,** September 26, 27, & 28, 2008
- **Barynya,** October 17, 2008
- **Schubert Trio,** Sunday, November 2, 2008
- **Spanish Brass Quintet,** March 7, 2009
- **Romanza,** April 26, 2009

**Art of Recovery**

Art of Recovery, an exhibition featuring visual and literary arts by Minnesotans who have been victims of crime, and have used art as a means to respond, explore, express or heal,

Art of Recovery is an annual exhibition cosponsored by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs and the Minnesota State Arts Board. It reflects a wide range of experiences including domestic abuse, child abuse, sexual abuse, rape, physical assault, the murder of a child and political oppression. Art of Recovery is an outlet for healing and awareness. It highlights crime victims’ rights and resources available to individuals who have been the victim of a crime. The exhibition is mounted each year, to commemorate National Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

Art of Recovery will be on display in the Ridgewater College Art Gallery, 2 Century Avenue SE, Hutchinson, from Monday, August 25, through Friday, September 26. The exhibition is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information contact Andrew Nordin at Ridgewater College at 320-234-8518, or andrew.nordin@ridgewater.edu. Additional Art of Recovery images and materials are available online at www.arts.state.mn.us/aor/2008
GALLERY LISTINGS

Nobles County Art Center; Month of September, Photography by Tim & Tom Middagh, Opening Reception is September 7, 2pm to 4pm; Month of October, Pottery by Hank Hall, Opening Reception is October 12, 2pm to 4pm; Admission - Free; 407 12th Street, Worthington. Gallery Hours are Monday through Friday, 2-4:30 PM; call 507-372-8245 for more Information.

Marshall Area Fine Arts Council (MAFAC), Block Prints by Nan Karr Kaufenberg, July 1 - August 9; Robert Schwan Memorial Photo Competition and Exhibit, August 12 - September 13; 109 N. 3rd St., Marshall. 507-532-5463. Hours: Tues-Fri 11-4:30 pm & Sat 11-2 pm.  www.mafac.net

The WEAC Gallery - Willmar Education and Arts Center is located at 611 Fifth Street SW, Willmar. Coming exhibits are CCAC artist Suzanne Napgezek, September 2-29 and Phyllis Joes, printmaking, October 1-27; For more information, Call (320) 231-8560.

Robert Remick Gallery/Cottonwood County Historical Society, 812 Fourth Avenue, Windom; Works by Anna Johannsen, Opening Reception, Sept. 7, 2 to 4 PM; runs through Nov. 22; Hours: Monday -Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM. Contact: (507) 831-1134


Java River Cafe in Montevideo hosts art exhibits every month and hosts musicians, poets, and performers; 210 S. 1st Street, Montevideo; Visit www.javarivercafe.com

Tokheim Stoneware 2057 361st Avenue, Dawson; visit their website at www.tokheim-stoneware.com

Clay Coyote Pottery 17614 240th St. Hutchinson; See www.claycoyote.com for gallery hours or email Betsy or Tom at claypot@hutchtel.net;

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

...in the arts and/or humanities in your area that you would like to publicize?
Submit upcoming events for the November/December VOICES by October 15, 2008.

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: ________________________________

SEPTEMBER

September 4 Deadline for SMAHC Challenge Grants (Round 1); information on this grant and all SMAHC grants is available on the SMAHC website at www.smahc.org

September 6 SMAHC Organization Grant Panel Meeting at the SMAHC Office, 9:30am

September 6 Branson On The Road at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Pipestone; Gala Opening starts at 6:30pm/Show at 8:00pm. Call (877) 722-2787 for tickets and information.

September 6 Jerry Ostensoe and the Strollers performing at The Little Theatre, 24 Central Ave. E., New London; 8:00pm; for tickets, call 320-354-2559; website: www.newlondonlittletheatre.com

September 7 Old Time Fiddlers performing at the Lake Benton Opera House, Lake Benton; 2:00 PM; For ticket information, visit www.lakebentonoperahouse.org or call (507) 368-4604 (daytime) or (507) 247-3833

September 11-13, 18-20, 21 Dirty Work at the Crosswords by the Crow River Players at The Little Theatre, 24 Central Ave. E., New London; all performances start at 7:30pm except the Sept 21 matinee starts at 2:30pm; for tickets, call 320-354-2559; website: www.newlondonlittletheatre.com

September 13 Michael Monroe in concert at Memorial Auditorium, Dawson; 7:30 PM; For information, call 320-769-2955 Ext. 246 or visit www.dawsonboydarts.org

September 13 Art Rocks Fine Arts Festival in downtown Luverne; 9 AM to 4 PM; The kickoff Concert will be on Friday, September 12 with Michael Martin Murphy, 7:30 PM at the Palace Theatre; For more information, call the Luverne Area Chamber of Commerce, 507 283-
OCTOBER

October 1 Deadline for Arts & Learning and Individual Artist Study Opportunity Grants; information on these grants and all SMAHC grants is available on the SMAHC website at www.smahc.org.

October 2-5, 9-12 Little Shop of Horrors, at the Lake Benton Opera House; Show times are 7:30 PM except for matinees which are at 2:00 PM (Oct. 5, 11, 12); For ticket information, visit www.lakebentonoperahouse.org or call (507) 368-4604 (daytime) or (507) 247-3833.

October 3-5 The Meander, the Upper Minnesota River Art Crawl; for more information and to download a Meander brochure, visit www.artsmeander.com or call (866) 866-5432.

October 3-4 Corn Off The Cob 16 at Memorial Auditorium, 714 13th Street, Worthington; 7:30pm; For ticket information, call (507) 376-9101.

October 4 Peter Ostroushko in concert at Memorial Auditorium, Dawson; 7:00pm - Meander Weekend Concert; For information, call 320-769-2955 Ext. 246 or visit www.dawsonboydarts.org.

October 4 Duluth artists David Bowen and Kristina Estell presented by ARThouse, 117 1st Ave NE, New London; The artist's reception is from 5 - 9 pm; free and open to the public; Free door prize for the first 15 visitors - an ARThouse tradition! For more information, email art-house@arthousenewlondon.com or visit their website at www.arthousenewlondon.com.

October 10 Conference for Young Artists at SMSU in Marshall; Early bird Registration Deadline is September 15, Final Registration Deadline is September 22; Contact Sue Gorecki at sue.gorecki@swsc.org or 507-537-2258.

October 17 Barynya, Russian Folk dancers, performing at the Schwan Performing Arts Center, 7:30 PM; Call (507) 532-5463 for more information or visit www.mafac.net.

October 18 Michael Young, guitarist and world-class picker, appearing at The Little Theatre, 24 Central Ave. E., New London; 8:00pm; for tickets, call 320-354-2559; website: www.newlondonlittletheatre.com.

October 21 Individual Artist Development and Career Grant Writing Workshop will be held at the SMAHC Office in Marshall from 4-6 PM. The workshop is free but pre-registration is required. Call 800-622-5284 to register for the workshop. PLEASE NOTE that the Application Deadline for these grants has been set earlier than in previous years. The deadline is December 1, 2008.

October 25 Callen Family concert, performing at the Business Arts and Recreation Center (BARC), 1012 5th Avenue, Win- dom; 7:00pm; For ticket information, call (507) 831-2375 or visit www.barcwindom.com.
SMAHC AWARDS INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS
The Board of Directors of SMAHC voted to award a total of $22,295 to local individual artists under the SMAHC/McKnight Individual Artist Study, Development and Career Programs. We would like to congratulate the most recent grant award recipients in these programs:

Career Grants
John Sterner, sculptor, Marshall, $2000, to prepare for an upcoming exhibit of sculpture.
Daniel Rieppel, pianist, Cottonwood, $2000 to record a professional CD of piano music.
Karen Jenson, painter, Milan, $2000 to document her work and develop a website.
Peter Lothringer, composer/musician, Marshall, $2000 to make professional recordings of original solo guitar music.
Julia Alvarado, Cottonwood, $2000 to commission Robert Whitley to write a harpsichord concerto.
Scott Wallace, Sculptor, Hendricks, $1000 for the development of a new body of sculptural works.
Steven Klassen, painter, Mountain Lake, $1000 to purchase materials for a new series of acrylic paintings.
Sheila Tabaka, costume designer, Marshall, $2000 to conduct research for her upcoming book.
Lucy Tokheim, visual artist, Dawson, $1000 to purchase materials for new series of paintings & collages.
Florence Dacey, poet, Cottonwood, $1000 to complete collaborative poetry works.

Development Grants
Bonita Van Moorlehem, painter, Minneota, $1000 for materials to continue a new series of paintings.
Robert Glieden, photographer, Hutchinson, $1000 for supplies for black & white photography.
Leah Mahlow, visual artist, Willmar, $1000 to continue a series of 2D and 3D works.

Study Grants
Eric Parrish, opera singer, Worthington, $500 for an Italian immersion study course.
Shayann Hoffer, painter, New London, $500 for a Plein Aire pastel painting workshop.
Leah Mahlow, visual artist, Willmar, $500 for a mentorship with Bill Gossman.
Joanne Meierhofer, visual artist, Willmar, $495 for a pastel painting workshop.

Bill Holm Named McKnight Distinguished Artist
Bill Holm, celebrated poet and author from Minnesota, was named the 11th McKnight Distinguished Artist by the McKnight Foundation. Holm is the author of 15 books. His most recent book of prose is The Windows of Brimnes: An American in Iceland (Milkwed Editions, 2007). It was written from his cottage on the coast of Iceland.

Holm is a retired professor from Southwest Minnesota State University. He was the recipient of the SMAHC Prairie Star award in 2000.

UPCOMING SMAHC DEADLINES
Challenge Grants
The deadline Challenge Grants is September 4, 2008. Arts organizations that have an upcoming planned fundraising drive or membership campaign can apply for this program. The earliest Project Start date for this grant is October 1, 2008.

Arts & Learning and Individual Artist Study Opportunity Grants
The deadline for Arts & Learning grants is October 1, 2008. Grants are available for Artist Residencies, Pre-packaged Theatre Residencies and Field Trips. The earliest Project Start date for this grant is December 1, 2008.

The deadline for Individual Artist Study Opportunity Grants is October 1, 2008. This grant gives aid to area artists at all stages of development to take advantage of professional development opportunities. The earliest Project Start date for this grant is December 1, 2008.

Individual Artist Development & Career Grants and Prairie Star/Prairie Disciple
The deadline for Individual Artist Development & Career Grants is December 1, 2008. PLEASE NOTE: This date has been set earlier than in previous years. This grant program is designed to aid artists in their career development. The earliest Project Start date for this grant is February 1, 2009.

The deadline for submitting nominations for the Prairie Star and Prairie Disciple award is December 1, 2008.

Grant guidelines and application forms for all programs are available on the SMAHC website: www.smahc.org.
THE WILLMAR AREA ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS...

CELEBRATE ART! CELEBRATE COFFEE!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH
DOWNTOWN WILLMAR
5TH ST & BECKER AVE
10 AM – 5 PM

IN CASE OF RAIN, EVENTS WILL BE LOCATED AT
KENNEDY ELEMENTARY. 824 7TH ST SW.

ARTIST TENTS • ACTIVITY ART TENTS • EXHIBITS • LIVE DANCE
DEMONSTRATIONS • LIVE MUSIC • FREE COFFEE!!!

Meander Weekend Events

Local Art - Local Music
Friday, Oct. 3, 2008 5:00 - 10:00 pm
Commissioned art display by regional artists to celebrate the Minnesota Sesquicentennial & local music featuring Jerry Ostensoe, Brad Fernholt, Malena Handeen, & The Strollers.
5:00-8:00 p.m. Local foods meal by the Greater Milan Initiative
Old Milan School Building
408 N 4th St - Milan 320-734-4128

Visit 35 studios featuring 45 artists in and surrounding Canby, Dawson, Madison, Oronville, Odessa, Danvers, Appleton, Milan, Montevideo, Kerkhoven, Clara City and Granite Falls

More than 50 prairie artisans!

1-866-866-5432 www.artsmeander.com
Has your membership expired? If your address label shows that your membership has expired this may be the last issue of VOICES you will receive in the mail. Please use the form at the bottom of this page to renew your membership now. If you prefer to receive VOICES via email, subscribe at www.smahc.org or contact the SMAHC office.

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Big Stone..........................Ardie Eckardt  Lincoln.............................Robert Troien
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Kandiyohi ............................................ Open  Murray.............................. Chad Felton
Lac qui Parle .............................. Deb Meyer  Nobles .............. Margaret Hurlbut Vosburgh
                                                Pipistone .............................. Bronwyn Jones

Redwood .............................. Ramona Larson  Renville.............................. Jerry Ostensoe
Rock.................................................. John Radley  Swift............................. Sydney Massee
Yellow Medicine...................... Tamara Isfeld  At-Large............................ Ruth Ascher

STAFF

Executive Director............. Greta Murray  Administrative Assistant...Charles Carrera
Office Assistant............. Helen Devereaux

New & Renewing Members - June 22 - August 21, 2008

Louise Olson, Appleton  Litchfield Community Theatre, Litchfield  Ardie Eckardt, Odessa
Tom & Cleo Ling, Bigelow  Meeker County Historical Society, Litchfield  City of Olivia
City of Clinton  City of Litchfield  Jack & Elaine Gable, Ortonville
A. Eric Anderson, Cottonwood  Jane Wildung Lamphere, Luverne  Mark Mustful, Ortonville
City of Danube  Mary Furgeson, Lynd  City of Ortonville
Steve Dille, Dassel  Richard & Sherry Hauck, Madison  Al Opland Singers, Pipestone
V.G. and Jean Schaffer, Eden Prairie  City of Madison  Pipestone County Commission, Pipestone
Claire Swanson, Granite Falls  Carol Purrington, Marshall  Corrine Totzke, Slayton
Margaret Martenson, Granite Falls  Deb & Craig Maki, Marshall  Leroy & Jan Ann Peterson, Slayton
Gene Stukel Photography, Gene and Helen Helene & Douglas Devereaux, Marshall  Linda & Richard Stewart, South Haven
Stukel, Granite Falls  Steve & Beth Ritter, Marshall  Arthur Drackley, Tracy
Laurie Vasko, Hutchinson  Carol Reuers, Marshall  City of Tracy
Kraft, Walser, Hettig, Honsey & Kleiman  Lon and Diane Wright, Marshall  City of Walnut Grove
PLL, Hutchinson  Gayle & Bill Kremer, Marshall  City of Westbrook
Crow River Arts, Hutchinson  Judi Bohm, Milan  Audrey & Richard Falk, Willmar
Southwest Initiative Foundation, Hutchinson  City of Milan  Friends of the Windom Library, Windom
City of Kerkhoven  New London-Spicer Community Education/ Youth Services  Diane Graber, Worthington
City of Lamberton

SMAHC Membership Form

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

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Please consider making a gift to SMAHC as a memorial or in honor of a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion.