

WINTER 2012

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The newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

Prairie Arts Council Honors Dr. Dick Dorsch

Dorsch will be honored at the Seventeenth Annual Prairie Arts Council Gala to be held at the Princeton Elk's Club on Friday, February 3rd at 7 pm.

This year, the Prairie Arts Council will honor local arts supporter, theatrical performer, and singer Dr. Dick Dorsch for his "Lifetime Achievements in the Arts." Dorsch is a retired Princeton dentist who was born and raised in Mt. Carmel, Illinois.



Dr. Richard Dorsch will be honored at the 17th Annual Prairie Arts Council Gala on Friday, Feb. 3.

In high school, Dorsch was very active in the Music Department and had parts in both the Junior and Senior plays. He also was an announcer and reporter on his local radio station's "So You Want to be a DJ" and was employed as a radio announcer on WVMC, Mt. Carmel, IL., WRAY, Princeton, IN., WAKO, Lawrenceville, IL. and WSIU in Carbondale, IL.

Prior to entering dental school, Dorsch gave serious thought to pursuing a career in radio broadcasting. He attended Southern Illinois University in Carbondale for his pre-dental education and graduated from Washington University Dental School in St. Louis. Upon graduating from dental school, he married his wife, Mary and served in the United States Navy Dental Corps in Jacksonville, Florida.

Since moving to Princeton, Dorsch has enjoying performing in over 25 local amateur productions with Stage 212 in Peru, River Valley Players in Henry, Act IV, Prairie Arts Council, and numerous Homestead Festival plays in Princeton. He has portrayed prominent, historical citizens in the Bureau County Historical Society's "Oakland Speaks" tour and has joined the group of thespians who present the Hegeler Carus Christmas Program in La Salle.

Of all of the theatrical roles he has played, his favorite is Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof," and he had the most fun being Oscar Madison in "The Odd Couple." He has also enjoyed doing vocal solo work in Handel's "Messiah" and Brahms's "Requiem" with the Bureau County Choir and has been a member of the First Lutheran Church Choir.

Dorsch has always had a lifelong interest and support of the arts as well as making many contributions to the arts through his considerable involvement in both the theater and singing.

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Dorsch has served as president of the Princeton Chamber of Commerce, president of the Princeton Rotary Club, and president of the Bureau County Chorus and has served in various capacities on the church council of First Lutheran Church. He has been a member of the Princeton Zoning Board and presently serves on the Metro Center's Shoemake Foundation Board and the Bureau County Historical Society.

Dorsch lives outside of Princeton with his wife and their German Shepherd, Liezel.

This is the third "Lifetime Achievement in the Arts" that has been awarded that recognizes and honors special people like Dick Dorsch who have made such important contributions to the arts. Nedda Simon was the second recipient of this special award at the 2011 Gala and Mary Win Norris was the first recipient in 2010.

Seventeenth Annual Prairie Arts Council Gala - Friday Feb. 3, 2012

The theme for this year's PAC gala will again be "Building Our Future in the Arts," and this theme will be reflected in the many both silent and live auction items as we work together to build and strengthen our future in the arts and those of our children and grandchildren. Some of the gala's auction items include: a private morel-hunting expedition provided by Charlie Scanlan, a half-day fishing trip for two people with fishing lessons by Lee Wahlgren, a 3 ft. garden bench designed and installed by Prairie Nursery, a framed, signed and authenticated painting entitled "Red Flowers" painted by Tony Curtis and donated by Sally Munson, a stained-glass lamp created by Roger Swanson, a year of monthly soups prepared and delivered by Julie McCutchan, a year of monthly cookies provided by Ami Chamberlain, a framed Alphabet cross-stitch work created by Carolyn Workman, a professional portrait session with Daniel Acker, a cord of wood and items to enjoy during the winter delivered by Greg and

Marilyn Anthony, a season-long gardening consultation with Jane Morris, oil paintings by Denny Elliott and Barry Maywood, a private baking lesson with Terri Zearing, an overnight stay and a gourmet dinner for two at the Chestnut Street Inn in Sheffield, a framed drawing of Owen Lovejoy by Nick Young, and a selection of amazing photographs donated by members of the Photographers Unlimited Club. This is only a sampling of the many auction items that will help to build our future in the arts.

The gala is the main fund-raiser for the Prairie Arts Council. These funds will be used to continue and enhance the many programs that the PAC offers for our local community. The PAC is a volunteer-based organization, and its only sources of funds are donations, memberships, grants and the gala. Tickets are available in advance as well at the door and cost \$30. For questions, call Gala Chair Linda Gustafson at 815-872-9181.



The Prairie Arts Council Board of Directors pose with some of the auction items for the 17th Annual Gala on Feb. 3. Pictured are Front Row: (l-r) Julie McCutchan, Tammy Tieman, Hope Browning, Pam Hanson, Linda Gustafson, and Jamie Bickett. Back Row: (l-r) Dan Acker, David Gorenz, Chad Brokaw, Bob Davidson, and Dave Taylor. Not pictured: Goldie Currie.

Photographers Unlimited Show in the PAC Gallery

The Photographers Unlimited Club Exhibit opened on Friday January 13 with a lively reception. Works of fifteen of the club's 30 members will be on display through February 12.

Photographers Unlimited Club was founded in 1978 with 9 original members. The club meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Bureau County Republican Community Room in Princeton. It is affiliated with the Central Illinois Camera Club Association. Their purpose is to provide a diversified photographic interest and an opportunity to meet other people who share the same interests. It gives novice and expert alike a forum in which to share and learn from many other's photographic experiences and to promote the many exciting facets that photography has to offer.

The Photography Unlimited Club sponsors a number of

events during the year, including field trips to different scenic places. They also have a Mystery Field Trip in which no one knows where they will be going until right before they leave. Educational programs are presented by members on particular topics such as Macro Photography or Landscape Composition. The club sponsors an annual scavenger hunt in which members are provided a list of twelve items to photograph and a competition is held on each of these items. Anyone interested in photography is encouraged to join the club.

The February Gallery show: "Twang: The Art of the Guitar," will be a show that celebrates the beauty of both guitars and the music that they create. It will be a show with a great diversity of guitars and music that will appeal to both the new and established guitar players and admirers. The opening reception will be Feb 22 5-7 p.m.

PAC is Grateful for Community Support in Many Ways!

Grants received from Church Women United's Closet Distribution and Princeton Junior Women's club will go toward making the theater bathroom wheel-chair accessible.

Sun Foundation has provided a grant for a 2 week children's art camp in the summer of 2012

Illinois Valley Fine Arts Trust grant will help provide for another summer concert in the park which will feature ethnic music

A special Thank you to Pam Hanson who organized the Mini Christmas Tree Festival and Stephanie Van Ordstrand for transforming the fireplace room into a Christmas wonderland. Thank you to all who created the beautiful Christmas trees and those who purchased them.

Thank you to the Bureau County Chorus and Director Joy Schertz who led a Christmas Sing-along to add to the Christmas festivities on December 3rd. Kathy Ballard and Cynthia Smucker provided ceramic giftware for

the Christmas Gift Boutique. The Princeton Lions Club provided the Magic Show for the December 3rd event.

Thank you to ushers and gallery hosts for their help with December and January events. Thanks to bakers who donated refreshments for the opening receptions.

Thank you to Cannon Cleaners for providing cleaning for costumes from the Christmas Show.

Prairie Arts Council was pleased to celebrate with Patrick Reeves at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony on December 17. We were surprised to receive a check for \$125 for PAC in addition to the ramp which the scout troop built for access to the gallery.

After many months of work by Linda Gustafson, we have received notice from the Illinois Department of revenue that the Prairie Arts Center has 100% real estate tax exemption.

David Gorenz, Dylan Carlson, David Taylor, Trey Barker, LuAnn Salz and many others have been busy painting the theater. Thank you to Roger and Linda Gustafson for supplying the paint for the project.

March is PAC Membership Month

Make sure you renew your membership for 2012 or, if you're not a member, please join! Visit our website to download a membership form: www.theprairieartscouncil.org/contact



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Upcoming Events

- Now - Feb 12 Photographers Unlimited Show continues in the PAC Gallery
- Feb 3 7:00 p.m. - 17th Annual Gala at the Princeton Elks Lodge
- Feb 17 5-7:00 p.m. - First Friday Gallery Opening, "Twang – The Art of the Guitar"
- Feb 17 - March 18 PAC Gallery - "Twang – The Art of the Guitar" - Gallery open Sat-Sun 1-4 p.m. Wed. 6-8 p.m.
- Feb 21 6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting
- Feb 22 7:00 p.m. - Evening with the Guitars (Gallery open 6-8 p.m.)
- March 23 5-7:00 p.m. - First Friday Gallery Opening, "Eight Million to Eight Hundred: Photographic Works by Daniel Acker"
- March 23 - April 22 PAC Gallery - "Eight Million to Eight Hundred: Photographic Works by Daniel Acker" - Gallery open Sat-Sun 1-4 p.m. Wed. 6-8 p.m.
- March 28 7:00 p.m. - Evening with the Artist, Daniel Acker (Gallery open 6-8 p.m.)

(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)

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