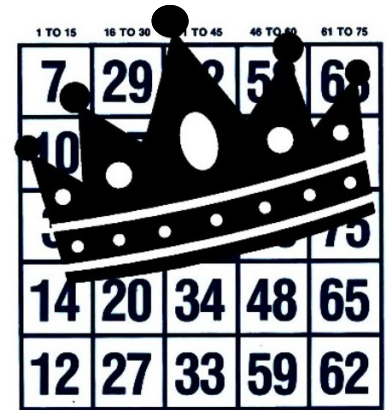




prairie arts

The Newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

Queen of Bingo



to roll in to PAC theater

In the tradition of the hilarious Harvey Korman and Tim Conway sketches from the old Carol Burnett Show comes the stage comedy “The Queen of Bingo” at the Prairie Arts Center, 24 Park Avenue East, Princeton, Illinois, on February 28 and March 1.

Sis and Babe, two sisters on the other side of 50, want to add a little fun and excitement to their lives, but where to find it?... **BINGO!** Jeanne Michels and Phyllis Murphy’s “The Queen of Bingo” catches Sis (Jill Marti) and Babe (Julie Grady) during bingo night at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. Over the rattle of bingo balls, the patter of a smooth-talking caller, and the smell of sweat from the boy’s locker room, the women come to terms with life, love, winning, and losing.

The show comes steeped in the culture of bingo halls, big diamonds, daubers, and coveralls. Bingo (and its superstitions) remains enough a part of our shared culture that audiences can laugh as Marti unpacks a huge bag

7 p.m. Feb. 28
2 p.m. March 1

Call (815) 875-2787
for tickets

filled with bingo supplies, good luck tokens, and a big coffee mug – then giggle again as Grady arrives with a 7-eleven mug the size of Connecticut, Troll dolls, and a good luck cross that she waves over her cards.

While the light-hearted show focuses mainly on silliness (characters in the bingo hall, an escaped mouse, Babe’s attempts to evade love-happy Coach Anderson), it does veer into the serious. Sis, a widow, struggles with loneliness, while Babe fights the battle of the bulge. Surprise, surprise!! Bingo turns out to be the answer to both

their prayers!

The cast also includes the comedic talents of Utica’s Karen Rogers and Princeton’s Andy Marti. Jill Marti does double-duty as director for the show. The rest of the production staff includes Kathy Ballard, set designer; Maryhelen Bidasio, tickets; Dixie Schroeder, press/assistant director; and Elaine Russell and Patti Moynihan as co-chairs for the auction.

Performances for this hilarious comedy are set for 7 p.m. Saturday, February 28, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1. Ticket prices are \$18 for Saturday’s performance, which includes the “Girls Night Out” event (see page 3).

Tickets for Sunday’s performance are \$12 (performance only). Please call (815) 875-2787 and leave a message to purchase your ticket or visit the PAC box office at the Prairie Arts Center between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. February 19 and 24. Tickets purchased by phone may also be picked up at that time.

Camera club shows 'Unlimited' talent

February exhibit kicks off 2015 gallery season

The Prairie Arts Council welcomes Princeton's Photography Unlimited club during the month of February as they exhibit some of their members' most recent photographic works in the PAC gallery. This exhibit begins with a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception honoring the photographers from 6 to 8 p.m. February 6. Friends and the public are welcome to attend.

The group was formed on January 12, 1978, and currently has 35 members. When asked about Photography Unlimited, past president Jon McCutchan said it's quite an active group of people. He reported that the group has had workshops on portrait photography, macro photography, Photoshop focus stacking and HDR (high dynamic range). As a group, they have visited several destinations in the region doing "mystery shoots," not revealing the location until the morning they gather for the three- to four-hour competition outing.

The group also has monthly photo challenges where they encourage members to find new shots of random topics around food, flowers, and babies. They have enjoyed programs presented by accomplished professional photographers at their annual banquet, and often have members bring work from their own projects.

In addition, the club sponsored a community-wide photo competition in the fall of 2014 that introduced the club to many local photographers unaware of their activities. Many of its members have exhibited at the Bureau County Fair. The members have also participated in twice yearly "Friendly Four Club" contests with members of camera clubs from Sandwich, Streator, and Morris. Photography Unlimited recently hosted the 69th such competition in November.

The group meets at 7 p.m. on the



David Horst, a member of Photography Unlimited, captures the remains of a farmstead in this winter scene that will be one of the many photographs featured in the February exhibit at PAC. Horst lives in rural Tiskilwa and has enjoyed photography as a hobby for many years.

fourth Wednesday of each month in the Bureau County Republican Community Room. Guests and interested new members are welcome to join them for these monthly meetings.

The Photography Unlimited exhibit will run through March 1 in the PAC gallery during open hours from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. This exhibit is free and open to the public.

PAC remembers Aaron Porter in exhibit of his work

During the month of March, the Prairie Arts Council will honor the son of one of our members, Patti Moynihan. Aaron James Porter died in March of 2014. He was an up-and-coming young artist whose life was cut short by Huntington's Disease. His mother, Patti Moynihan of Princeton says this about her son:

"Ever since Aaron was able to hold a crayon in his hand he was drawing, coloring, and creating. Aaron never liked coloring books. He loved drawing his own creations, things from his own imagination. Aaron grew up in Princeton and graduated from Princeton High School. He attended Northern Illinois University, and after he married he moved to the

suburbs and later to Peoria.

"Aaron died March 16, 2014. He suffered from Huntington's Disease. The worst thing about that disease was it robbed him of his ability to draw and paint. Huntington's Disease is also called Huntington's Chorea because there is involuntary motion and twitching that occurs as brain cells deteriorate. It is a genetic brain disorder that passes from one generation to another because of a chromosome that we all carry within ourselves. The trigger is unknown, but some families have it and most do not. This disease has taken his grandmother, two uncles, and just recently Aaron and then his father, Eric Porter.

"Because Aaron loved to draw and create his own characters, his artwork is very unique. If I were to place a label on it, I would say pen and ink drawings that are characters from another world, a world of Dungeons and Dragons and fantasy.

"I am so happy that I have his artwork to remember his creative spirit, his adventuresome nature, and his love of art. I am hoping that by showing his artwork it will inspire others to create and be free to express themselves."

Aaron's artwork can be viewed in the PAC fireplace room March 6-29 during open hours. This event is free and open to the public.

An Evening of Love Songs



Treat your valentine to an evening of love songs presented by The Covered Bridge Chorus at the Prairie Arts Center at 7 p.m.

Friday, February 13. Come and enjoy a group of harmonized voices singing songs of the season, songs of love including such iconic tunes as "My Wild Irish Rose," "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," "Heart of My Heart," and more.

The Covered Bridge Chorus is a chapter of The Barbershop Harmony Society, an international society of men dedicated to preserving and enjoying the barbershop style of a cappella singing and four-part harmony. Members of the chorus include men from as far south as Henry and as far north as New Bedford.

Admission is by donation only. A sweets table will be provided for your enjoyment as well. Reservations are suggested but not required. Call (815) 875-2787 for information.

Members exhibit set for March

The Prairie Arts Council is proud to announce a "Members Only" Art Exhibit during the month of March, beginning with an opening reception for our artists from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 6 in the gallery of the Prairie Arts Center in Princeton.

All members are invited to submit three to five pieces of art which they have created, depending on size. Any art form will be accepted including needle and fabric art, textiles, pottery and other 3-dimensional art, jewelry, drawings and paintings, and other wall art.

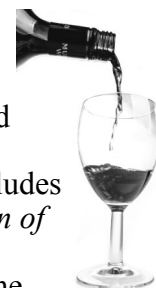
If you currently are NOT a member of the Prairie Arts Council and wish to participate in this event, please call the PAC at (815) 875-2787 or simply send in the membership form located in this newsletter or on our website and indicate that you are an artist.

If you are interested in participating in this event and for further information regarding drop-off dates for this exhibit, please contact Melody Best, PAC Gallery Director, at (203) 522-6805.

This exhibit will run through March 29. It will be open and free to the public. Open hours for this exhibit will be 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Girls Night Out

Be sure and mark February 28 on your calendar as **Girls Night Out**. Bring a friend, sister, mother, aunt, or grandma and enjoy an evening of wine, chocolate, and entertainment. Tickets are \$18, which includes the Saturday night performance of "Queen of Bingo" (See page 1).



Doors open at 7 p.m. in the gallery of the Prairie Arts Center where you will have a chance to bid on a number of silent auction baskets while sipping a glass of wine.

Volunteers have been busy gathering a number of items for this silent auction fundraiser for the Prairie Arts Council. Gifts and services, donated by PAC members and Princeton businesses, will include anything from personal care services to a family membership into the Bureau County Metro Center.

Call (815) 875-2787 to get your ticket early for this fun evening of **Girls Night Out!**

Patrons of the Prairie Arts Center who have an artistic side have a unique opportunity to show off their work by donating to the silent auction taking place at the Girls Night Out event. Donations of such art will be appreciated and are encouraged from now through February 15. To make arrangements, contact Jill Marti at (815) 879-0701.

Two Irish Tellers

Storytellers Mick Henneberry and Tricia Kelly have traveled from Colorado to Massachusetts to Tennessee. Now the Two Irish Tellers have returned once again to the Princeton Prairie Arts Center for an evening of shenanigans, blarney, and tomfoolery! Set your burdens aside awhile and just enjoy a bit of jokes, limericks, and stories. Find out what it means to be Irish. Learn a word or two of the Irish language. Discover the magic of Irish music. During intermission, Irish delights of food and drink will be available.



Two Irish Tellers will perform one night only, at 7 p.m. March 14 at the PAC. Tickets are just \$10 each. Seating is limited, so get your tickets now! To purchase tickets or for more information, please call (815) 875-2787 or visit www.theprairieartscouncil.org.

Zentangle



This fun, meditative, relaxing art form, sometimes referred to as “yoga for your brain,” is quickly becoming popular among artists and non-artists alike. The goals of Zentangle are to increase focus and creativity while providing artistic satisfaction. A type of doodling, Zentangle is a pen and ink technique that encourages creativity and relaxation with the use of invented repetitive patterns. Linda Fine, a certified Zentangle teacher who received her certification in June 2013 in Providence, Rhode Island, will show us how to get started with this fascinating process. A one-time \$8 material fee is payable to the instructor the first night of class. No skill level required. Four different sessions will be offered, with the first longer session being an explanation and instruction of Zentangle. Each session will complete its own project. **Preregistration is required by April 2.** To register, call (815) 875-2787 or mail to the Prairie Arts Center, 24 Park Avenue East, Princeton, IL 61356.

April 9 7–8:30 pm April 9 (first session)

April 16, 23, 30 7–8 p.m. (each successive session)

COST: \$12 members; \$15 nonmembers (plus a one-time \$8 supply fee)

****Pay per session or save by signing up for all four sessions at once:**

\$35 members; \$45 nonmembers.

Gift to Prairie Arts Center:

For the past four years, the ladies from the Country Comfort Retirement Home in Princeton have held an annual bake sale to benefit the Prairie Arts Council in memory of a past resident Stephanie Welsh. This year their gift amounted to \$400!

Stephanie was a strong PAC supporter and served on the board of directors from 2002 to 2004. During that time she rallied for the installation of a sink and cabinets in the space which we now use for a kitchen, which was empty except for a refrigerator. Stephanie felt so strongly about this that she donated the money and arranged for the installation of our existing sink, water heater, and base cabinets. (It is interesting to note that before the sink was installed, volunteers would have to take the dishes home to wash them after each event at the Prairie Arts Center.)

At our October 2014 board meeting, the board of directors voted to use this memorial gift to purchase more cabinets for our kitchen area for much needed storage space. Thank you, Country Comfort for your continued thoughtfulness in memory of Stephanie!

Our Current Membership

Student

Maya Martin

Single

Delores Angel
Dwight Bailey
Susan Barlow
Rebecca Best
Carol Bird
Leigh Ann Bulthuis
Lorraine Cabral
Harry Clucas
N. Dana Collins
Donna Dreisbach
Marie Etter
Linda Fine
Vicki Giehl
Barbara Hansen
June Harmon
Jan Heaton
Susan Jacobsen
Marjorie Johnson
Fran Lewis
Jan Lohaus
Jill Marti
Vicky Martin
Dr. Jon McCutchan
Mary Michael
Patti Moynihan
Patricia Polson
Peggy Robinson
Ethel Scruggs
Sundance Gallery
Roger Swanson
Esther Tracy
Letizia Vangelisti
Jeanette Wedding
Ramona Wedding

Family

Daniel and Gina Acker
Bill and Sallee Beneke

Fred and Melody Best
Paul and Lou Brown
Danielle Bourell
Tania and Aric Bowen
Keith and Julia Cain
Jim and Nancy Carlson
Sandy and Joe Carpenter
John and Theresa Cotter
Jacqui and Jack Coulter
Bill and Sue Cox
Doug and Sarah Criner
Bob and Cindy Davidson
Dennis and Donna Dickson
Gordon and Carol Dremann
Dr. Gary and Marilyn Eckberg
Sara Edlefsen
Denny and Cathy Elliott
Mike and Jan English
Steve and Jan Esme
Don and Diane Evans
Charles and Linda Gebhardt
John and Jeany Gewin
Bertha Gorenz
Stephen Gunning and Sarah Cooper
Roger and Linda Gustafson
Rick and Jane Holmbeck
Harold and Jeanne Hutchinson
Doug and Muzzy Kann
Matt and Joy Kauffman
Mike and Pam Lange
Lloyd and Colleen LaPlante
Judson and Ann Lusher
Guy and Joan Marella
Marjorie McIntosh and Gerald Boes
Kathy Missel
Tony Morrow and
Stephanie VanOrdstrand
Terry and Sally Munson
Phillip and Elizabeth Naffziger
Todd and Marcia Obenhaus
Bill and Barb Olila

J. D. and Shelley Orwig
Dr. Ketan and Aparna Patel
Dr. Timothy Puhr
Dave Roden and Tracy Boylan
Robert and Deb Russell
Wesley and Heather Sampson
Ardis Scala
Sam and Vikki Schiera
Don and Barb Schiff
Jay and Lara Schneider
Robert Shaw
Bruce and Sue Shriver
John and Lynda Smith
Larry and Christine Smith
Tony and Donna Sorcic
Wanda Stenzel
Roger and Joanne Swan
Ray and Cheri Swanson
Dave and Sharry Taylor
Dean and Tammy Tieman
Marcel and Diane VanDenBorre
Gene and Lisa Vincent
Alan and Lynne Weber
Marilyn Weeks
Bill and Deb Young
Lou and Terri Zeiring

Associate

Robert and Colleen Bockel
Dave and Jone Booth
Dr. Paul and Bridgette Castelein
Ed Council and Bridget McMcaus
Don and Gloria Eklund
John and Sue Garvin
David and Shelly Gorenz
Gayle Grace
Charles and Pam Hanson
Paul and Nancy Kautz
Barbara LaVelle
Carol McGee
Ron McCutchan
Audrey Monier

Jack and Cyndi Olson
Anna M. Roadhouse
Chris and Shannon Salisbury
Bob and Kay Telfer
True Ellen Wahlgren
Carolyn Workman

Sponsor

Kathy Ballard
Gary and Bea Coates
John and Mary Damon
Dan and Margaret Martinkus
Barry and Sylvia Mayworm
Jeanne O'Melia
Jyl Morse (in memory of Winnie
and Allen Murphey)

Paula Morrow
Kathy O'Malley
David and Judith Peterson
Marcia Roberts
Pat Rudzinski
Don and Nedda Simon

Patron

Marjorie Albrecht
Greg and Marilyn Anthony
Gale Bonucci
Steve and Laurie Bonucci
Linda Bortak
Cliff and Kathy Cartwright
Dr. Rex and Ami Chamberlain
Charles Gebeck
William and Betty Ann Losey
Pete and Karen May
David and Judith Peterson
Edward Burke and Fredericka Veikley
Tru Wahlgren

Ambassador

Gary and Hope Browning
Julie McCutchan

CHRISTMAS MINI-TREE FESTIVAL IN REVIEW

A big thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Mini-Tree Festival. We had more than 30 entries and raised over \$1,000 from this event. The following individuals and businesses donated their time and talents in the lovely holiday tree and wreath designs for our silent auction: Linda Ribar, Lisa Vincent, Lara Schneider, Sue Garvin, Shannon Blosser-Salisbury, Megan Schelkopf, Janet Henning, Peg Carr, Laurie Marselle, Joni Hunt (for the City of Princeton Tourism), Nita Wyatt, Jan Esme, Margaret Martinkus, Dave Hornbaker, Steve Esme, Dawn Cimaroli, Ron McCutchan, Kay Cushman (for Amma's Studio), Marge Johnson, Rita Pacunas, Marilyn Anthony (for Festival 56), Lynne Weber, Jan Lohaus, Hope Browning, Jean Gewin, Vicki Giehl, Maribel Kern (for Covered Bridge Quilt Guild). Winners of the judged Exhibit were for Overall Best Design, Lisa Vincent; Most Creative, Amma's Studio; Most Original, Ron McCutchan; Most Unique, Dave Hornbaker; and the People's Choice Award went to Vicki Giehl and Jean Gewin for their design titled "Feathered Friends." Go to www.theprairieartscouncil.org to view photos.

Attention PAC-rats!!

Donations for PAC's 13th annual rummage and bank sale will be accepted at the Prairie Arts Center during open hours in April, 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Items accepted include household items, decorations, and typical rummage sale items. No clothing please! Art-related considerations would be paintings, prints, 3-D art, picture frames, and arts and craft supplies.

The annual rummage and bake sale will be held on the PAC lawn from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 25. The proceeds from this annual sale are used to benefit the art scholarship program which is awarded in May to two deserving Bureau County High School applicants.

Help Wanted

Editor for the PAC quarterly newsletter. This job entails collecting information and transcribing it into enjoyable reading material for the public. Must attend monthly board meetings. Computer experience a must. Requires proofreading and command of the English language. Approximately 20 hours per newsletter. Your compensation is knowing you played an important part of getting information to the public regarding the PAC's many events. Contact Deb Young at (815) 303-7444 to learn more.

Memorials received:

- ◆ Mary Win Walter-Norris (given by Ed Council/Bridget McMcaus)
- ◆ Kathy Hornbaker (given by Pam Hansen)
- ◆ Pat "PJ" Fitzgerald (given by the family of Lawrence Welsh)

Grants received:

- ◆ Ill. Valley Fine Arts Trust - \$500
- ◆ Church Women United - \$1,500
- ◆ Sun Foundation - \$750
- ◆ Illinois Arts Council - \$2,245

Thank you for supporting the PAC with your membership!

Your financial and volunteer support is vital to our arts programming.

Please return this form and remittance to:

Deb Young, Membership Chairman

24 Park Avenue East, Princeton, IL 61365

Make checks payable to Prairie Arts Council

Name _____
 Business Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 *E-Mail _____

*In an effort to "Go Green", the PAC would like to notify members of events using e-mail. If you would like to receive our newsletter and other event notifications through your e-mail, please fill out, or simply leave it blank.

_____ I still prefer to receive my newsletter by US postal service.

I am willing to volunteer my time and talents. Please check all that apply:

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appetizers | <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baking | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Painting | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket Sales |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry | <input type="checkbox"/> Typing | <input type="checkbox"/> Usher | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning | <input type="checkbox"/> Host | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund-raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Rummage Sale | | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Design |

_____ Artist/Fine Art Exhibitor. Please specify: _____
 _____ Performing Artist/Musician. Please specify: _____
 _____ Teaching. Please specify: _____

Categories of Membership

Student.....\$15	Ambassador.....\$300
Individual.....\$25	Corporate.....\$500
Family.....\$35	Benefactor.....\$1000
Associate.....\$60	Donation _____
Sponsor.....\$100	Memorial Gift _____
Patron.....\$150	in Memory of _____



Prairie Arts Council

24 Park Avenue East
Princeton, IL 61356
815-875-2787

theprairieartscouncil.org



Programming partially funded by
the Illinois Arts Council,
Illinois Valley Fine Arts Trust,
and the Sun Foundation.

Arts Calendar

- Feb 2-Mar 1** Photography Unlimited exhibit in gallery
Opening reception 6-8 p.m. Feb. 2
Exhibit open normal gallery hours
through Mar. 1
- Feb 13** *An Evening of Love* performance of the
Covered Bridge Chorus, 7 p.m. in theater
- Feb 28-Mar 1** *The Queen of Bingo* performance in theater
7 p.m. Feb. 28, 2 p.m. Mar. 1
- Feb 28** *Girls Night Out* event in conjunction with
The Queen of Bingo, above
- Mar 6-29** Members Only art exhibit in gallery
Opening reception 6-8 p.m. Mar. 6
Exhibit open normal gallery hours through Mar. 29
- Mar 6-29** *Remembering Aaron Porter*
exhibit in fireplace room
Open normal gallery hours through Mar. 29
- Mar 14** *Two Irish Tellers*, 7 p.m. in theater
- April 9** *Zentangle* art class, 7-8:30 p.m. in gallery
- April 16, 23, 30** *Zentangle* art class, 7-8 p.m. in gallery
- April 25** 13th annual rummage and bake sale
9 a.m.-3 p.m. on PAC lawn

NONPROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
PRINCETON IL
61356
PERMIT NO. 24

(RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED)

Prairie Arts Council
24 Park Avenue East
Princeton, IL 61356