



Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

AS THE NEW YEAR BEGINS, TAKE TIME TO WORK ON YOUR ART!

WRAC Contact Information

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- PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE NEWS ABOUT **WRAC**.
- TELL US ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES.
- CONNECT, INSTRUCT OR PROMOTE!
- MAKE ARTS COME ALIVE IN EASTMAN!
- LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

INSIDE:

- Local arts events
- Featured artist
- EMCA season continues
- MTC'S Regional Tour Performance of "Miracle on South Division Street"
- And much more!!

Program Coordinator Update:

Debbie Majeau has decided to focus her energies in a new direction and recently let WRAC know she won't be able to continue in her contract as program director. We wish her well and ask members to bear with us as WRAC searches for a new employee.

EMCA Season Continues in 2014

Exciting line-up includes:

True Jive Pluckers - Classical, Blues & More

January 31

Tim Hus & the Rocky Mountain Two – Country/Canadiana

February 28

Lizzy Hoyt - Celtic

March 21

The Pelletier Family - Country Jazz & More

April 25

* All concerts start at 8:00 P.M. in Pinawa Community Centre/ High School Gym at 8:00 PM

Do you live in the Town of Lac du Bonnet or Victoria Beach area?

WRAC is looking for a BOARD MEMBER from either of these two communities.

Contact

info@winnipegriverarts.com

for more information or to let WRAC know you are interested.

WRAC is pleased to present Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance of "Miracle on South Division Street"

- Mark your calendar for February 19, 2014 when WRAC will be bringing the Manitoba Theatre Centre regional tour presentation of "Miracle on South Division Street" to the Eastman region.
- We have secured the Great Falls Community Club for this event (the perfect central location for Winnipeg River residents).
- Tickets are sure to sell out fast so don't delay in getting yours! General public prices are \$25.00/person. WRAC members qualify for reduced ticket prices of \$20.00/person.
- Tickets for general sale will be available throughout our communities in the coming weeks so keep your eyes open & tell your friends!



Do you have a website showcasing your art or talent? Is there a link out there on the world wide web to your accomplishments? WRAC would love to know about them! Part of the mission of the Winnipeg River Arts Council is to promote the talent of our members! We want to accomplish part of this by linking our members to our webpage (www.winnipegriverarts.com). If you have information that can be shared with us, please let WRAC know as soon as possible so WRAC website visitors can know where to find you.

***** NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Help us connect artists and arts organizations in Eastman. If you know about any arts related events, programs, products, services or opportunities, please email info@winnipegriverarts.com. WRAC newsletters link artists, arts organizations, schools and libraries in the region and promote art happenings. Please send us your arts news. *

An Important Message from MACA

Dear Manitobans for the Arts Members and Supporters,

Manitobans for the Arts invites you to join us **on January 28th 2014 for a special event (5:00 to 7:00 pm) at The Manitoba Museum** as we unveil plans to ensure arts and culture are at the forefront of the next civic, provincial and federal elections. This event will launch a community-wide advocacy campaign and we encourage attendance by arts organization representatives, individual artists, stakeholders, and board members. It is very important that arts and cultural supporters, workers and volunteers come together to speak with one voice as we enter this critical phase of election planning. Your input and assistance is essential, so please plan to attend to help us make arts and culture a priority. Another invite will follow but in the meantime, please hold the date and distribute widely to your networks.



WRAC Featured Artist
for December 2013
Ken Palmquist



For the month of December, Winnipeg River Arts Council features musician Ken Palmquist who grew up on the north shore of Powerview in the Cheverfils District. When he was five, he got a plastic toy guitar for Christmas. And he has never stopped playing! His desire to play was fueled at parties with local musicians, including many uncles and aunts. Soon he could play lead guitar. He had a natural ability to harmonize and honed his singing skill with the help of his mother Jean, who used to win many talent contests and even cut a 78 record in the 50's. In high school, with his musical confidence firmly established, he started to play at talent shows all over Manitoba. Palmquist said, "I just enjoyed the thrill of entertaining and competing!"

At sixteen, he entered a competition with his Uncle Frank on the "Ray St. Germain Country Talent Caravan" and won. After that, he went on to perform with many bands, playing everything from Gospel, country and bluegrass to rock and roll and heavy metal. In his home studio, he recorded three original songs which made it onto the radio. Presently, Palmquist plays all the different styles and categories of music he loved as a young man and also enjoys blues and jazz. He admitted, "I am now close to being a pensioner, but I still love to play anything pleasing to the ears."

He has performed at the 4P festival on three different occasions with different friends and family, and he hopes to do again. His dream is to play on cruise ships in warmer climes when he gives up his day job. His wife Jo has always supported his endeavors so it may happen. Palmquist started building guitars and finished his first one this summer. He plans to continue construction and repair of guitars, and hopes to give lessons in the future.

His family has carried on the musical legacy. Daughter Tamara is an up-and-coming songwriter and grandson Chance loves guitar. Son Myles, accomplished guitarist and singer, is working on his second album. Palmquist said, "They all make me very proud!"