



# Arts In Action

[www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org](http://www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org)

Volume 39, No. 2

March/April 2018



## ***Twelfth Annual Easter Cantata Choir Begins Rehearsals***

Over 60 singers from the Sturgis area are beginning rehearsals for the 12th Annual Easter Cantata. The singers, along with Director Marlene Kotab, will celebrate the powerful moments leading up

to Easter at their two concerts on Palm Sunday, March 25 and Tuesday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 1061 Sherman in Sturgis. The concerts will be followed by receptions in the church basement. The cantata is once again sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council and will be narrated by Randy Bender.

The 66-voice choir will perform Pepper Choplin's *Come to the Cross and Remember*. The piece chronicles Christ's journey to the cross. As the cantata progresses, the choir shares images connected to this journey – palms, the cup and the bread, the nail, the crown of thorns, and more. These images form the central theme of this cantata. Each image will be brought forward to create a very moving tableau. The audience will hear new choruses by Choplin such as *The Messiah Has Come* and *You Will Be With Me in Paradise* while still enjoying Lenten favorites such as *Go to Dark Gethsemane*.

No one should miss this community favorite presentation. The concerts are free to the public with an opportunity to freely donate at the door.

## ***2018 SAAC Quilt Show Reception and Program***

The eighth annual quilt show, sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council, will be hanging in the Sturgis Public Library for the months of March and April. This popular exhibit will feature quilted items from many local quilters. The colorful display will delight your eyes and warm your hearts once again.



This year's special program will be a Bed Turning on April 14th at 2:00pm in the library.

Every quilt tells a story, and we are looking forward to hearing some of those stories with this year's bed turning. Everyone is invited to bring a quilt which is important to you. The quilt does not have to be made by the person bringing it. Quilts are stacked on "the bed," and the owner will tell a bit of the story behind the quilt as it is removed. Refreshments will be served by the Sturgis Area Arts Council.

The show will be open for viewing during the library's regular hours for the months of March and April. Viewers are encouraged to vote for their favorite quilt for the Viewer's Choice Award, sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council.

For more information, contact Ruth Mechling at 720-2293 or Marilyn Bates at 720-3189 or [mlbates48@gmail.com](mailto:mlbates48@gmail.com).

*"A portrait has one advantage over its original: it is unconscious; and you may therefore admire without insulting it. I have seen portraits which have more."*

*Augustus William Hare and Julius Charles Hare, Guesses at Truth, by Two Brothers, 1827*



## History at High Noon

We are pleased to announce that David Super will be back with us again. He will present the program on Friday, March 16. His topic will be “The 109th Engineer Battalion”. We understand there will be some of the veterans of that battalion there. Come and enjoy the memories.

On April 20th, Dode Lee will be the program speaker. Her topic is titled “What It Was Like To Be A Street Kid in the 30’s”. Please come and hear what that is all about.

After a good start in January and February, the History and High Noon Committee continues to work to bring you interesting programs. Call Diana Hayes, Rosalee Johnson, Bonnie Lange, Richard Moeller or Dode Lee if you have a program to present or an idea for a program. We are glad for your ideas and input. History at High Noon meets on the third Friday of the month in the program room in the Sturgis Public Library January through May and in October and November. This year we might be scheduling in June and September too. We will keep you posted.

## Armchair Travelers Book Club

Armchair Travelers is a book club that meets on the first Thursday of most months at noon in the Lushbough Room of the Sturgis Public Library. The themes for discussion are chosen by the group. Sometimes they even choose to read the same book. Co-sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council and the Sturgis Public Library, it is open to any and all.



On Thursday, March 1st, which may be too late for this newsletter, the group will discuss “The Hare With Amber Eyes” by Edmund de Waal. This is a memoir that involves netsuke -tiny Japanese carvings, World War II, and a European banking family. The discussion promises to be lively, join us if you can.

For the discussion meeting on Thursday, April 5th, the Armchair Travelers chose to read about King Arthur and other knights and ladies of that period- especially if there are dragons and love potions involved.

Our Thursday, May 3rd, discussion will be dedicated to fantasy: The Lord of the Rings Trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien and the Harry Potter series by J. K. Rowling were mentioned as possibilities.

As always the librarians will display books in the chosen categories for selection. Join the discussions even if you haven’t read anything in particular for the month. Everyone is welcome.

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## Thank You, Sturgis Honor Guard!



The Sturgis Honor Guard, represented by Darell Pulscher (on the left) and Gordon Kotab (on the right) present a check for \$500 to Arts Council President Dedi LaRue (center).

The Sturgis Honor Guard is a group of hard-working volunteers that provide military funeral honors for our veterans at the Black Hills National Cemetery.

We so much appreciate them as well as the work that they do to honor those veterans and families that have given all to help keep us and our country safe. Thanks, fellows! :)

## Green Thumb Gala Time to Think Spring!

The library is planning their favorite event - the "Green Thumb Gala" fundraiser. They're once again asking people to donate a plant in a decorated or creative pot; or anything garden related. They're always amazed at the talented artists and gardeners in our community!



Please take your items to the Sturgis Public Library by May 7th to be part of this year's event. The plants will be on display in a silent auction held the week of May 7th – 11th. The bidding will end at 4:30 pm on Friday, May 11th. If you have the winning bid you may pick up your prize and enjoy refreshments from 4:00-5:00 that day.

The library will be hosting a Chamber Mixer on May 10th; join them between 4:00 and 6:00 for light refreshments and enjoy visiting with friends, in addition to viewing this year's plants and imaginative creations.

## Sturgis Area Arts Council's Upcoming Events

**Thursday, March 1**

Armchair Travelers Book Club  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

**Thursday, March 8**

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting  
Library/City Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

**Friday, March 16.**

History at High Noon  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

**Sunday, March 25 & Tuesday, March 27**

Easter Cantata  
Grace Lutheran Church, 7:00pm

**Thursday, April 5**

Armchair Travelers Book Club  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

**Thursday, April 12**

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting  
Library/City Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

**Saturday, April 14**

Quilt Show "Bed Turning"  
Sturgis Public Library, 2:00pm

**Friday, April 20**

History at High Noon  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

**Sunday, May 6 & Monday, May 7th**

Auditions for "Godspell" 6:00-8:00pm  
Location TBA

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## Godspell reappearing this summer



Sturgis thespians began producing musicals in the summer of 1999. To celebrate the 20th run of summer plays, the SAAC drama committee is planning a reprise of Godspell, 1999's first production. Based on the Gospel according to Matthew and Luke, Godspell is the first musical theatre offering from composer Stephen Schwartz. Schwartz continued to write other well-known hits such as Wicked, Pippin, and Children of Eden. Godspell first opened off Broadway in 1971. Several albums featuring songs from the musical have been released over the years and "Day by Day," reached #13 on the Billboard pop singles chart in the summer of 1972. This international hit, as well as an eclectic blend of songs ranging from pop to vaudeville, help play out Jesus' life onstage. The 70's style music is set to lyrics from other more traditional hymns but is definitely considered non-traditional.


The cast is composed of a comedic troupe who team up with Jesus as they present a series of parables, mostly written in the Gospel of Matthew, but three recorded only in the Gospel of Luke. Even after the crucifixion scene, Jesus' message of kindness, tolerance, and love continues to shine. Jesus and John the Baptist/Judas are the leading male parts, but the troupe will include both male and female actors high school age and older.

Auditions are set for May 6-7 from 6:00-8:00pm. The location will be forthcoming. The musical will play from June 21-25 at the Sturgis Community Center and will be directed by June Dill. Any help from the community with costumes and/or set will be appreciated. You may call Marlene Kotab at 347-1375 to volunteer.


## Just for fun...

Here's a list of musicals we've put on for our community. We hope you've enjoyed them.

- 1999 ~ Godspell
- 2000 ~ You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
- 2001 ~ Oklahoma
- 2002 ~ Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- 2003 ~ South Pacific
- 2004 ~ Guys and Dolls
- 2005 ~ The Music Man
- 2006 ~ Oliver
- 2007 ~ Brigadoon
- 2008 ~ Wizard of Oz
- 2009 ~ A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum
- 2010 ~ Annie Get Your Gun
- 2011 ~ Nunsense
- 2012 ~ 1776
- 2013 ~ Fiddler on the Roof
- 2014 ~ Hello, Dolly
- 2015 ~ Anything Goes
- 2016 ~ Seussical
- 2017 ~ The Drowsy Chaperone



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Diane Johnson  
Rosale Johnson  
Lola Killam  
Bonnie Lange  
Roberta Lovald  
Dorothy Morford  
Kathryn Tribby  
Cleo Weber

*We couldn't do what we do without the support of these wonderful folks. A huge THANK YOU to each and every one of them for believing in us!*

*A Membership Form is on the back of this page for anyone else that might want to be a part of the fun. ;)*

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***Find us in all of these other places as well ....***

The Sturgis Area Arts Council can be found online at [www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org](http://www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org) (please note - it's "org", not "com").

We post this newsletter on our site, just in case you lose this one and need to take another look!

You can also "like" us on Facebook at [facebook.com/pages/Sturgis-Area-Arts-Council](https://facebook.com/pages/Sturgis-Area-Arts-Council)

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