



The Grain Bin

Newsletter of The Granary Rural Cultural Center

December, 1996 – Volume 1, Issue 2

The Scoop Shovel

The Need for Granary Fine Arts Programs

Our educational systems are becoming more outcomes based. Unless school boards see the fine arts, especially the visual arts as legitimate career goals, they will remain expendable extracurricular activities. Many students and adults will lose the opportunity to pursue the fine arts as an addition to their intellectual and personal development. Without a foundation in the fine arts, these individuals have little hope of contributing meaningfully to the cultural life of the region.

Nevertheless, there are a number of excellent art exhibits for works of high school students. There are many contests where individual student artists may submit their work to be judged. For the most part, these are judged behind closed doors. There is little or no opportunity for the student to participate in the process, nor observe or relate to the works of his or her peers. By essentially operating in a vacuum, these competitions deaden the opportunity to grow and frustrate the desire to excel. The student may never know why they failed or even if they failed.

The problem for adult artists – both amateur and professional – is harder to define. However, one may only observe the national trend to cut or completely eliminate government support for arts programs, especially support for individual artists. There has been a fifteen year trend to pare down taxpayer supported institutions such as the NEA and the NEH. This has taken place despite the continuous support for the arts reflected in public opinion polls.

On a local level, artists have seen the “dumbing down” of showcases for the fine arts. Many regional arts exhibits have become craft fairs, full of

easily marketable knickknacks and decorative items. There is a proliferation of commercial galleries that specialize in “limited edition prints” successfully overtaking the market for original fine art, even art that is reasonably priced, as well as of high quality. Consumers will support a product that has proven itself in the marketplace, even though it may be a sham disguising itself as fine art.

*Rebecca Mulvaney, Granary Program Director
(Excerpted from a draft for a grant request.)*

“The Scoop Shovel” is commentary by members of The Granary. To submit articles from your point of view, please address your comments to: The Granary Scoop Shovel, 40161 128th Street, Groton, SD 57445.

Many Thanks to our 1996 Program Sponsors!

We had a great inaugural year for Granary programs. We would not have been able to offer the fine quality of exhibitions, entertainment and support for artists without the assistance of our program sponsors. These individuals and businesses contributed over \$1,500 to ensure the success of the All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition and the All Dakota Fine Arts Festival.

Troy and Liz Brick, D&D Paint and Frame, Charlean and Clarence Erickson, Firestone Stores, First Bank of Aberdeen, FMC of Aberdeen, Herberger's, James River Telephone Cooperative, Kathy Sieh Johnson, Lang's Audio, TV & Appliance, Office Equipment Company, Quality Quick Print, Arlene Schley, Shopko of Aberdeen, Target Stores, Walmart Foundation.

Putney Hall Update

Putney Hall was moved to the Granary campus on September 10, 1996. Crews of volunteers got to work immediately on cleaning, scraping, patching, and painting the interior and exterior of the Hall in order to finish before cold weather. In addition to the hundreds of hours worth of individual effort, six students from Groton High School spent their Community Volunteer Days at The Granary working on Putney Hall. We would like to recognize the following volunteers for their special efforts:

Groton High School - Barb Locken, Katie Anderson, Grant Rix, Tammy Wiesler, Jessica Grams, Zelos Johnson.

Aberdeen Central High School - Mary Hagny, Coordinator, Nicole Heitmann, Kristi Grote, Stacy Wolf, Chad Kessler, C. Brust, Jim Meyers, Carissa Stern, Nicole Pierson, Alisha Knox, J. Mailoux, Pat Mahar, Time Howel, Darin Dehne, Eric Friesen, Jason Lamont, Kelly Sauer, Bridget Meyer, Jennifer Fischer, Bari Beeve, Melissa Gehring, J. Albrecht, Theresa Church, Jon Aldinger, Nickolas Brewer, Chris Lamont, Laura Benzer, N. Aych, Danielle Hoikkala, Lee Isaak, Char Daberkow, and B. Wahl. Kevin Rau, Community Service Coordinator, Brown County.

Rebecca and Phil Mulvaney, John and Leone Sieh, Charlean Erickson, and other members of the Granary Advisory Committee.

For donations of professional service and equipment: Curt Sombke, used bricks for walkways; David McGannon, McGannon Plumbing, rolling scaffolding for scraping and painting Putney Hall; Bill Ewalt, surveying foundation for Putney Hall; Rex Sipple, heater for Putney Hall painting; LaVerne Gerling, replacement doors.

Winter Projects!

Several projects must be completed by April to make Putney Hall ready for use at the 1997 All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition. Bob Groebblinghoff will be working on restoring the windows. He and LaVerne Gerling will assess the wiring to see what upgrading needs to be done in the short term. Also, new doors will be installed in the front and rear entrances. In addition, a septic system and bathrooms must be finished.

Commemorative Brick Sales

As of November 29, 236 bricks have been sold for a total of \$5,900.00. This is far below the goal needed to finish remodeling of Putney Hall.

Please send in your donations as soon as possible, so they have time to complete engraving before next summer's construction season for our Commemorative Brick Walkways.

Commemorative Bricks make a great Christmas present for one of your loved ones – have a permanent memorial for only \$25.00. If you are one of those “hard-to-buy-for” folks, why not suggest to your family or friends that a Putney Hall “brick” in your name would be a great Christmas present. The Granary will send an acknowledgement of the gift before Christmas on a beautiful Granary Note Card.

Update on Brick Purchases since Last Newsletter

Dennis and Mary Hagny – Aberdeen, SD (omitted last time)

Memory of Ulric Henehan (omitted last time)

Shawn A. Gerling – Medford, OR

Jasmine E. Gerling – Medford, OR

Jeffrey J & Jean Albrecht – Doland, SD

Joseph Montgomery – Mina, SD

Memory August & Richard Wagner – Groton, SD

Delvin & Karen Wieker – Amherst, SD

Manley & Doraine Green – Groton, SD

Russel & Kim Calusen – Groton, SD

Jan & Nancy Gilchrist – Columbia, SD

Larry & Sharon Klapperich – Groton, SD

Michael & Lorrie Weber – Groton, SD

Wayne and Marsha Wienk – Groton, SD

Bob and Laurie Pray – Groton, SD

Robert and Marie Matheny – Spearfish, SD

Mary Gravelle – Aberdeen, SD

Harold & Shirley Weismantel – Bath, SD

Richard & Lena Schornack – Aberdeen

Kathy Sieh Johnson – Groton, SD

Zelos Johnson – Groton, SD

Chanda Johnson – Groton, SD

Daniel Johnson – Groton, SD

Tornado Exhibit

July 19, 1997 – August 17, 1997

The Granary Rural Cultural Center will present a Tornado theme exhibit in conjunction with the L. Frank Baum Oz Festival in Aberdeen. The exhibit will open to the public on July 19, and continue through August 17, 1997, with special activities for the Oz Festival Weekend (August 8–10, 1997). We have received a \$500.00 grant from the L. Frank Baum Festival Committee to help with expenses.

A call for entries will be sent out in March 1997 for regional artists to participate in the theme exhibit. Fees are set at \$10.00 per entry and all ages are eligible to submit work. There will be prizes awarded in four categories: Best Way to Get to Oz; Best Working Tornado; Most Awesome Weather Phenomenon. (\$100.00 each) and a \$50.00 “People’s Choice” award. In addition, there will be a special exhibition of works by Aberdeen artist Mary Groth, including sales of her “Twister Sisters” limited edition print. We will also include displays of historical photos of regional tornado damage and weather events, prepared with the assistance of Dacotah Prairie Museum staff. If you have any newspaper articles or photos that could be included, please let us know as soon as possible.

There will be a special opening reception for members of The Granary on July 18, 1997 in combination with our annual meeting. Normal exhibition hours will be 1–4PM Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. During the Oz Festival weekend, we will have workshop activities for families, with musical entertainment on Sunday afternoon. There will also be a booth exhibit by the National Weather Service. Call Rebecca Mulvaney at 225–1344 if you would like to help in implementing this exhibition.

High School Fine Arts Exhibition Update

Application forms for the 1997 All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition, May 2–4, 1997, were sent in early November to 400 art instructors, administrators, and arts organizations in North and South Dakota. We offered a special registration opportunity for last year’s participants and we are already getting responses. We have a final registration deadline of March 15, 1997 and a limit of 35 schools. The \$50.00 registration fee allows up to six students from each school to participate in our three day event including workshops, entertainment, and an art exhibit.

Students in grades 7–12 can submit artwork in any of four categories: Painting, Graphic Arts, Mixed Media, or 3–D. Prizes will be awarded, with

a \$500.00 bond for Best of Show, and traveling trophies to best ND & SD school exhibits. Friday’s intensive workshop activities are limited to registered students, their teachers, and/or parents. There will be additional activities for all on Saturday and Sunday.

Tornado Exhibit Budget

Income:

Admissions	
\$3.00 adult \$2.00 student	700.00
Artist Entry Fees: \$10.00 x 60	600.00
Grant from Oz Committee	500.00

Total Income	1,800.00
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Expenses:

Printing	
Prospectus	150.00
Programs	150.00
Postage	150.00
Advertising	200.00
Entertainment	150.00
Workshop Presenters	250.00
Workshop Materials	100.00
Judge	100.00
Prizes: 3 @ 100.00; 1 @ 50.00	350.00
Exhibition Preparation	180.00
Office Expense	20.00

Total Expenses	1,800.00
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Volunteers Needed for Festival Committees

Dates and budgets have been set for our three major arts activities for 1997. The All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition – May 2–4, 1997 – will have 200 students from 35 schools participating in three days of activities and workshops, highlighted by a public art exhibition. The All Dakota Fine Arts Festival – June 13–15, 1997 – will feature original artwork by the finest of our regional artists, with demonstrations and entertainment for the whole family. From July 19 – August 17, 1997 the Granary Memorial Gallery and Putney Hall will come alive with exhibits and workshops in a special “Tornado” Exhibit.

These events cannot be successful without the help of many volunteers. The Advisory Committee has completed the planning stage for these events, but we need you to help us with our action committees. Please look over the list below to see if you would like to help on an aspect of our programs. Contact Charlean Erickson, volunteer coordinator (605–395–6631) or the committee chairperson if you

would like more information or to volunteer your services.

Program Committee: (Sets up workshops and entertainment for the festivals) Rebecca Mulvaney (605-225-1344); chairperson.

Registration Committee: (Organizes packets and staffs reception desk and sales table) Alverde Daniel, (605-439-3516) and Carol Green (605-887-

3124); co-chairpersons.

Publicity Committee: (Coordinates marketing and mailings for the events) John Sieh, (605-397-2357); chairperson.

Exhibits Committee: (Receives and installs exhibits) Rebecca Mulvaney (605-225-1344); chairperson.

Advisory Committee Approves 1997 Budgets

	High School Exhibition	Fine Arts Festival	
Income			
Admissions	900.00	1,260.00	
Entry and registration Fees	1,750.00	1,300.00	
Food profit	300.00	300.00	
Commission on art sales	50.00	200.00	
Sponsors, advertising sales	869.50	869.50	
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Total Income Budget	3,869.50	3,929.50	7,799.00
Expenses			
Printing	752.00	752.00	
Accounting	111.00	111.00	
Insurance	495.00	495.00	
Judges	100.00	150.00	
Sound system rental	106.00	106.00	
Postage	457.50	457.50	
Awards	485.00	1,170.00	
Office expense	217.88	217.88	
Entertainment	250.00	155.00	
Advertising	230.00	230.00	
Professional program director	3,750.00	3,750.00	
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Total Expenses Budget	\$6,954.38	\$7,594.38	\$14,548.76
Projected operating loss (fundraising goal)			(6,749.76)

Bushels of Wheat Roll of Honor
Permanent Memorial Plaque

Changes and additions to the “Bushels of Wheat – Roll of Honor” are listed below. We appreciate your generous support of the Granary Rural Cultural Center building fund.

High Protein Hard Red Spring Wheat
\$50 – \$100

Francis J. Fischbach
Connie and Randy Grote
Circle Pines Motel

Certified Seed Wheat
\$25 – \$50

Lucille L. Sauck

Seed Wheat
\$10 – \$25

Joyce V. Debele
James Hanson

Printer Repaired

The Granary wishes to thank Kathy Sieh Johnson and the John Sieh Agency for coming to our rescue and paying the \$500.00 bill for repairs to our laser printer. Also, many thanks to the agency for continued use of their copier.

Granary Committee Visits New York Mills Regional Cultural Center in Minnesota

Members of The Granary Advisory Committee went on a visit and fact finding tour of the Regional Cultural Center in New York Mills, MN, near Fergus Falls, on November 13. The site was recommended by a staff member of the Bush Foundation as being a rural center similar to The Granary, but a few years ahead in development of programs. New York Mills is a town of about 900 and the Center serves a regional population of about 80,000.

The Center was founded in 1990 by John Davis, a graduate of the Minneapolis College of Art, and grew from an artist’s retreat in an old farmhouse to a full fledged arts center with artist residencies, musical and cultural programs, and continuous art exhibitions. In 1992, the community came together to completely restore an 1885 general store in the downtown area, with plenty of sweat equity and \$140,000.00 in donations and grants. Because of

Exchange Club of Aberdeen Donates Flag

The Granary Board of Trustees wish to express appreciation to Hank Lussem and the Exchange Club of Aberdeen for the generous donation of an American Flag to grace our fine arts campus. We appreciate the support that we have received from this and other service clubs in the region. We are happy to participate in programs which support good citizenship and contribute to the well-being of the people of the Dakotas.

Thanks Due for Registration Shelter

Part of remodeling for the All Dakota High School Fine Arts Festival included a registration center and picnic shelter across from the Granary. We are grateful for the assistance of Bob Groebblinghoff and Edward and Ann Haskell for their help in construction.

Dates to Remember

March 15, 1997 – Deadline for registration for All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition.

May 2–4, 1997 – All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition

May 23, 1997 – Deadline for entries for All Dakota Fine Arts Festival

June 13–15, 1997 – All Dakota Fine Arts Festival

July 18, 1997 – Annual Meeting – Granary Membership

July 19 – August 17, 1997 – “Tornado Exhibit”

the activities at the Center, New York Mills and the nearby town of Perham have reinstated arts education programs in the schools. New York Mills, MN, is now listed (along with Deadwood, SD) as one of the 100 Best Art Towns in America.

Michael Weber, John and Leone Sieh, LaVerne Gerling, Alverde Daniel, and Rebecca Mulvaney spent most of the day touring the Center and speaking with Executive Director Mark Turner, a graduate of the University of Minnesota–Morris. Mr. Turner was most helpful in answering questions about grant writing procedures, programs, and professional development. Of special interest were their fundraising efforts for full time staffing, a new project for a sculpture park, their annual “Great American Think-off” philosophy contest, and community outreach programs.

Advisory Committee Meetings

The Granary Advisory Committee, elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting, has held four meetings to review and approve the programs for 1997.

The August 20th meeting was held to prepare the marketing plan for the All Dakota High School Fine Arts Exhibition and review the application form. A small promotional brochure was prepared for all the art instructors in North and South Dakota and mailed after Labor Day. Larry Klapperich, Superintendent of Schools in Groton, began working as an advisor to the committee, giving valuable information on the proper way of approaching schools to ensure the most participation.

The September 18th meeting was attended by Mike Weber, Business Manager for Groton Schools. Mike has agreed to serve as Master of Ceremonies for the high school event. The committee discussed revising the food service at the festivals.

On October 15th, Chuck Padfield, Food Service Director at Groton Schools, made a presentation

concerning options for lunches at the high school event. The committee approved a \$4.00 fee, including the Granary's share of \$1.00 to cover overhead expenses. Letters to art teachers and schools were presented and approved, along with the application form and rules. 1996 participants were given advance notice for pre-registration purposes.

The final meeting of the Advisory Committee was on November 6, 1996 when budgets for the programs were approved and forwarded to the board. Rebecca Mulvaney presented a draft of a press release announcing the 1997 High School Exhibition. John Sieh and the Granary Finance Subcommittee have been working on organizing grant requests for major funding. The committee has prepared a booklet outlining the background, goals and methods of Granary programs which will be submitted to several grant making entities.

Advisory Committee Members are: Patsy Brosz, Alverde Daniel, Charlean Erickson, LaVerne Gerling, Bob Groebblinghoff, Carol Green, and Dennis Hagny. Trustees serve as ad-hoc committee members.

1997 Membership List

On this page are listed members of the Granary Rural Cultural Center, who renewed or joined for 1997. Members receive copies of all newsletters, half-price admission to Granary programs, invitations to special events and the Annual Meeting, and a 10% discount on purchases at the Granary. Please consider joining us for the 1997 season.

Arlene Schley – Aberdeen, SD
Pete and Mary Carrels – Aberdeen
Rebecca and Phil Mulvaney – Aberdeen
Liz and Troy Brick – Aberdeen
Aberdeen CVB – Aberdeen
Alline Heidenreich – Aberdeen
Arlis Alberts – Aberdeen
Bea and Herschel Premack – Aberdeen
Carlene Roters/Frank Merritt – Aberdeen
Clint Mortenson – Aberdeen
Connie and Randy Grote – Aberdeen
Dave and Connie Rave – Aberdeen
David and Cheryl Arlt – Aberdeen
Edward and Ann Haskell – Aberdeen
Elenor Clements Fetherhuff – Aberdeen
Francis Peg Lamont – Aberdeen
Gene Roby – Aberdeen
George and Helen Rice – Aberdeen
Helen Bergh – Aberdeen
Helen Rodine – Aberdeen
James and Kathy Ziegler – Aberdeen
Larry and Robin Hanson – Aberdeen
Lenore M. Koczon – Aberdeen
Lorraine Keeler – Aberdeen

Mary G. Schriver – Aberdeen
Mary Gravelle – Aberdeen
Nancee Edwards – Aberdeen
Patsy Brosz – Aberdeen
Robert and Kathleen Webb – Aberdeen
Robert and Mary Thompson – Aberdeen
Sister Mary Ellen Morrow – Aberdeen
Tom and Connie Schwan – Aberdeen
Vernon and Roylene Schwab – Aberdeen
W.E. Gene Aisenbrey – Aberdeen
Dr. Steve Redmond – Aberdeen
David and Marilyn Wachs – Aberdeen
Barbara Stutenroth – Aberdeen
Blockbuster Video – Aberdeen
Pat Schermerhorn – Almont, ND
David and Gayle Kaup – Balaton, MN
Harold and Shirley Weismantel – Bath, SD
Bonnie and Clayton Gerken – Britton, SD
Jack and Joyce Gilchrist – Columbia, SD
Jan and Nancy Gilchrist – Columbia
Emily French – Doland, SD
LaVerne Gerling – Ellendale, ND
William J./Roxanne Sieh – Everett, WA
James Gerling – Fargo, ND

David and Diane Sieh – Georgetown, TX
Clarence & Charlean Erickson – Groton, SD
John and Leone Sieh – Groton
Kathy Sieh Johnson – Groton
Margaret Blader – Groton
Michael Weber – Groton
Mrs. Emily Erdman – Groton
Richard and Sandra Oliver – Groton
Robert Pray, Jr. – Groton
Alverde F. Daniel – Leola, SD
Arden and Vicky Sieh – Leola
Paul and Dawn Fischbach – Mansfield, SD

Martin and Lisa Kahler – McGregor, IA
Carol Weber Green – Mellette, SD
Nick Yockim – Northville, SD
George Piper – Pender, NE
Jay Davis – Pierre, SD
Daniel Lemler – Seneca, SD
Delvin and Betty Lou Olson – Turton, SD
John Davidson/Cathy Beard – Vermillion, SD
Ramona Voegele – Watertown, SD
Tom and Margaret Morrow – Westport, SD
United Plumbing – Woodenville, WA