

Contact:
Elaine Poost
elaine@bcrac.org

570.268.ARTS (2787)



Press Release

BCRAC “Year of the Barn” concert with Pat Kane

Keystone Theatre—Towanda PA

Sunday, March 22 at 2:30PM

Tickets are \$10 Call 570-268-ARTS (2787) to reserve tickets

The Bradford County Regional Arts Council brings another selection from their *Nightlife on the Susquehanna* 2008-2009 Season to the Keystone Theatre. Join us on Sunday, March 22 at the 2:30 pm for the “Year of the Barn,” a celebration in pictures, poetry and music of the region’s magnificent barns. This production is inspired by the Northern Tier Cultural Alliance’s “2008 Year of the Barn” project, an impressive effort to record the pictorial history of the area’s barn and collect the oral history of our agricultural heritage.

Barns have been a collective part of our cultural heritage since the late 18th century when they began to appear along the banks of the majestic and meandering Susquehanna River and her tributaries in the Endless Mountains region. Barn photos, collected by the Northern Tier Cultural Alliance, document, celebrate and preserve the agricultural importance and influence on the heritage and culture of PA’s rural North Country and highlight the continued role of farming in the PA North Country culture and economy.

Pat Kane adds his musical talents, ballads, and original arrangements to this event. Pat is a seasoned showman, being a singer, dancer, actor, and instrumentalist since childhood. On his farm in the hill country, he was raised in the traditions of the Grange and of his Irish family. On fiddle, guitar, and bodhran, he plays jigs, reels, square dances, and hundreds of ballads from Ireland and America. Pat’s love of song, dance and stories of old-time America are connected to his strong belief in the community-building qualities of rural social dancing and folk singing. The “Year of the Barn” and Pat Kane bring together two of this region’s treasures – cultural heritage and musical talent.

An added layer to this event comes is provided by area students who will perform short readings of text and poetry inspired by barns and rural living. This *Nightlife on the Susquehanna* offering is a celebration of

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community, past and present. BCRAC extends an invitation to all to attend "Year of the Barn" this Sunday at the Keystone Theatre. Tickets are \$10 and can be obtained by calling the Arts Council at 570.268.2787.

Following this performance a special Barn Dance will be held at the Weigh Station located behind the Keystone Theatre in Towanda. The dance will be called by Pat Kane and admission is \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple. For additional information, contact Elaine Poost at the Arts Council.

The 2008-2009 season is BCRAC's 20th year of presenting live programming in the region. BCRAC's mission to promote arts and culture in our region is fundamental to its belief that all regional communities and citizens share an appreciation for the value of arts and culture. The second half of this season showcases three groups/artists who supported the mission in its first year and have remained faithful friends throughout the years: the Winding River Players, Pat Kane, and the Wyalusing Swing Choir. BCRAC's live programming is made possible through the partnerships with artists, patrons, and the businesses that support our mission. Major sponsors of BCRAC 2008-2009 season: Citizens & Northern Bank, The Daily Review, DuPont Corporation, First Citizens National Bank, Bank of Canton, Guthrie Health, Hawk Engineering, The Hilliard Corporation, PA Council on the Arts, PA Performing Artists on Tour, Peoples State Bank, First Energy Foundation/Penelec, Cargill Wyalusing, The United Way, Henry Dunn, Inc., and Moore's Auto.

The Northern Tier Cultural Alliance's Year of the Barn projects were funded with help from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, National Endowment for the Arts and PA Council on the Arts.

Please see attached photos.

More information at <http://www.bcrac.org>

The "Year of the Barn" is a part of the BCRAC's Nightlife on the Susquehanna series.

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