

Contact:
Elaine Poost
elaine@bcrac.org

570.268.ARTS (2787)



Press Release

Nightlife on the Susquehanna closes season with the Wyalusing Swing Choir's "Musical Odyssey"

Keystone Theatre

April 17, 2009 at 7:30 PM

Tickets are \$10.00. Call 570-268-ARTS (2787) to reserve tickets

As a continuing part of its live performance series, "Nightlife on the Susquehanna," the Bradford County Regional Arts Council (BCRAC) presents some old friends on stage at the Keystone Theatre in Towanda on Friday evening, April 17. The Wyalusing Swing Choir, who first performed at the Keystone 20 years ago, will be presenting "A Musical Odyssey" and the spectrum of music will include swing, blues, country and classic rock.

Aside from their signature high-spirited harmony, the Swing Choir will be keeping their performance moving with a large dose of humor and their own resident critics, Statler and Waldorf. If those names sound familiar, they belong to the two old guys in the balcony who offered observations both wry and snide on the old Muppet Show. Playing those roles will be two gentlemen who are not all that old, Dennis Dibble and Brandon Dickerson, but who know a thing or two about entertainment.

For Immediate Release

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Five of the eight group members performed in the last Keystone show, "Jailhouse Rock," a fund-raiser that helped raise some money for the county museum to move into the old jail nine years ago. Also returning from that performance will be Elvis and the Blues Brothers, who, rumor has it, will actually engage in a musical duel in the second act of the show. "A Musical Odyssey" starts back at the dawn of time with the discovery of harmony and ends up at the "Sunset of Life" for the singing troupe as they close out the show with one of their classic numbers, "Rock 'n' Roll Medley." In between you'll learn something about the progress of music through prehistory, the Middle Ages, the Roaring Twenties, rural Americana and, yes, the age of rock and roll.

Don't be concerned about learning too much over this two-hour seminar in world history, because BCRAC can't guarantee the facts presented or the sources drawn upon. Do expect that you may start swaying with the beat, and you may have the urge to join in a harmony line or two.

Along with Statler and Waldorf and their ongoing critiques from the balcony, the Swing choir has invited some talented special guests and old friends, Donna Dalpiaz and Heather Dibble, a Swing Choir alumnus whose career has taken her to Philadelphia. Keep an eye out for a backwoods beauty in a cameo appearance during the "Country Roads" segment.

The current version of the Swing Choir is comprised of Erich Barrett, Tonya and Jason Boatman, Dave Green, Marie Long, Carol Madill, Pam Obert and Wes Skillings. Carol Madill is the musical director-choreographer and Mary Skillings sound technician and treasurer. Larry Beebe will be in charge of sound and lighting for the show, with Maxine Bendock and Ruth Parsons teaming for sets, props and costumes. Wes Skillings wrote the show.

The program for the show will also thank by name all previous members of the performing group, 13 and counting, which was organized about 25 years ago.

Major sponsors for the 2008-09 20th Anniversary season are: Bank of Canton, Bradford County United Way, Cargill Wyalusing, Citizens and Northern Bank, DuPont Corporation, FirstEnergy Foundation/Penelec, First Citizens National Bank, Guthrie Health, Hawk Engineering, Henry Dunn Inc., Hilliard Corporation, Moore's Auto, People's State Bank, PA Council on the Arts, PA Performing Arts on Tour, The Daily Review and Global Tungsten Powders.

Please see attached photos.

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

This event is part of BCRAC's Live Performance Series *Nightlife on the Susquehanna*