

The Waybacks Newgrass/Alternative Country Saturday, February 9

Waybacks & Mu Daiko
performances
at the Zabee
Theater, Elk
River High
School, 7:30 PM

Look for their new CD recorded in Nashville,
called Loaded to be available on-line soon.
www.waybacks.com

The Waybacks

What do you get when you mix bluegrass, dead-head, country, and a bit of jazz music? Why the Waybacks, of course! Critically acclaimed wherever they play across the country, the Waybacks, five virtuoso performers, bring to the stage a sound that *Sing Out!* magazine says is "one way cool band. . . tight, crisp, sophisticated music."



Mu Daiko Saturday, March 8 *(see mailer side of newsletter for the Mu Daiko article)*

Whether you enjoy the traditional sound of bluegrass, the rocking country of Nashville, or the jazzy influence of west coast cowboys, the Waybacks provide an evening of fun music, fine playing, and friendly family entertainment. This San Francisco based band features Stevie Coyle, finger style guitarist/vocalist. James Nash, lead guitar/mandolin/vocals, Joe Kyles, Jr., double bass/vocals, Chuck Hamilton, percussion, and Warren Hood, fiddle/vocals. Though based in San Francisco, they have wide range of roots, including Hood, son of storied Austin, Texas, native Champ Hood of the progressive folk trio Uncle Walt's Band.

Sounding more like the Dixie Dregs than one would expect of a band that plays fairly regularly with Grateful Dead alum Bob Weir, the Waybacks play everything from a Kinks cover via New Orleans (hear "Motorway" on their latest CD, "The Petrified Man") to a Chick Corea Latin-jazz "Armando's Rhumba" (on the same CD) to originals like "Petrified Man" and "Monkey Pants." They have shared the stage with everyone from Los Lobos and Taj Mahal to Del McCoury and Richard Thompson. They have played at Doc Watson's fabled Southeast celebration of roots music, Merlefest, the Great American Music Hall, in San Francisco, and are booked to play from Calgary to North Carolina to Colorado and back again. Come warm your hands and souls to the band the Chicago Tribune has called "a near-ideal balance of irreverence, chops, discipline, and originality."

Tickets for both **The Waybacks** and **Mu Daiko** are available at Coborn's in Elk River and Albertville, Kemper Drug in downtown Elk River, Luna Blu in Rogers, and Rise N Shine Deli in Zimmerman.

Adults: \$15..... Arts Alliance member/Senior: \$12..... Youth under 18: \$6
Family Pak for 2 adults & one youth: \$30 with each additional youth \$5

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Board Chair's Message



New Beginnings

Greetings! The new year begins with new hope and opportunity for the arts in our community. I am David Raymond, the new Chair of the Arts Alliance Board. I want to thank Wendy Simenson who has done a fantastic job as Acting Chair while I took care of some personal business.

I have met many of you over the years when we have worked together on ArtSoup. Or perhaps you have seen me singing with Three Rivers Chorale in Rogers. If we have not had occasion to meet before, I hope to meet you soon.

This year ends with a good bye to our executive director, Patrick Grace, who is relocating with his family and has taken a position in another community. I would like to thank Patrick for his help this year and we all wish him the best in his new position.

Our new year begins with our taking on the challenge of a storefront in downtown Elk River. This move of our office from the Handke Family Center is prompted by the need for the Arts Alliance to raise its visibility in the community and expand the types of programs we are able to offer.

Chair's message continued on page 2

Exhibits at Government Center

Watercolor Show, December 17- January 25

Arts Alliance members Judith Halbeck Meyeraan and Kimberly Pietrzak will be exhibiting their watercolors at the Sherburne County Government Center through January.

Arts in Harmony '08

Holy cow! It's that time again. After all the entry forms are processed, the images judged, the artwork hung, and the ribbons awarded, it's time to celebrate the largest national annual juried exhibition in Minnesota with an opening reception.

The jurors this year, Lin Nelson-Mayson and Paul Benson, had their work cut out for them. Over 600 entries needed to be slimmed down to the final number. We won't be able to name names at the time of printing, but we can say that once again there are excellent examples of landscapes, portraits, still lives, and three dimensional pieces from over twenty states.

Our thanks go to our many sponsors including 1st National Financial, Sherburne County Government Center, Arista Artista, and Great River Energy. Please join us February 10, 1-3 PM, for the artist reception and awards presentation at the Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Hwy. 10, Elk River. There will be light refreshments and entertainment.

The Sherburne County Government Center is open from 8-4:30, M-F except holidays.



Thursday, April 24, 2008

We have changed the date but not the place. Make plans now to join us in the Crown Room at Wellstead with your neighbors and friends to make this an evening you won't forget. Once again there will be excellent food and drink, a silent auction, and surprises galore.

Help support the Arts Alliance and its mission to provide the community with access to the arts in all its forms. Watch for your invitation in the mail. Better yet call the Arts Alliance office and find out how you can help make the Heart of the Arts the most successful gala yet.

Thank you! The Arts Alliance relies upon membership and community donations to help meet its mission to provide access for everyone to high quality performers, arts classes for youth and adults, and visual art exhibitions year round. The Elk River Area Arts Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

We wish to thank these community members for their contributions to the Horizon Fund.

*Albert & Marlyce Bailey
M.J. Benson
Sara Hartman
Ken Houlton
Rachel Leonard
Joann & Douglas Stillwell
B. Gayle Williams*

*Leon & Mary Barthel
Edith Clark
Keith Holme
Dennis & Ann Hove
Judy Meyeraan
Jean Loy-Swanson & Carl Swanson*

We would like to welcome the following new and renewing members to the ERAAA.

Sustaining Member-\$200

Eugene & Susan Wipf

Patron Member-\$100

*Judy Meyeraan
Joseph & Dora Muilenburg
Wendy Simenson*

Friend Member-\$50

*Pat Feit
Lisa Fuglie
Lisa Olson
Isobel Stander*

Household Member-\$35

*Charles Christian
Steve Farver & Deb Hyk
Mary Flynn
Don Heinzman
Murray & Carla McNair
Clarice Mitchell
John & Marilyn Olson
Julian & Deb Opificius
Gene & Mary Ann Rick
Jerry & Marilyn Schroeder
Mary & Neal Stahl
Brian Tetzlaff
Chris Wilson*

Individual Member-\$25

*Albertella Family Trust
M.J. Benson
William & Joan Campbell
James Clark
Linda Croteau
Dance Arts for Deity
Gregg & Renee Dawson
Lee Englund
Timothy & Carrie Evens,
Jeremy Gale
Stephanie Hagen-Johnson
Dean Heng
Shirley Hove
Gary Jacobson
Meredith Johanson
Krista Artista
Sher Leksen
Tina Mulroy
Rana Nestrud
Julie Penrod
Judith Peterson
Kristin Radermacher
James Richter
Mitchell Scherer
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716 Main Street, A New Home *(article continued from page 2)*

This is an ongoing process and the Arts Alliance depends upon community support, both financially and through the efforts of volunteers. Please consider investing in the arts in your community through a one time donation to help the Arts Alliance convert the new space and help provide programming that you value. If you have more time than resources please contact us to sign up to help out at our new facility.

We are very excited by the opportunities this new facility offers the Arts Alliance, but we can not succeed without your help.

ARTS ALLIANCE



Handke Family Center
1170 Main Street
Elk River, MN 55330

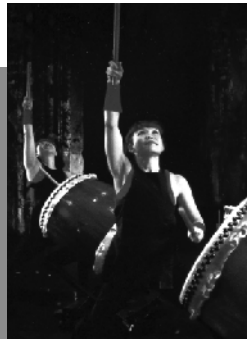
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Mu Daiko

Saturday, March 8
7:30 PM, Zabee Theater



Drums made from wine barrels, drum sticks made of oak, a foot long, and an inch thick, and music you not only hear but feel. Yes, this ladies and gentlemen is Taiko (drum in Japanese) of the 21st Century. The Arts Alliance is proud to be hosting the return engagement of the Twin Cities based taiko group Mu Daiko. Celebrating their tenth anniversary, this 14 member percussion group brings to the Zabee Theater the big beat that characterizes the sound of Taiko.

Taiko has been a part of the Japanese culture for almost 2000 years. Its modern ensemble form did not come into prominence until after World War II when jazz drummer Daihachi Oguchi arranged the various sized drums much as a jazz drummer would arrange her drum kit. It has since achieved world wide popularity.

Come enjoy what Iris Shiraishi, program coordinator and lead taiko instructor for Mu Daiko calls the perfect marriage of culture, rhythm, and movement.

There will be a workshop for students and adults available before the Saturday night performance. Call the Arts Alliance office for more details at 763-441-4722.

Early arrivals to the performance can enjoy a treat from Dunn Bros. Coffee of Elk River. Tickets available at the Arts Alliance office and at area businesses.

Life Around the Kelley Farm, 1861 Sherburne History Center

The center is excited to announce that it will be opening on Saturday, January 26, from 11 AM-1 PM the exhibit *Life Around the Kelley Farm, 1861* by Roger Nordstrom of Elk River. This six week photograph exhibit is just the first of many art exhibits by area artists to come.

Life Around the Kelley Farm, 1861 is a compilation of photographs showing some of the imagery that Oliver Kelley and his family might have witnessed in the mid 1800s. The Kelley Farm offers a realistic view of life on the farm with costumed guides. With a variety of images around the farm, the viewer will think they are stepping back in time as they view the collection.

Roger lives in Elk River, but he originally came from California where he studied photography in the 1970s. Because the Kelley Farm is so close to his home, it is one of his favorite places to photograph. Roger's web site is www.RogerNordstromPhoto.com.

At 1 PM following the opening, Tom Barthel will talk about the assembling of ancient bison bones found on his property in Sherburne County.