

Entertainment

White Hackle Pipe Band are bagpipers and drummers in authentic Scottish attire. This Sacramento group is famed for their enthusiastic performance of folk music and marches.



The Mendonoma Madrigals will be led by Michael Bierbaum, singing Renaissance-style music including bawdy ballads, sad madrigals, lovely love songs and something about a chicken. Come and enjoy the fun.

The group includes Rosemary Bierbaum, Paddy Batchelder, Sandra Brewer, Marjie Van Gunten, Jane Shuler-Repp, Dan Chang and Roland Stoughton.



Cantiamo Sonoma

Cantiamo Sonoma vocal ensemble first appeared at the 2006 Art in the Redwoods, and we are looking forward to their 2011 performance.

The group's repertoire ranges from Medieval and Renaissance polyphony to recent work by contemporary composers.



The Incredibles, Tessa Howard and Ling-Yen Jones, will draw inspiration from the Bollywood numbers in Indian films which combine traditional dance with hip hop and funk.



Violinist Marcia Lotter and two of her students, Willa Cordrey and Paulina Power, will be accompanied by pianist Savannah Power playing folk tunes along with familiar classical pieces.



Betty O'Neil and Kathy DiMaio. David Torres photo.

Top Hat Honorees

On the 50th anniversary of Art in the Redwoods (AIR) it is appropriate that Gualala Arts recognize the two women who were instrumental in organizing the very first event in 1961.

Neither Kathy DiMaio or Betty O'Neil could envision the current four-day event housed in the Gualala Arts Center nor the organization that sponsors more than 1,600 events annually. But their idea created the vision and the reality visitors to this year's AIR see.

Top Hat, the premier event that now kicks off AIR, is limited to 100 tickets each costing \$150 that include a VIP Festival Pass with a preview showing of the exhibit. At that first event, the refreshments consisted of homemade goods brought in by the organizers and accompanied by coffee and soft drinks.

Both octogenarians have a long history in the local community. O'Neil came to Gualala in 1956 to raise her young family as a single mother with the help of her parents. She worked seven and a half years for Gualala Lumber before becoming a mortgage loan officer at Sea Ranch for 16 and a half years. An avid gardener, she was inspired to have a summer garden show similar to one she attended in Oakland.

Also a gardener, a painter and a close friend, DiMaio grew up on the Mendocino coast. She was born in Cleone. At one time she worked in Fort Bragg for the California Western Railroad, now better known as the Skunk Train. She worked as a teacher's aide, at the Surf Super and at The Sea Ranch post office.

She married Bob Rubel in 1948 and was involved in the timber business in Leggett, Ukiah, Annapolis and eventually Gualala. She remembers the time when the only three phones in town belonged to Ida Bower, the McNamee family store and the gas station.

Both women continued to organize AIR for a second year. This time the theme was a Japanese Garden complete with appropriate decorations. However, soon growing family and work obligations consumed the time of these independent, self-sufficient women and the task

See DiMaio and O'Neil...Continued on Page 15

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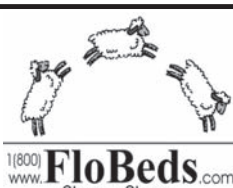
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