



## CELEBRATE WOOD★RIVER

**Cost:** All performances are offered FREE to the public. A freewill offering is accepted at the event to make future programs possible.

**Contact:** Georgene Smidt, [smidt63@yahoo.com](mailto:smidt63@yahoo.com), or Vince Boudreau, [mvboudreau@aol.com](mailto:mvboudreau@aol.com). In case of inclement weather, please call Georgene Smidt at 308-583-2606 or Vince at 308-583-2961 for cancellation information.

**Website:** [www.wrcommunityfoundation.com/celebratewr.htm](http://www.wrcommunityfoundation.com/celebratewr.htm)



### David Marsh Monday, August 29, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Join us for this fun season kickoff event geared toward children and parents or grandparents! Using over a dozen instruments, David Marsh will perform positive, uplifting and humorous songs and stories. Mr. Marsh plays the accordion, banjo, bagpipes, autoharp, percussion, harmonica, and piano to name a few. He'll weave in messages along the way including character, friendship, sportsmanship, acceptance, self-respect, and the joys and struggles of parenting. Musical selections will come from around the world. Don't miss out!

# 2011-2012 Celebrate Wood River Performing Arts & Entertainment Series

Wood River High School Theater  
13800 W. Wood River Road

**Performances made possible by:**



and the

*Donna Lee Moyer Performing Arts Gift*

### "Ben Franklin Live!" Thursday, September 15, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

We're thrilled to bring Christopher Lowell, an internationally-known historian and Ben Franklin first-person interpreter, to central Nebraska! Lowell fleshes out Franklin's life in an engaging, accessible way, giving audiences an intimate look at what made our most revered Founding Father tick. Chris's energy and wealth of knowledge make Ben's role in our history come alive in this wonderful program. Audiences hear reflections and anecdotes from Ben's remarkably diverse life that surprise and delight. Chris reveals many sides of Ben's personality as he takes the audience through these important stages in Franklin's life.

- his youth and apprenticeship in printing
- his business career as printer and writer
- his scientific interests and inventions
- his civic contributions
- his evolution from loyal Briton to ardent American Patriot
- his contributions to the writing of the Declaration of Independence
- his work in France as our nation's first ambassador
- his role in the Constitutional Convention of 1787

Unlike some other historical presenters, Chris always leads a lively interactive session with the audience after the monologue, answering questions in costume and character. Suitable for families and presented with the enthusiasm for life and learning that marked Ben's extraordinary contributions, "Ben Franklin Live!" has brought audiences to their feet across America.



## Nebraska Brass

**Sunday, November 20, 2011, 2:00 p.m.**

Get into the holiday spirit with music from The Nebraska Brass, one of the Midwest's most popular brass quintets. Audiences young and old enjoy the group's serious musicianship and light-hearted humor as they present a variety of music ranging from classical to popular, Dixieland, and jazz. Founded in 1987, the group includes five accomplished musicians on the trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba. The Nebraska Brass will perform traditional holiday favorites and festive arrangements that are sure to warm the hearts of audiences on even the coldest Nebraska days.



## The Toasted Ponies

**Saturday, January 28, 2012,  
7:00 p.m.**

Yahoo! The Toasted Ponies will present a fun mix of Bluegrass music, Cajun, Western Swing, Gospel and Celtic tunes to keep things interesting! Look for great harmony singing and hot instrumentals in this Ponies performance. These are seasoned professionals who love playing their music and it shows. Just try to see this Toasted Ponies show without tapping your toes—it can't be done!

## Wood River All School Play

**April 13 & 14, 2012,  
7:30 p.m.**

A perennial favorite! Come out and enjoy the production from the Wood River High School drama department. We're certain you'll enjoy the talents of our young adults...you may even catch a rising star!

## "Voices from Ellis Island"

**Friday, April 20, 2012, 7:00 p.m.**

The Gateway to America, the front door to freedom, the Island of Tears. From 1890 to 1930, Ellis Island was the first experience of life in America for millions of immigrants. Their stories are amusing, frightening, inspiring, and true. Persons young and old will want to come hear Pippa White portray the Ellis Island experience. Before returning to solo performing, White had an extensive career in theatre and television on the West Coast. She calls her productions "part theatre, party storytelling, part history". Audiences call them unique, captivating and touching! Don't miss out on this season-finale event.



## Weekend Friendship Gatherings

*An informal gathering for friends old & new, young & old to explore and reminisce. We'll gather at Wood River Rural High School in the theater lobby. Come early for coffee & goodies prior to the presentation.*

**Saturday, September 17, 2011 • 9:30 am**

Wood River resident, Don Snodgrass will present and discuss his collection of Indian artifacts. One-of-a-kind articles will be highlighted which will stir much interest and intrigue.

**Saturday, October 15, 2011 • 9:30 am**

Wood carvings has been a long-time hobby of fellow Wood River resident Buck Jackson. Join Buck as he presents his pieces and shares his creativity through this unique talent.

**Sunday, December 11, 2011 • 2:00 pm**

Christmas Cantata. Enjoy the local talent of the Wood River Community Choir as they present their annual Christmas Concert.

**Saturday, January 21, 2012 • 9:30 am**

Join the Hy-Vee dietician in a lively discussion surrounding the Nu-Val™ system. The NuVal™ System is a food-scoring method that helps consumers see – at a glance – the nutritional value of the food they buy. The NuVal™ System scores food on a scale of 1 to 100. The higher the NuVal™ Score, the higher the nutrition.

**Saturday, March 17, 2012 • 9:30 am**

Learn the tricks of the trade to beautiful floral design with Nina Skeen. She will share her special talents and provide excellent pointers for you to put to practical use.

**Sunday, April 1, 2012 • 2:00 pm**

Easter Cantata. Celebrate the joy of Easter with the Wood River Community Choir.