



Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2014

January 1 – December 31, 2014

Folklore Village Farm, Inc.

FOLKLORE VILLAGE



Farwell Hall, at Folklore Village

Our Mission:

Connecting the generations with a world of traditions:

Folklore Village creates opportunities for individuals and communities to celebrate, experience and support ethnic and traditional folklife. Folklore Village offers an ongoing program of cultural, educational and participatory folklife activities in rural Southwest Wisconsin, serving regional communities and the Upper Midwest.

Our Core Values and Guiding Principles:

Cultural Understanding

Folklore Village respects the unique cultural heritage of all peoples. It seeks to foster an understanding of one's own cultural traditions, while nurturing a respect for the values and traditions of others. Folklore Village believes that each individual has folklife traditions no matter what his or her background. Traditions are an important part of who we are and what makes us human.

Intergenerational

Folklore Village believes that intergenerational activities perpetuate a shared sense of traditions, values and community. People of all ages need places and opportunities for joy, camaraderie, and celebration.

Tradition Bearers

Folklore Village encourages the appreciation and continued vitality of folklife through the recognition and active involvement of cultural tradition bearers.

Participation

Folklore Village believes that participation fosters learning, interaction, sharing, and fellowship. Participation nurtures an environment that is welcoming and inclusive.

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



It is my pleasure and honor to express the Board of Directors' excitement about this past year at Folklore Village. We are extremely grateful to the entire community for supporting programming, strengthening funding and beautifying our lovely property. We can't do any of this without you. We are also indescribably grateful to have found Terri Van Orman as our new Executive Director. Through her efforts we are making huge strides in becoming more financially sustainable, enriching our programming, nurturing our physical plant, reaching out to and collaborating with our Folklife partners regionally, nationally, and internationally, and building new audiences. Terri's administrative skills, devotion to folklore, and personal grace are invaluable assets. We are proud to work with her.

Along with Terri, all of our staff have given all they can to bring Folklore Village to the happy and healthy place it is today. Meghan Dudle, in particular, has been dedicated and creative, and we thank her for her poise and perseverance. In addition, we now have an active and diligent Friends of Folklore Village Board, a much-needed fundraising arm that will provide crucial support in years to come. We hope everyone will participate in the many exciting activities the Friends have planned for 2015.

I also want to congratulate the current and recent past Board members on a difficult but ultimately satisfying three years. I am grateful for all of the hard work everyone has put in during this conversion period. I am especially indebted to the Board officers - Bonnie Schmidt, Mindy Habecker, Rick March, Allen Pincus, and Nancy Zucker - whose energy and devotion were unsurpassable. While we've undergone a significant test of our personal and financial reserves, Folklore Village has emerged from this transition into a new era with undiminished programming, improved facilities, and finances in the black. There is still much to do, and we need the continued support of our friends to keep Folklore Village the robust, vibrant organization we all love. Thank you again to everyone for your generosity, patience, and elbow grease.

Amy McFarland
President, Folklore Village Board of Directors

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings! As your new Director, I can tell you I am thrilled to be a permanent part of the Folklore Village staff. After a year of adventure, discovery, and new friends, I have signed my permanent contract, and look forward to the next several years of growth and progress. Goals for the immediate present include significant infrastructure repair and improvement, and achieving our target for a balanced budget, aided by an increasingly focused fundraising plan.

That fundraising plan, recently approved by the board of directors, includes a significant contribution yearly from the Friends of Folklore Village, a stand-alone non-profit, whose sole purpose is to raise money for Folklore Village. To that end, the group hosted its inaugural fundraiser in November of 2014, raising over \$7,000; and the group promises at least two fundraisers a year. We are grateful to the first board members, headed up by president Madeline Urameck, who shouldered the task of reviving the organization with zest and with purpose. As new eyes on Folklore Village, I can tell you I am mightily impressed with the love, care, and dedication the Folklore Village “family” bestows upon this organization, whether in the form of monetary donations, volunteerism, or simply presence. That love is what will allow Folklore Village to continue to perpetuate the practice of the honored folk traditions, to present educational events, and continue all other programming we do throughout the year.

In the year since I arrived, we worked with AmeriCorps to paint the Men’s and Women’s bunkhouses; as well as purchasing new mattresses for each building – 24 in all. We refinished our dance floor, and arranged to be on a yearly maintenance program in order to assure you of having the very best dance experience in Farwell Hall. On the technological front, we updated certain aging software programs, simplified on-line monthly giving, improved our newsletter format, and experimented with on-line ticket sales. Our gift shop is slowly being transformed, as we move old inventory out, and replace with new, fresh merchandise. We are projecting a new website in 2015, and the opportunity to make on-line sales of some of our gift shop inventory.

After a hiatus of several years, our Aslak Lie project is back in the forefront. In the fall of 2014, volunteers assessed the state of the logs themselves, determining which were still usable, which could be used as templates for new logs, and which would need to be replaced. Building permits have been acquired, a foundation plan is in place, and we look with new vigor to a ground breaking in late spring/early summer 2015. Once the foundation is in place, workshop participants will have the hands-on opportunity to learn about log building, and about historical restoration work from experienced log builder, Nels Diller.

On a personal front, I successfully defended my Master’s thesis days after arriving here, and was also happy to represent Folklore Village at the November 2014 meeting of the American Folklore Society in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where both I and my husband presented academic papers.

As I survey the upcoming 2015 season, I am projecting a year of growth and accomplishment. The ambitious programming schedule we undertake here at Folklore Village would be impossible without the support and encouragement of everyone in our “family.” Know that we value you tremendously, and thank you for all that you do.

- Terri Van Orman, director

FESTIVALS



Festivals are the heart of Folklore Village. From 1947 to 1966, Folklore Village founder Jane Farwell directed her original Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions in Mount Horeb, WI, in order to combat the growing commercialization of Christmas and the ignorance of increasing numbers of young people about the diverse pageantry, foods, and music of Christmas. In 1966, she purchased the old Wakefield School near Ridgeway, WI, where she was able to complete her vision of a Folklore Village. It was there she created additional festivals based on her experiences forming folk dance camps around the United States, and from dancing all around the United States, in Europe and in Japan. Those festivals reflected the culmination of her ideas about festivals, folklore, dance, recreation, craft, music, community, and the land.

We continue to present some of Jane's original festivals, as well as others that have grown organically from our diverse community base. In 2014, we presented six festivals – a Spring Swedish Music and Dance Weekend, an English Country Dance & Music Weekend, a Cajun Music and Dance Festival, a Midsummer Festival, a Fall Swedish Music and Dance Weekend, and the 67th Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions.

All embody Jane's original vision of a place where people can come to dance, sing, play music, eat, and live folk customs from the world over.



In keeping with Jane's unique philosophy of recreation, we continue to blend seasonal celebrations, ethnic traditions, and to emphasize the importance of rural communities, family, and people of all ages creating their own fun.

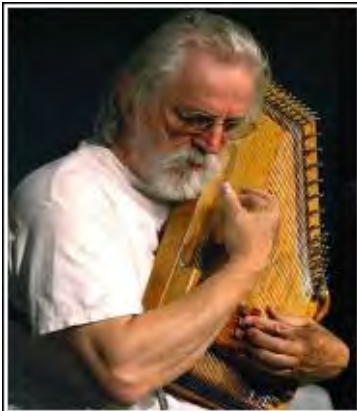
Between 450 and 500 men, women, teens, and children enjoyed our festivals in 2014.

Top left: Jane Farwell
Bottom left: Families join hands and dance around the Christmas tree at the Festival of Christmas and Midwinter traditions

CONCERTS / SATURDAY SOCIALS

CONCERTS

Several times a year, Folklore Village supports traditional folk life by hosting heritage-bearers in concert. In 2014, we presented three of these very special events. In February during Mardi gras, we hosted *Ana and the Bel-tones*, celebrating women in Midwest Cajun music. Opting for a dance concert instead of a typical sit-



down venue, the band had participants waltzing and dancing the 2-step to traditional Cajun music. In April, *Sones de Mexico*, a sextet of traditional Mexican musicians hailing from Chicago whose mission is to “educate, research, preserve, arrange, present, perform, and disseminate Mexican folk and traditional music and dance,” appeared at Folklore Village. Although a Creation and Presentation Grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board often supports our concert series, additional support for the *Sones* ensemble came from community partners - The Dodgeville Library, Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin, and Mexican Cheese Producers, Inc.

Finally in August, Autoharp master Bryan Bowers performed in concert. Underwritten by Michael Wolkomir, the event was presented as a fundraiser for Folklore Village.

Top left: Bryan Bowers

SOCIALS



Saturday Socials are a long-standing tradition at Folklore Village, and follow a specific presentation calendar. The year kicks off in January with “Jane Night,” our yearly tribute to Folklore Village founder, Jane Farwell. In May, we celebrate the spring season with a community Maypole Dance. Both children and adults delight in bedecking the Maypole with flowers from our gardens, and then learning the intricate dance steps required to weave the Maypole ribbons. During the heat of summer, in August, we host an Ice Cream Social. However, this year, with a refreshing twist,



we presented *Rakhi Festival*, a Hindu celebration of the love between brothers and sisters. Featuring chai tea and mango lassi instead of ice cream, the event showcased young members of the Natyarpana Dance Co. performing traditional Indian devotional dances, which was sponsored by UWM Center for South Asia. December brings us the Sankta Lucia celebration, complete with a candle-lit procession and traditional serving of saffron buns with tea.



Photos Top left – decorating the Maypole, bottom left – members of the Natyarpana Dance troupe, right – Sankta Lucia procession.

FOLKLIFE...YOUR LIFE

Designed primarily for elementary age schoolchildren, Folklife...Your Life is an engaging round-robin of activities designed to teach an understanding of the importance of folklife practices in all cultures. Program session choices include folk dance, music from around the world, traditional games, felt-making, May-pole dancing (spring only), Mexican picada making, and sessions in our restored prairies. In 2014, we hosted 1,410 students from twenty different schools. We thank our community partners BMO Harris Bank, the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, and Alliant Energy for helping support our school program.



SENIOR CONCERT PROGRAMS

Every year we offer a series of free senior concerts, both at Folklore Village, and at selected, local senior living communities. Many thanks to our program sponsors, the Kiwanis Club, United Fund of Iowa County, and Crestridge Assisted Living for helping to provide these special musical events designed with our treasured seniors in mind.



HEALTHY HOEDOWNS

Who doesn't love an old-fashioned barn dance? We sure do, and acknowledging the connection between rural Midwestern farming culture and the legacy of the



National Barn Dance of the 1930's, we initiated the concept of Healthy Hoedowns in 2014. Local farmers sponsor live music and dance callers, and in return have a chance to present their farm products line to the assembled dancers. It's a win-win symbiotic relationship for all, with healthy American traditional dance, old-timey string band music, and

cutting edge local organic farming joining forces to preserve the great legacies of the American past. Attractive to all age groups - from toddlers to senior citizens, everyone has a great time!

PRAIRIES



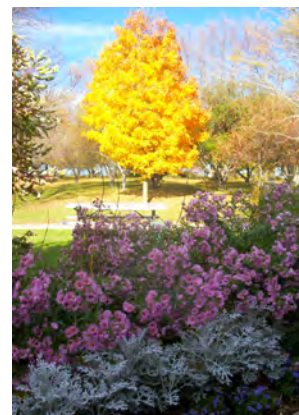
Top: Farwell Hall during a Healthy Hoedown

Bottom: A prairie burn in progress

Folklore Village holds two tracts of restored prairie on its 94-acre farm. Our original restoration, located directly behind Farwell Hall, contains a total of 44 acres. Our newest prairie, located on the east side of Highway BB, contains 26 acres. Both areas have trails open to the public for nature hikes, with native species of flowering perennials and bird life to be viewed. Periodic burns are required to ensure optimum species diversification, eradication of invasives, and prairie grassland health. Our experienced volunteer burn crew helps keep our 70 acres of prairieland in prime shape.

FACILITIES

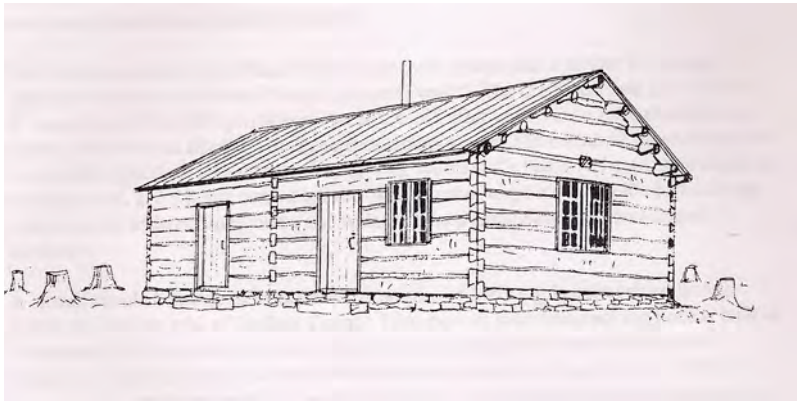
Folklore Village is comprised of a collection of buildings, nestled on 94 acres in the rolling hills of southwestern Wisconsin. Buildings include the barn-inspired Farwell Hall, with its sprung, wooden dance floor, certified kitchen, classrooms, and staff offices, the historic Plum Grove Chapel built in 1882, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Wakefield Schoolhouse, built in 1893 and used as a school until 1963, separate men's and women's bunkhouses with an adjoining primitive wash house, the Farwell family farmhouse and garage, and two tool sheds, one with an attached greenhouse tunnel. Soon to be added will be the reconstructed Aslak Lie house, which dates to 1848, and was donated to Folklore Village in 2003.



Buildings are surrounded by gardens and orchards, which provide vibrant color, fruit and berries in three seasons of the year. Former farm-land has been converted to over 65 acres of restored prairie, which hosts many species of native flora and fauna, and require periodic controlled burns to ensure health and maximum species content. Farwell hall is the site of most activities. Its three stories shelter dances, concerts, music classes, receptions, craft classes, a nursery for small children, a library, office space, and delicious meals served from the restaurant quality kitchen. Plum Grove Chapel hosts weddings, small concerts, and singing workshops. Wakefield schoolhouse is used in our children's programs, and as overflow festival classroom space, while the bunkhouses ensure simple, economical sleeping facilities for festival participants.

ASLAK LIE HOUSE

Originally built by a Norwegian immigrant craftsman in 1848, the Aslak Lie House is a testament to this skilled artisan, whose handcrafted work has been documented in both Norway and Wisconsin. In its original stage, the house was a one-story log cabin. As Mr. Lie became more prosperous in his new home, he added a second



story with an attached sval. In 2003, Folklore Village acquired the building that was then painstakingly disassembled, documented, and placed in storage while a restoration plan was developed. We are now poised to begin the reconstruction of

the house in its original, one-story form. A team of builders has been put together, each with a specific area of knowledge and expertise. We expect the completion of the foundation by summer of 2015, and log building to begin in the fall.

VOLUNTEERS

The crew who has assembled to rebuild the Aslak Lie house brings to mind the question – what would Folklore Village do without its volunteers? From building the Aslak Lie house, to beautifying our front walkway with flowers and mulch, from manning the kitchen to provide traffic control for potlucks, to washing dishes afterwards, from providing IT assistance, to caring for our prairies – Folklore Village could not exist, or provide the programming that we do, without your assistance. We value you, we honor you, and we thank you! In 2014 volunteers contributed more than 1000 hours of expertise, time, and physical labor to all of our various projects.



FRIENDS OF FOLKLORE VILLAGE

The **Friends of Folklore Village** was incorporated in 1998 as a stand-alone 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization, whose purpose is to help provide financial support for Folklore Village. Newly resurrected in the fall of 2014, the organization has pledged to sponsor two fundraising events per year. To that end, they hosted their first fundraising event in November – the Folk Fare Fundraiser - and raised over \$7,000 for Folklore Village.

The Board of Directors for 2014:

President – Madeline Uraneck

Vice President – Becky Rehl

Secretary – Jennifer Angelo

Treasurer – Marli Johnson

Thank you ladies for an extraordinary inaugural year as The Friends of Folklore Village!!



*Photos clockwise from top left:
Silent auction of treasures both local and from around the world,
delicious donated desserts, Balkan dancing in Farwell Hall; musicians
The Intemperance Collective and
The Prairie Bayou Cajun Band.*

DONORS

All donations reflect gifts from 1/1/2014 – 12/31/2014

Program Sponsors/Partners

Program sponsors support Folklore Village through the underwriting of specific programs.

- Folklife...Your Life (our children's school group folk-life program)

BMO Harris Bank

Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin

Alliant Energy Foundation

- Senior Concerts

Crestridge Assisted Living

Dodgeville Kiwanis Club

United Fund of Iowa County

- Open Mic

Michael and Mary Ann Wolkomir

- Cajun Festival Weekend

James "Sandy" Wilson

- Rakhi Festival

Center for South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison

- Fundraising Concert featuring Bryan Bowers

Michael Wolkomir

- Sones de Mexico Concert

The Dodgeville Library

Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin

Mexican Cheese Producers, Inc.

- Healthy Hoedowns

Cates Family Farm

Circle M Farm

People's Community Bank

Seven Seeds Farm

Shooting Star Farm

Howard Capon Memorial Scholarship

Robert and Rosemarie Capon

Fund Raising Events

The following individuals donated their time and talent to produce specific fundraising events for Folklore Village:

Marla and Scott Lind

Finnegans Wake, featuring William Furry, Bill Rintz, and John C. Van Orman

Madeline Uraneck - "Dandi Scandi"

Tamara Funk

Additional Funding

In 2014, Folklore Village also received funding from the National Endowment of the Arts, and the Wisconsin Arts Board.



Sones de Mexico group serenades the Folklore Village audience.



Jamming during Cajun Festival

If we have inadvertently overlooked your gift, or placed you in the wrong category, please forgive. We are working hard to improve our donor record practices.

DONORS

\$4,000 - \$9,999

Friends of Folklore Village
Eric & Marian Klieber
Michael and Mary Ann
Wolkomir

\$1,000 - \$3,999

Anonymous (2)
Claremont Jackman
Foundation
Karen Carlson
Loretta Kelley
Tom & Amy McFarland
Annelies McVoy & David
Feurzeig
Marc & Don O'Brien
Andrew Schnabel
Lynn & Charlie Terr
Don and Joanna Thompson
Gail Van Haren
William Van Haren
Joe & Sue VanWassenhove
*With matching funds through the
Caterpillar Foundation*
Paul Wagner & Cindy
Schlosser

\$500 - \$999

Paul Biere & Ginger
Brand-Biere
Rex & Nancy Couture
Larry Harding
Ruth Lemire
Becky Musch
Mac Robertson & Marilee
Sushoreba
Judy Rose
Will Zarwell & Robin
Chapman
Nancy Zucker & Michael
Burns

\$250 - \$499

Mary Allsopp (Aetna
Foundation)
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Bruce & Char Bostrom
Steward Davis
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Jan Ketelle
Richard & Meg LaBrie
Scott & Marla Lind
Pat McCorkle & Dick
Ainsworth
Bruce Meier & Wendy
Fearnside
John Metcalf
Jim Page
John Parejko
Bonita Schmidt & Jim
Winkle
Shape Note Singers
Jofrid Sodal
Madeline Ura-neck
Nancy Welch

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous (2)
Robert Anholt & Ann
Waltner
Anne Bachner
Pat Badger & Adrienne
Paffrath
Geoffrey Baer
Richard & Phyllis Baer
Daniel & Gaelyn Beal
Jane Bettner
William Bone
Jean Cline
David & Karin Code
David Coles
Daphne Cooper
Peg Cullen
Dodge City 4-H Leaders
Barbara DuFresne

Valonne Eckel
Margie Ferstl
Folklore International
Dancers
Carol Fuchs
Bob & Ruth Anne
Fraley
Tamara Funk
Daniel Garvin
Robin Gaston
Stan & Tina Gehres
Lucy Ghastin
For the Aslak Lie House
F. La Verne Gillespie
Don & Irene
Golembiewski
Martha Griesheimer
Mindy Habecker
Steve Hanson
Anne Helsley
John Hess
Charles Hill
Karen Holden
Waltraud Holman
Carol Huber & Mike
Tuten
Sue Hulsether
Karen Impola
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Jim Leary & Janet
Gilmore
James Little
David Loberg & Karin
Code

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 Dr. Daniel Schwarz
 John Seest
 Emme Sjoberg
*In memory of Beatrice
 McDonald & Angela
 Tenniswood*
 Margaret Skinner
 Bill Smith
 Deborah Krauss Smith
Tribute to Doug Miller
 John Stolzenberg
 Kate Stout
 Greg & Lea Stroncek
 Maria Terres
 Martha Tyner
 Marlys Waller
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 Greg Winz
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Under \$100

Kathie Aagaard
 Alliant Energy Foundation

Karin Arneson
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 Mark Cecil
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 Mary Mueller
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 Mady Newfield
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 Renny & Judy Ohlsson
 Kurt & Barbara Olson
 Ruth Olson & Mark Wagler
 Barbara Overby

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Goldberg

Ronald Perkins

Lois Powell

Charles & Louise Price

Byron & Jackie Reeves

Nina Reeves

In memory of Jane Farwell

Glen Reinl & Sara

Krebsbach

Bill Remis

Alicia Rheal

Andrea Rhodie & Philip

Lipschultz

Tracey Roberts

John Romano

Mary Rosenthal

Louise Ryssmann

Dave & Mona Scott

Lisa Seidman

David & Ruth Shipley

Barbara Smith

Carol Spelic

Catherine Springer

Richard & Karen Steinle

Andrew Stemp

Gail & Michael Sweet

Jan Taylor

William Thomas

Grace Valentine

Richard & Karla Vogel

Barbara Westhofen/Folk

Dancers of the Fox Valley

Roger & Kristi Williams

Al & Lindy Wilson

Donna Winn

Edward Wohl & Ann Wolfe

Nan & Bob Woodburn

Larry & Patricia Ziemer

Seve & Marjorie Zwickel



Mike Wolkomir, season sponsor of Open Mic, begins each monthly session with a set of autoharp tunes. His wife, Mary Ann Wolkomir, usually bakes a delicious treat for the participants and the audience.

Right: Participants decorate the Majstang pole during Midsummer Festival

Our donors help support the annual operations of Folklore Village – helping provide electricity for lights, propane to keep us warm, participant insurance, and all the other amenities that make Folklore Village a wonderful place to come and experience folkways through dance, through festivals, and through learning experiences. Donations and gifts are essential to our budget, and we truly appreciate all who give! Thank you, form all of us here at Folklore Village.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Profit and Loss January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

INCOME

Contributions and Grants:	\$45,561.00
Fundraising Events:	\$29,651.00
Program Income:	\$105,025.00
Rentals:	\$37,406.00
Other/Miscellaneous:	\$3,067.00
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Total:	\$220,710.00

EXPENSES

Salaries:	\$114,074.00
Facilities/Office:	\$51,049.00
Insurance:	\$16,634.00
Depreciation:	\$16,005.00
Program expenses:	\$39,813.00
Other/Miscellaneous:	\$16,384.00
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Total:	\$253,959.00*

Balance Sheet

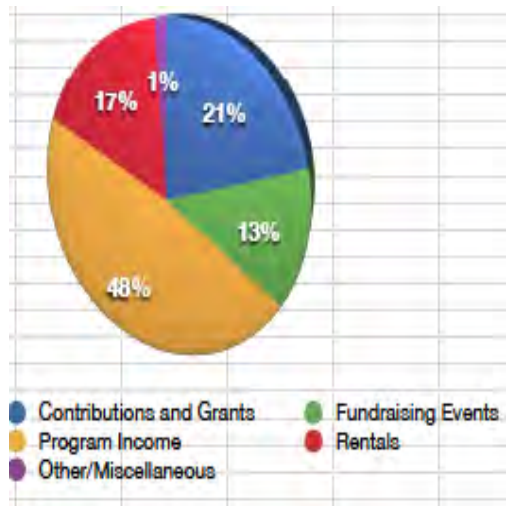
Assets

Total Checking/Savings:	\$49,093.61
Other Current Assets:	\$48,811.95
Fixed Assets:	\$232,257.53
Total Assets:	\$330,163.09

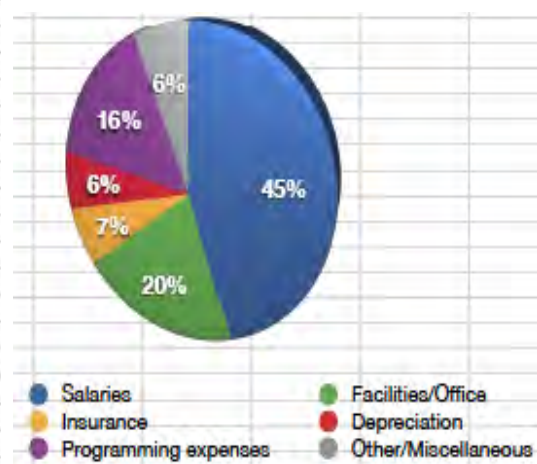
Liabilities and Equity

Current Liabilities:	\$24,314.83
Equity:	\$305,848.26
Total Liabilities and Equity:	\$330,163.09

2014 Income



2014 Expenses



*The deficit between income and expenses was covered by board contingency funds.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS / STAFF

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amy McFarland (President) – Musician, Social Worker

Allen Pincus (Vice President) – Retired; Academic School of Social Work

Nancy Zucker (Secretary) – Graphic Designer, Dancer, Musician

Chuck Hornemann (Treasurer) – Chemical Engineer

Richard March - Author, Retired Folklorist, State of Wisconsin



Maria Terres – Educator, Musician

Melissa Roelli – Event Organizer,
Musician

Eric Seaberg – Non-profit Campus
Ministry Specialist

Folklore Village board members are intimately involved with the organization. Here, board member Maria Terres, and board president Amy McFarland help provide music for the Midwinter Festival.

STAFF

Terri Van Orman – Executive Director

Meghan Dudle – Program Director

Natasha Rank – Office Manager

Dan Knutson – Grounds and Buildings
Caretaker



Executive Director, Terri Van Orman, and her husband, John, during the Ridgeway Labor Day parade – displaying the Folklore Village banner on their 1977 MG Midget.