



THE ST. FRANCIS SINGERS entertained in the Northwest Kansas Tent during the Sampler Festival held in Garden City over the weekend. They were led by Louanne Isernhagen.

Pinochle group ends with potluck

The Pinochle Card-O-Rama potluck and salad suppers were held on May 1 and May 2. The suppers are the final events of the season. Winning prizes for the Mixed Couples were Billy and Gerri Lampe with high score and Ruben and ValJean Schultz with low score. Winning the Ladies Couples were Wilma Lampe and Elsie Cook with high while Marge Fossett and RoseMary Bierig won the low prize. In the Ladies Afternoon Group, Betty Miller was high and Jo Hagney was low. Participants include: Mixed Couples: Billy and Gerri Lampe, Kenneth and DeEtta Knorr, Lenard Schlepp and Dave Roberson, Raymond and Bonnie Armknecht, Tim and Margaret Poling, Ruben and ValJean Schultz, Ernest and Marlene Lebfrom, Bernard and Ethyle Roelfs, Roger and Myra Douthit, Eddy and Sherry Schultz, Bert and Nancy Follett, Dolores Kincheloe and Betty Jean

Winston. Ladies Couples - Group one: Esther Confer and Laura Pugh, Jo Hagney and Alice Isernhagen, Marge Fossett and RoseMary Bierig, Carol Rogers and Bonnie McQuillen, Gerri Lampe and Raedell Winston, Helen Burnham and Gladys Cook, Grace Zwegyardt and Mickey Smith, Wilma Lampe and Elsie Cook, Dorothy Schield and Pam Christian, Rachael Keller and Dulcie Henderson, Ethel Whitten and Hertha Kelley, Janice Krien and Bernice Zwegyardt. Ladies Afternoon - Group two: Dorothy Carpenter, Jean Loyd, Nola Burrus, Hattie Terry, Darlene Feikert, Wanda Gienger, Mildred Warner, Bonnie McQuillen, Nina Raile, Grace Zwegyardt, Mary Lou Munn, Jo Heagney, Betty Miller, Ilene O'Leary, Deloris Wiley, Pam Christian, Mickey Smith, Pat Confer, Ilone Ketter, Wilma Lampe, Donna Boll, Laura Pugh, Carol Rogers.

St. Francis well represented at event

By Karen Krien

The Sampler Festival was held over the weekend in Garden City on the zoo grounds. Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, reported it was a great weekend and St. Francis was very nicely represented. Secretary Bracelin, along with Janet Jensen, Carol Ross and Helene Landenberger, left on Friday to help set up the Northwest Kansas tent. "We were setting up a place for the entertainment to perform, when I noticed that the area was not very big," Secretary Bracelin said. "So, I mentioned to Tiffany, (the tent organizer) that we might need a little more room. "She asked how many were in the singing group and band and I responded 'around 20+'. "Her eyes got big and her jaw dropped!" Secretary Bracelin said they could not imagine that we would have many people coming from Cheyenne County. "It was great!! Needless to say, more room was made." On Saturday morning, the women were back early to finish putting out brochures, blowing up balloons and making sure everything was ready for the opening at 10 a.m. The "St. Francis Singers" and "Once Again Band" started arriving about 10:30 a.m. and Secretary Bracelin said it made those St. Francis people working in the booth proud to say, "Yep! - All those people are from St. Francis/Cheyenne County - way up in the northwest part of the state!" Louanne Isernhagen, St. Francis, had organized people for a number of music events to represent the town and county. Mrs. Isernhagen said she loved to sing and play her instruments but didn't like to perform alone. She began asking people if they played or sang or both, and before long, she had a band and chorus together.

"Our groups are open to anyone who wants to perform with us - just call!" she said. Besides the singers and the band, Mrs. Isernhagen and Lila Whitmore played a fiddle/guitar duo, calling themselves the "Prairie Chicks," and Helene Landenberger, the Wild Rose Poet, performed cowboy poetry. "I just thought Festival was wonderful," she said. Secretary Bracelin said they were told by festival organizers that the Northwest Kansas Tent was the most popular. "We always had a crowd inside," she said. "When the entertainment was going on, it was very full. "Of course free popcorn helps, too." By the end of the day on Saturday, the popcorn that they had been brought from home was gone so they made a trip to the store to purchase more supplies. Those were gone by the middle of Sunday afternoon. The Sternberg Museum was in the Northwest Kansas Tent. They had brought live snakes and spiders. "Those little 'rat' snakes aren't so bad to hold and the kids loved that part of the tent," Mrs. Bracelin said. Mrs. Bracelin had taken the left-over toys from the Easter Egg Hunt and they were put in sacks along with a business card from the city of St. Francis. The sacks were handed out over the two days. "We had baskets of candy at each booth, I took Chamber ink pens and gave out lots of brochures," she said. At the Festival, there was a tent for Kansas-made products, a history tent and wineries tent. Wildlife and Parks officials had a tent with owls, a vulture, a hawk, cockatoo, parrot, alligator. A lot of information was given on the animals throughout the two days. A blacksmith was doing demonstrations, there was a play area for



GLORIA BRACELIN, center, and Janet Jensen talked to an interested woman about northwest Kansas. Photos courtesy of Carol Ross

the kids and of course, there was the zoo. By the end of the day on Saturday, over 4,000 tickets had been turned in and Mrs. Bracelin did not hear what the attendance was on Sunday. "I would encourage everyone to mark your calendar for May 5 or 6, 2007, and go to Garden City to see what it is all about," Mrs. Bracelin said. "There is something for everyone. "It is amazing what there is to see and do in Kansas. "We are already making plans for next year." Members of the St. Francis Singers were Mary Rath, Lila Whitmore, Susan Dinkel, Julie Wolters, Sondra Bracelin, Jim Milliken, Kim Zwegyardt, Louanne Isernhagen, Gloria Bracelin, Helene Landenberger, Coleen Applegate, Natalie Knodel, Marlin Rueb, Carol Ross, Sandy Bandel, Tom Bandel, Art Krueger, Glenn Isernhagen, Ruth Milliken, Cinda Dankenbring, Keith Dankenbring, Carol Redding and Raedell Winston. Once Again Sound members were Margaret Poling, Crissy Cooks, Van Burrus, Mary Rath, Lila Whitmore, Logan Whitmore, Susan Dinkel, Julie Wolters, Sondra Bracelin, Jim Milliken, Kim Zwegyardt, Louanne Isernhagen and Carol Ross.

Area teacher earns education honors

Susan Dinkel of St. Francis was among 17 Emporia State University students who received special recognition at the 22nd Annual Teachers College Honors Banquet April 28. She received her graduate award for excellence in the Curriculum



Dinkel

and Instruction Department. Mrs. Dinkel was recognized for exemplifying outstanding qualities of academic and professional excellence. As a business and computer technology educator at a high school in the northwest corner of Kansas, she was able to complete her graduate degree via the Internet. Her instructors were impressed with her leadership qualities and commitment to her students, especially newcomers who did not speak English as their first language.

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