



ANNUAL REPORT: May 2023-April 2024

Village Concerts Association
Hot Springs Village, AR., P.O. Box 8161, 71910
Respectfully Submitted by Ray E. Barber, President

Conceived in the autumn of 1991 shortly after the Woodlands Auditorium was opened the Village Concerts Association's initial campaign started in January, 1992, and 654 available subscriptions sold out in 4 weeks. Over the past 32 Seasons the VCA has brought in almost 160 entertainment groups performing over 460 shows to more than 330,000 concertgoers. Village Concerts Association is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit, 501(c)4 organization legally registered with the State of Arkansas.

A. The VCA is governed by a Board of Directors and an Executive Committee and numerous working Committees w/Board of Director Chairpersons:

1. 2023-2024 Officers/Executive Committee:

Ray E. Barber, President

Laura Allworth, 1st VP/Artistic Manager

Jack Wilson, 2nd VP

Kathi Wastel, Treasurer

Beverly Fitzpatrick, Secretary (assistant-April 30, 2024: Don Brady).

2. 2023-2024 Board of Directors: Bill Johansson, Kelly Burleson, George Langley, Suzanne Sweeten, Gwen Davis, Susan Richert, David Lee, Dana Smith, Tess Harrison

3. Heartfelt thanks and appreciation of service to VCA to outgoing Board of Director: Tess Harrison.

4. Welcome incoming and new VCA Board of Director: Carol Welle.

5. VCA Appreciation to the many volunteers/POA Staff behind the scenes that make every concert a success.

B. 2023-2024 Accomplishments: “Years of Discovery Continue-Laissez les bon temps rouler”.

1. Your Village Concerts Assn achieved “Let the good times roll” with a 32nd Season of five (5) great shows, 10 performances of very diverse entertainment offerings; something for everyone:
 - a. The Hit Men originals-September, 2023
 - b. Broadway ROX-November, 2023
 - c. Tennessee River-The Ultimate Alabama Tribute-January, 2024
 - d. “The Beat Goes On”-CHER with/Lisa McClowry-February, 2024
 - e. “Rock This Town”-The Brian Setzer Orchestra Tribute-March, 2024
2. A special VCA add-on performance in April, 2024, featuring Hot Springs Village perennial favorite, Colt and the Old 45’s, was presented as a “free” VCA concert in celebration of the “Follow the Sun...” total sun eclipse celebration in Hot Springs Village.
3. “Good times continue to roll...” with the Village Concerts Association sponsorship of “free” concerts to HS Village on Memorial Day weekend 2023, at Rock Porch Sessions, Grove Park, with the largest crowd ever to attend a Rock Porch performance (est. @ 1000 attendees); followed by the second largest crowd in October, 2023 @ 800 +/-.

C. The Village Concerts Association is in excellent financial condition, meeting its Revenue and Expense Budget for 2023-2024 with carryovers to new fiscal year as 501(c)4 allows. The 32nd VCA Season sold-out in 7 weeks.

1. Thanks to the sold-out season and the generosity of our Patrons and advertisers, VCA season ticket prices were NOT increased from \$139/season, less than \$28/show, though related costs/fees increased.
2. The Village Concerts Assn provides monthly and Year-to-Date financial reports to the BOD. Bank reconciliation/ fiscal controls are in place. External or Internal Audits are scheduled every year as approved by the VCA Board.
3. Season ticket holders/members numbered 1341 and Patrons contributing numbered 239, ‘Friends of the Woodlands’ numbered 36; see Paragraph D (3.)

D. The goals for the Village Concerts’ Assn. “Year of Discovery” 2022-2023” were listed in an “Open Letter” to the Board of Directors by the VCA President on April 27, 2022. Those goals continue to be relevant:

1. Work to evaluate the needs, cooperate with POA and other HSV individuals/organizations and contribute \$ to upgrade the HSV entertainment venues: the Woodlands Auditorium and the Coronado Center.
 2. VCA has allocated monies along with the Property Owners' Association to install two 10' LED video screens either side of the stage at the Woodlands' Auditorium and the installation of drink cupholders.
 3. Established the "Friends of the Woodlands", a separate VCA donation account dedicated to Woodlands' improvements but dispersed by the VCA: P.O. Box 8161, Hot Springs, AR 71910. Please consider a separate donation to this dedicated improvement fund.
 4. Investigate new entertainment avenues to serve HSV such as matinees, add-on concerts, specialty entertainment, festivals and season expansion.
 5. Dedicate more VCA money to improve the quality of the VCA furnished entertainment to include more original artists and productions.
 6. Support other entertainment sources in HSV to upgrade or maintain a high standard of quality: VCA sponsors and directly selected/booked, in cooperation with the POA, two Rock Porch Sessions' acts: The Intruders (premier rock n roll) May 27th, 2023, and award-winning Pink Piano, Oct 7th, 2023. Concerts are FREE of charge to HSV.
 7. Keep VCA season prices competitive and reasonable even in the face of increased costs: 33rd Season coming up uses existing/future revenue as necessary to subsidize costs.
 8. The VCA will not execute without a plan and will continue to cooperate with the POA and all of HSV to bring top quality entertainment in the best venue possible.
- E. The Village Concerts Association achieved its 2023-2024 Goals listed above and will pursue that continued success BUT cannot do so without your LOYAL support! The VCA MUST book its schedule 18-24 months in advance so our revenue stream actually must come in advance. Thanks to our season ticket holders, patrons and advertisers who support quality entertainment for HSV the VCA continues in 2024-2025.

- F. ANNOUNCED VCA 33rd SEASON: Presale Season Tickets went on sale to existing season ticket holders from March 14, 2024-April 6th, 2024. Open sale to Members and General Public: April 7th, 2024. Please buy Season tickets as they will sell-out quickly.
- a. A Glorious Tribute to Michael Jackson: Sept 26th-27th, 2024
 - b. Legends in Concert: Alan Jackson & George Strait: Oct 17th-18th, 2024
 - c. Guess Who Alumni w/lead vocalist Carl Dixon: Nov 14th-15th, 2024
 - d. The Drifters and The Platters: Feb 13th-14th, 2025
 - e. The World of Rock "n" Roll: Apr 3rdth-4th, 2025.
- G. Village Concerts Association Board of Directors meets once a month for a general meeting typically the last Monday of each month at 10:00 am, at Room 4, Village Church of Christ, 210 Balboa, Hot Springs, Village. Future schedules at discretion of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray E. Barber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "B".

Ray E. Barber, President

Contact us at www.vcaconcerts.com; email info@vcaconcerts.com