

# The A-Z gAZette

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**The Latest on Ann Zimmerman's Musical Exploits—December 2005**

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## UPCOMING APPEARANCES

- \*DEC. 10 (Sat.)— 4-5:30pm—Garden City, KS, concert at High Plains Public Radio, 217 N 7th. Contact: 620-275-7444
- DEC. 11 (Sun.)—eve—Tipton, KS, First Bank of Kansas Christmas Party
- DEC. 17 (Sat.)—eve—Wilson, KS, Wilson State Bank Christmas Party

## 2006

- \*JAN. 15 (Sun.)—4pm—Hill City, KS, Graham Co. Arts Council concert, Meth. Church. Contact: 785-421-2017
- JAN. 13-31—Salina, KS, twenty-seven elementary school concerts celebrating Kansas Day. Contact: 785-309-5770
- \*FEB. 1 (Wed.)—eve—Emporia, KS, 1<sup>st</sup> United Meth. Church "Half-time" kick-off program. Contact: 620-342-6186
- \*FEB. 9 (Thu.)—9am—Newkirk, OK, Women in Agriculture conf., St. Francis church gym. Contact: 580-362-2438
- FEB. 11 (Sat.)—eve—Lenexa, KS, private event
- FEB. ? (date tba)—Manhattan & Ogden, KS, two elementary school concerts. Contact: 785-537-4420
- FEB. 15 (Wed.)—9am—Salina, KS, elementary school Kansas Songs concert. Contact: 785-309-5770
- FEB. 27-MAR. 14—Salina, KS, songwriting workshops, elementary schools. Contact: 785-309-5770
- MAR. 16 (Thu.) (tent.)—Manhattan, KS, music composition workshop with school music teachers
- \*APR. 22 (Sat.) (tent.)—near Topeka, KS, Earth Day concert on the prairie, The Villages, Inc. Contact: 785-267-5900
- AUG. 10 (Thu.) (tent.)—near Manhattan, KS

Events are added and changed often. For the latest information, go to [www.annzimmerman.com](http://www.annzimmerman.com).

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## SWITCH YOUR gAZette TO EMAIL!

Ann now sends out news more often to her email list than to her U.S. Mail list; email is quicker, easier and cheaper. If you use email, please send Ann your email address to maximize the useful information you receive and to help Ann spend less time stamping and labeling.

## 2005: MORE CONCERTS THAN EVER

As 2005 comes to a close, a count of Ann's concerts shows nearly 130 performances, the largest number ever. Thanks go to all who have invited Ann to be part of their events and venues, and the biggest thanks to the audiences who still sing along so well.

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## WHAT'S AHEAD?

December brings with it all those holiday concerts. No holiday is more musical than Christmas – which makes it a favorite for Ann. She's delighted to do as many Christmas concerts and caroling events as she can fit in. Her longest trip of the month will be the four-hour southwesterly drive to Garden City in hopes of good weather. She'll be singing to High Plains Public Radio's studio audience for the GC holiday festival.

In January, Ann's home state of Kansas reaches its 145<sup>th</sup> birthday, and Ann leads 28 concerts that month to celebrate, including a trip to the northwestern Kansas town of Hill City for an Arts Council show on January 15, and five performances in three different schools on Monday, January 30, the day after Kansas Day.

February takes Ann to Oklahoma for the Women in Agriculture conference in Newkirk. In March she is back in Kansas elementary schools for three weeks of songwriting workshops plus a workshop with teachers.

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## LARYNGITIS DOESN'T STOP NOVEMBER SHOW

What does a singer do when she can't sing? She gets the audience to sing instead!

That's the story of Ann's Paxico concert to benefit Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Wabaunsee and Pottawatomie Counties just after Halloween. Friend and fellow singer, Larry Weaver, stepped out of the audience to lead the singing, Ann played piano, and audience members called out their requests from copies of the great sing-along book, *Rise Up Singing*. After some hesitation, the crowd participated enthusiastically, including two of the "Little Brothers" who began requesting songs because they like their titles, selecting some great songs indeed!

Unfortunately, the virus hung on weeks longer, and Ann thanks the Free Staters from Newton, KS, who took her place at a concert in Wichita later in the month.

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For the latest calendar information, call Ann at 785-825-7135 or go to the calendar at [www.annzimmerman.com](http://www.annzimmerman.com)

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**FLINTHILLS UNPLUGGED**

With nothing in sight but cattle and grass, and miles from the nearest electrical outlet, Ann sent songs of the prairie onto the wind toward gathered members of the Land Institute's graduate fellows program in late June. About thirty "fellows" and Land Institute staff and advisers gathered on a beautiful evening in the Kansas Flint Hills near Matfield Green for this event, which turned into a delightful experience for singer and listeners alike. Some photos from the evening are on the PHOTOS page of Ann's website.

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**LAKE MICHIGAN BY TRAIN**

Ann hopped a train in the middle of the night in Kansas in July and wound up on the shores of Lake Michigan to sing the long-time favorite, "Lovely Agnes," along with other more current favorites. The summer community of Epworth Heights welcomed Ann after her nine-year absence to its 100+ year old auditorium. Amtrak has great potential for cross-country adventure—if only the single train through Kansas didn't make its stop at 3:00 a.m.

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**ORDERING INFORMATION**

To order "**Blue Wild Indigo**," or earlier albums "**Canned Goods**" or "**Love & Weather**," make check payable to "Ann Zimmerman." Mail to A-Z Music, 3904 N. Ohio, Salina, Kansas 67401-9259. Cost per compact disc: \$15.00. Cost per cassette tape: \$10.00. Blue Wild Indigo posters—11"x17" prints of the Tom Barnes photo and colorful text from inside the album cover—cost: \$5.00. Add local sales tax (Kansas residents only) and \$2.00 shipping (per order).

You can buy Ann's recordings through her website's "music store" using PayPal and your credit card—or print out the order form and send a check. It's all at [annzimmerman.com/records.html](http://annzimmerman.com/records.html). Her CDs can also be found at the Smoky Hill Museum Store and House of Sight and Sound in Salina, People's Grocery in Manhattan, and through "CD Baby" at [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com).

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**85 YEARS OF VOTES FOR WOMEN**

On August 26, 1920, Congress passed the Nineteenth Amendment, and American women won the right to vote. Eighty-five years later, in a great celebration of that landmark, Ann stood before hundreds of Wichitans to sing songs of women throughout US history. "Bread and Roses" was the resounding cry of women activists in the nineteen-teens, a call not just for better pay but for better lives. This 2005 audience allowed themselves to be caught up in the spirit of the event and sang along. The other songs Ann sang dated from the 1870's to the turn of the twenty-first century. Following the music were speeches upon speeches, with the keynote address by great Kansas native, Nancy Kassebaum Baker, urging women and men from all political viewpoints to respect each other and speak across party and positional lines in hopes of stemming the polarization of today's politics.

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**"SUNFLOWER JOURNEYS" SHOW  
CONTINUES TO DRAW AUDIENCES**

In late April, the syndicated, Kansas-focused public television show, "Sunflower Journeys," featured ten minutes of music and interviews with Ann. The segment, sandwiched between features on two other notable Kansas women, early suffragist Clarina Nichols and current governor Kathleen Sebelius, continues to run from time to time on Kansas public television stations, drawing new listeners to Ann and her music.

The title of the half-hour episode (#1813) is "Kansas Women." It is listed at [ktwu.washburn.edu/journeys/](http://ktwu.washburn.edu/journeys/).

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**COMPOSITION WORKSHOP**

Ann's songwriting workshops have always focused on lyric writing—but in March, she debuts a new workshop discussing the rest of what makes up songs—melody, harmony, chords, rhythm and structure. Depending on this Manhattan audience response, Ann may begin offering the workshop to other groups.