

## Nonprofit Chamber of Services

### Nonprofit of the Week

*This series has been established with the intent of increasing awareness of the many causes and efforts taken on by our nonprofit brethren. If your nonprofit has a particular event taking place during the course of a week, an anniversary for example, please make this known and we will do all possible to accommodate a spotlight that coincides. On behalf of our membership, we wish to say "thank you" for taking a few moments from your busy schedule to learn a bit more about our community of nonprofits.*

"And now, for something completely different!" Monty Python's Flying Circus liked saying this when they changed vignettes on their programs. This statement seems relevant because, while **KPTS** is a nonprofit entity, it is very different than the majority of our NPCOS members.

For example, right now KPTS, Channel 8, is seeking 600 new members in their current pledge drive. Private donations provide 61% of the station's funding and they currently have 11,000 members.

For 36 years, KPTS has been educating, engaging, enriching and entertaining the people of south central Kansas. It is the only locally owned/operated, full power broadcast television station in the DMA (Designated Market Area). Approximately 432,000 households view KPTS programming and in May 2003, KPTS began digital broadcasting on a separate transmitter at channel 29.

KPTS is leading the literacy campaign with "Ready to Lead in Literacy" which focuses on workshops for parents and care providers. In addition, the "Young Writers and Illustrators Contest" runs through March. Children from kindergarten through third grade are asked to submit their stories with illustrations to have their work judged in May. KPTS is also the only station to provide extensive legislative coverage. For nearly 20 years programs such as "Kansas Week", "On the Record" and "Ask Your Legislator" inform the public of the events of importance in Topeka. For the last five years, these programs have aired statewide via an interconnect with the two other PTV stations serving Kansas.

Don Checots, President and General Manager got his start in broadcasting when he was in the Air Force as a member of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Network. He helped install and program AFTN stations in southeast Asia, primarily in Thailand. His career took him through the video production side of broadcast and into management. He has been leading KPTS for nine years.

The KPTS Spring Membership drive runs March 3 to 22, 2006. KPTS has a great line-up of programming.. "In Harmony: Music for Life" airs for the second consecutive year. On March 22 at 11:30 p.m., this locally produced statewide concert will feature elementary, middle and high school groups from all across Kansas. For more information, please call 838-30090 or check out [www.kpts.org](http://www.kpts.org).

