



Kewpiesta 2026

# A Kewpie Halloween

April 15-19, 2026

[www.irocf.org](http://www.irocf.org)

Branson Towers Hotel, 236 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway,

[www.thebransontowers.com](http://www.thebransontowers.com)

We hope you have marked your calendars and are planning to join us for Kewpiesta 2026. The following will provide specific information about registration and the events we have planned. Items are arranged in the approximate order they occur.

When you arrive, you will want to pick up your registration materials. The times when registration will be open are outlined on the following schedule. Your registration envelope with your banquet ticket and any other tickets you may have purchased will be available as outlined in the schedule. If you prepaid for centerpiece or workshop tickets, these will also be included. Your nametag shows you have registered and is your entry ticket into each of our events. Trade Korner and the Auction are the only two events open to the public. Every other event requires that all individuals be registered to be eligible to attend.

Your registration fee includes your 2026 commemorative Kewpiesta pin and bag, name card (which acts as your ticket for entry into members only events, educational workshops/seminars), and banquet ticket. We are aware that some attendees will choose to not attend the banquet. In the event you do not plan to attend this special event, included on the registration form you will be given the option to receive Kewpie Kash. Kewpie Kash is non-transferrable and expires immediately following the Saturday Auction. It may be used to purchase items at the following events: IROCF Garage Sale, Bingo, IROCF table at Trade Corner, and the Saturday Morning Auction.

If you are a first-time attendee, you will find rooms along the corridor open with members selling and displaying Rose O'Neill and Rose O'Neill related only items. Don't be shy as you are welcome to enter. You will see rooms open whenever there are no Kewpiesta events scheduled.

**Kewpiesta Registration:** Please note, the cutoff date for receiving the group rate at the hotel is March 13. The reduced rate for Kewpiesta registration is April 1.

## Garage Sale/Kewpie Kash

About the garage sale. Our organization has bags, pins, and other items that we have sold over the years. Before these things are offered for sale to the public, we thought we would give our members first crack at purchasing them. Also, there will be items donated by members, with all proceeds going to the club. Use your Kewpie Kash to help pay for your purchases! The garage sale will pop up from time to time at different events and is unscheduled.

## IROCF & Bonniebrook Historical Meet & Greet Dinner

Join us at Bonniebrook for a gathering of IROCF and BHS members Wednesday evening. Pittsburg State University, Dr. Phillip Frank will be the featured speaker. His presentation will be, *Building a Brand Before Branding: Kewpies and the Legal Origins of Advertising Identity*. The menu will include strawberry spinach salad with candied pecans, fresh baked rolls, fire grilled chicken bruschetta, grilled steak and vegetable skewers, garlic roasted new potatoes, herbed fresh seasoned vegetables, garden fresh strawberry cake, and caramel turtle cheesecake. There is an extra charge for this event as reflected on the registration form.

## Kewpie Kard Klass

Come join the fun and create your very own Kewpie Halloween card. Each person will have the opportunity to rubber stamp a unique holiday card. All materials necessary will be provided. The class will be limited to the first 50 who register. Registration is \$5 per person.

## Educational Programs

Please sign up for one or all these educational sessions. We need counts for handouts (if any) and room set up.

- The 3-Dimensional Kewpie: Once Rose gave birth to the first three-dimensional Kewpie, a flood of opportunities were unleashed for bisque Kewpies. Kewpies took on a life of their own as their popularity soared throughout the world. Explore the path they took.
- Rose's Circle of Contemporaries: Rose surrounded herself with a variety of artists, poets, musicians, sculptors, and authors. Many of Rose's properties provided an environment for friendship, support, opportunities, and encouragement. Be it at Washington Square, Carabas, on Capri, at Bonniebrook, or wherever they met inspiration and creativity was abundant. Though Rose was known to have supported legions of would-be professionals, there also were those who were successful, but may be obscure to most O'Neill collectors. Learn the connection between Rose and the buffalo nickel, Bye-Lo babies, and more.



- *The Lady and the Ghost*: In 1921, Dorothy Scarborough published a book containing 25 "modern" ghost stories. The book, *Humorous Ghost Stories*, features stories where ghosts are wrapped in cloaks of humor, satire, and sophisticated wrath. Authors included in the book you may recognize are Oscar Wilde (*The Canterville Ghost*) and Wallace Irwin (*The Transplanted Ghost*). The last story is *The Lady and the Ghost*, written and illustrated by Rose Cecil O'Neill, and originally published in *Cosmopolitan*, November 1902. *Humorous Ghost Stories* did not include the illustrations but listen now to the story and see the illustrations depicting the characters Rose created.

- Pursuing Footsteps (A Ghost of a Time): Don't Jump to conclusions, we are intending for you to have some fun and learn more about Rose O'Neill as well as her many wonderful comic creations. We will have a special guest appearance of Augustus Ghost, Rose O'Neill's renown ghostly character – Haunting Neatly Done satisfaction guaranteed. Another Rose O'Neill character, Frisky Freddy, a frog offering *Jumping Instruction for Ten Bugs a Lesson*, will also make an appearance.



- Kewpie ♥Kins: One of the smallest vinyl Kewpies licensed by Cameo was the 4.5" Kewpie ♥Kin issued in 1967. There were clothes, paper dolls, and a Kewpieville to put together that included Uncle Hob Goblin and Gooby Goblin. That was a lot for such a "little feller". Come to the show and tell to learn.
- Society of Ozarkian Hillcrofters: Founded in 1931, the Hillcrofters are dedicated to perpetuating the history, folklore, and traditions of the Ozarks. Notable original members included Vance Randolph, Rose Wilder, and Rose O'Neill.

## Annual Business Meeting

Please bring your current membership card in order to vote on business during our meeting. Find out what is going on behind the scenes. This is your opportunity to ask questions and get answers. A group photo of members will happen immediately following the meeting. After the photo, Affiliate Presidents will have a short meeting.

## All Affiliate Get Together

This is the opportunity for Club Affiliates to collect dues, display their drawing items, and sell drawing tickets. Drawing tickets are not to be sold at Trade Korner. There *will be a \$10 fee per affiliate for refreshments*. Affiliates are NOT required to bring refreshments. The person leading the Affiliate should include the fee on their registration form, so we know who to contact in case of any questions.

## Hidden Treasures

This is the time to share your hidden "treasures" at our annual *Show and Tell*. Have an item you'd like more information about? Bring it along and ask those in attendance. Find a rare item that no one has seen before? Bring it along to share with fellow lovers of all things Rose O'Neill. Have an item with a special story behind it? Bring it along too! Don't be shy – this is one of our members' favorite events.

### Trade Corner

Sales of Kewpies and Rose O'Neill related items only. Trade Corner tables are \$25 for a six-foot table. Space is limited and will be given on a first come, first served basis. You must be an IROCF member and have registered for Kewpiesta to sell items from your room or rent a table(s). Trade Corner is open to the public.

### Affiliate Dinners

This is the time to join an Affiliate for dinner! Contact your Affiliate to see if they will hold a dinner or join New Jersey. The New Jersey Professors will hold their dinner at the Golden Corral. Tickets will be on a first come basis. Sign up is available through your Kewpiesta Registration form. A waiting list will be compiled if necessary. The menu is choice of the extensive buffet menu which includes drinks and desserts.

### Kewpie Bingo

Come join us for a relaxed evening of Bingo! Get to know Rose O'Neill through the Bingo squares. Kewpie prizes will be awarded. Entry fee is \$5, which will be collected at the entrance.

### Consignment Auction

The IROCF Consignment Auction rules are as follows:

1. The number of consignments will be limited to a maximum of 10 lots per consignee. Each of the 10 lots may consist of a single item or of multiple items.
2. Non-members and members may consign items to the auction.
3. All lots presented for auction must be Rose O'Neill or O'Neill related and must be valued at \$100.00 or more.
4. All sellers will pay to the IROC Foundation a commission based upon the selling price of any item auctioned. The commission charged by the IROC Foundation will be **\$10.00 per lot auctioned or 10 percent of the selling price of the lot**, whichever is greater.
5. **Consignee may place a reserve on auction items. A \$25.00 reserve fee will apply. A consignee may bid on consignee's lot and if the consignee is the high bidder, the commission will be based on the buyback price. Lots not meeting the reserve will not be sold. No commission will be charged if the lot does not sell.**
6. Bidding will be by number. Numbers will be issued prior to the Consignment Auction. You must present **photo ID** to receive a bidder's number.
7. All purchases must be paid and **signed for** at the close of the Consignment Auction.
8. All persons who have sold items at the auction will receive their sales proceeds through the mail, after deduction of the appropriate commission, within two (2) weeks after the sale.
9. **IROCF will not be responsible in any way for non-payment, bad checks or for non-negotiable payments. Such disputes are to be settled between the consignee and the purchaser.**
10. **Non-paying buyer's memberships will be REVOKED.**

### Banquet

Our Banquet will be at the Keeter Center at the College of the Ozarks. Seating will be assigned, so please let us know with whom you'd like to sit. The food is excellent. Please choose from the Signature Pot Roast, slow-roasted beef and beef reduction served with garlic-roasted mashed potatoes and sauteed green beans, or Pan-Seared Atlantic salmon, wild rice pilaf with sauteed green beans, and lemon cream sauce on the side. Both choices come with a roll, salad and dessert. The Children's meal consists of chicken tenders, French fries, fruit cup, a scoop of vanilla ice cream and milk or apple juice. We will do our best to accommodate any dietary restrictions, please list them on your response.

### Bonniebrook Open House, Saturday

Music will be provided by local musicians from 11 am – 2:00 pm. A silent auction will be conducted from 10 am - 3:30 pm. Refreshments and free tours will be available throughout the day.

### Sunday Breakfast

Join us for one last time to informally sit with Kewpie friends at the hotel's breakfast buffet.

# Kewpiesta 2026 Schedule

## Tuesday, April 14

8:30 am	Board of Director's Meeting	TRR (Table Rock Room)
4 pm - 5 pm	Early Bird Registration	TRR

## Wednesday, April 15

9 am – 10:00 am	Registration	
9:30 am – 11:00 am	Kewpie Kard Klass* by Eleanor Waladkewics	Valley View (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)
1 pm – 2 pm	The 3-Dimensional Kewpie by Vernon Jordan, Karen Salaz	TRR
2:15 pm – 3:15 pm	Rose's Circle of Contemporaries by Donna Davis, Karen Salaz	TRR
5:30 pm – 6:45 pm	IROCF & BHS Meet & Greet with Catered Dinner*	Bonniebrook Hall
6:45 pm	Professor Philip Frank, Pittsburg University, Pittsburg, KS	Bonniebrook Hall

## Thursday, April 16

9 am – 10 am	Registration	TRR
10:15 am – 11:00 am	Preservation and Archiving Items, College of the Ozarks	TRR
11:00 am – 12:00 am	Hidden Treasures	TRR
1 pm – 3pm	Annual Business Meeting	TRR
	Photo Immediately Following Meeting	Gazebo Hall
3:30 pm – 4 pm	Affiliate President's Meeting Following Photo	Gazebo Hall
6:45 pm	All Affiliate Set Up	Gazebo Hall
7 pm – 8:15 pm	All Affiliate Get Together	Gazebo Hall
8:15 pm	Window Viewing	Branson Towers Hotel Outside, East Sidewalk

## Friday, April 17

9:00 am – 9:30 am	The Lady and the Ghost by Donna Davis, Karen Salaz	TRR
9:30 am – 10:30 pm	Pursuing Footsteps (A Ghost of a Time) by Vernon Jordan, Miles	TRR
10:45 am – 11:15 noon	Kewpie♥Kins by Donna Davis	TRR
12:30 pm – 1:45 pm	Trade Korner Set Up ( <b>No Early Entry</b> )	Gazebo Hall
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Society of Ozarkian Hillcrofters by Curtis Copland	TRR
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	Trade Korner ( <b>Open to the Public</b> )	Gazebo Hall
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Auction Item Check-In/Intake	TRR
5 pm – 7 pm	Affiliate Dinners*	Check with specific affiliate
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Kewpie Bingo*	Gazebo Hall

## Saturday, April 18

8 am – 8:30 am	Auction Preview ( <b>Open to the Public</b> )	TRR
8:30 am – 11 am	Auction ( <b>Open to the Public</b> )	TRR
10 am – 5 pm	Bonniebrook Open House	Bonniebrook
5:30 pm – 6 pm	Seating for Banquet	Keeter Center
6:00 pm	Banquet	Keeter Center

## Sunday, April 19

8 am	Informal Breakfast	TRR
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\* Additional fee paid with registration – see Registration form for exact amount

### **Recording Programs or Workshops at Kewpiesta**

**Please note that recording any program, workshop or other activity at Kewpiesta is strictly prohibited without the expressed consent of the presenter or person running the event.**

# Kewpiesta 2026 Registration Form

Registration required for each individual attending Kewpiesta except two public events

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Will you have a Window Display? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Will you sell from your room? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Representing an Affiliate/Affiliate Room Request? Yes \_\_\_ Affiliate Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

	Amount	Number	Total
<b>If you are a <u>Current Member</u>, your registration is:</b>			
• If <u>received</u> before April 1, 2026	\$ 95	_____	_____
• If <u>received</u> between April 2-5, 2026	\$100	_____	_____
• If <u>received</u> after April 6, 2026 (Call Carey)	\$105	_____	_____
<b>If you are a <u>First-Time Attendee</u> <u>and</u> <u>Current Member</u>:</b>			
• If <u>received</u> before April 1, 2026	\$ 55		

**If you are a Child (under 11):**

- If received before April 1, 2026 \$ 20 \_\_\_\_\_
- If received between April 2-5, 2026 \$ 25 \_\_\_\_\_
- If received after April 6, 2026 (Call Carey) \$ 30 \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are a Non Member:**

• If received before April 1, 2026 \$130

**IROCF – BHS Meet & Greet Dinner**

\$ 30 \_\_\_\_\_

**Kewpie Kard Class**

I plan to participate \$ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**Trade Corner**

I plan to sell at Trade Corner. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tables at \$25 per table. \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Night Affiliate Dinner**

New Jersey Buffet Dinner (full price, includes tip) \$ 21 \_\_\_\_\_

**All Affiliate Night**

I plan to participate in the All Affiliate Night. Please reserve a table at \$10. \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Centerpiece Drawing Tickets**

1 for \$1 OR 12 for \$10 OR 25 for \$20 - I would like to buy \_\_\_\_\_ tickets. \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Centerpiece Drawing Tickets**

Special Centerpiece tickets are \$5 each. I would like to buy \_\_\_\_\_ tickets. \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues:**

2026 dues: Individual \$40; Family \$45; New member (\$30/\$35); \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Individual or Family (Individual \$55; Family \$60; New Member \$45/\$50) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to IROCF and send them along with this 2-page form to:**

Ron Songer, 2013 Ridgeway Drive, Denison, IA 51442

Absolutely **NO REFUNDS** after April 1, 2026. Additional fees are applied if not received by specified dates! Call Carey Brown at 815-600-3238 if your Registration will not be **received** by April 6, 2026!

Banquet (included in the price of Registration):

Please choose your entrée or opt to receive Kewpie Kash (see Kewpiesta Information)

Adults:

Signature Pot Roast \_\_\_ Pan-seared Atlantic salmon \_\_\_ Children: \_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

OR: I opt to take Kewpie Kash in lieu of the attending the Banquet \_\_\_\_\_

Education:

Please let us know if you plan to attend the following educational events:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
The 3-Dimensional Kewpie	___	___
Rose's Circle of Contemporaries	___	___
Preservation and Archiving Items	___	___
<i>The Lady and the Ghost</i>	___	___
Pursuing Footsteps (A Ghost of a Time)	___	___
Kewpie♥Kins	___	___
Society of Ozarkian Hillcrofters	___	___

Banquet Seating Preferences:

Please list below the names of the people with whom you would like to sit. Include yourself!

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |

Hidden Treasures

I have (an) item(s) I would like to bring to Hidden Treasures: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Kewpie Bingo Number attending: \_\_\_

**\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTE: Branson Towers Hotel Reservations \*\*\*\*\***

**The deadline for group-rate reservations is March 13, 2026**

**You must call the front desk and tell them that you are attending Kewpiesta 2026 to receive the contracted rates.** Call **1-417-336-4500, option 1** (front desk) to make your reservations. Double queen rooms are \$86 plus tax and Double Queen Family suites (includes a front room with a couch pull-out bed) are \$134 plus tax. There are a few King Family Suites (a king bedroom w/ensuite bathroom and a double queen bedroom, a second bathroom, and a front room with a couch pull-out bed) available for \$144 plus tax. Your stay can be extended for up to three days at the front of or end of Kewpiesta for the same rates if requested when you make your reservation. There are some pet-friendly rooms (each double queen) available on the back side of the hotel. There is a one-time \$50 fee for pets.

**Remember: Call the front desk direct and state that you are with the Kewpiesta Group in order to get the negotiated rates. 1-417-336-4500, OPTION 1.**

**Cancellations: 24 hours before scheduled check-in for no charge cancellation. Before 4 pm the day before for early departure without incurring a 1-day charge for the departure day.**

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### **Window Display Guidelines**

#### **AFFILIATE WINDOWS**

1. State charter must be visible in the window.\*
2. Display completed by noon Thursday.\*
3. No for sale items or signs in the window.\*
4. Adaption to the Kewpiesta theme.
5. Originality of display.
6. Neatness of display.
7. Overall presentation of display. (Display must be lit at night and the room should not be visible.)

#### **INDIVIDUAL WINDOW DISPLAY**

1. Display completed by noon Thursday.\*
2. Adaptation to the Kewpiesta theme.
3. Originality of display.
4. Neatness of display.
5. Overall presentation of display. (Display must be lit at night and the room should not be visible.)

\*If these qualifications are not applied to the window, displays will not be judged.

### **Trade Corner Regulations**

IROCF Kewpie Trade Korner regulations are as follows:

1. You must be a 2026 paid member of IROCF and have paid the Kewpiesta registration fee.
2. Only 2 persons permitted per space during set up.
3. Items offered must be Kewpie or Rose O'Neill related
4. Vendors requested to give emphasis to offering collectible items.
5. The fee of \$25 per table must accompany this form.
6. Trade Korner ID Ribbons will be in your Kewpiesta Registration packet.
7. You must submit your own Missouri sales tax or have a current sales tax number. This is your responsibility.
8. Please provide the name of any helper when you check in at Registration.

### **2026 Centerpieces & Special Centerpiece Drawings**

The Kewpies Halloween theme is featured in this year's two drawings. The centerpieces were created by Susan Wilson. Each German bisque Kewpie (4.5-5.5") is dressed in a Halloween costume. The President's Centerpiece is a 6" bisque Kewpie also ready for Trick-or-Treating. Centerpiece tickets are \$1 each, 12 for \$10, or \$20 for 25. Special centerpiece tickets are \$5 each.