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WOW Hall faces money crunch

By Jolayne Houtz
Of the Emerald

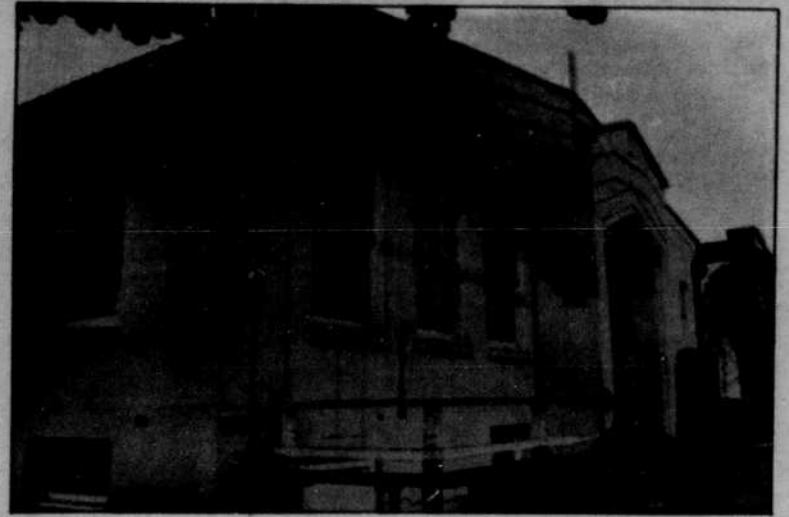
The WOW Hall may be forced to close its doors by December unless organizers can raise \$25,000 to pay off a loan and to fund staff salaries.

Faced with a \$5,000 funding cut by the Eugene Arts Foundation and a reduction in donations and staffing cuts, WOW Hall organizers pleaded with about 30 people Wednesday night to help raise the money.

"Month after month, we struggle to make it to the next month," said John Chambers, chairman of the Woodmen of the World Hall board of directors. "What we need is people-energy. It's a call to the community to get involved."

The money would go to repay a \$15,000 loan and to maintain an operational staff of five and a half positions that maintains the performing arts center. The center currently has less than four full-time equivalent employees.

Staff members make about



File photo

WOW Hall may be forced to close unless organizers can come up with the \$25,000 needed to put the performing arts center back in the black.

\$300 a month as a guaranteed salary and may earn another \$300 in incentive pay based on the net income of each month. But because fund-raising efforts have failed to bring in enough money, staff members have foregone their incentive pay

since May and now only earn about \$300 a month.

Despite staff cuts, attendance at WOW Hall shows this year has increased by about 4,000 over last year, and income from

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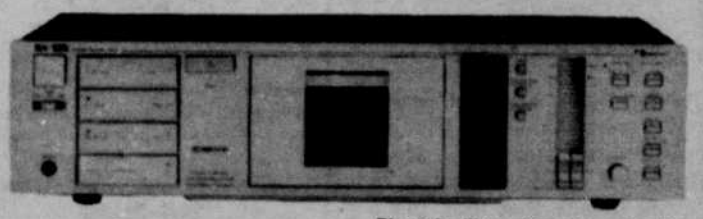


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