

Back Stage

October 2020



COMMUNITY
PLAYERS
of Salisbury



The View from Row G
By Sharon Benchoff, President
(fresnelop@gmail.com)

What a busy month! We have concluded the performances of our readers theater productions of "Love Letters" and "Hate Mail" as well as our first concert, "Film to Broadway". Congratulations to the casts, crews and production teams. This was our first endeavor to provide entertainment to you outdoors. We had some challenges, but really pulled together from all disciplines of theater magic to make it happen. A huge thank you to Stevie Stevenson who let us borrow the trailer that we used as a stage. We so appreciate all of you that attended these performances. With your loyalty, we actually made a small profit on ticket sales. Special thanks to our patrons. The season just began in September and over thirty of you have already sent in your contributions. We honestly couldn't produce the quality performances that we are so proud of without your continued support. After the first performance of "Love Letters", we were so pumped, we actually started discussing next summer.

Not only do we want to recreate our drive-in, but lawn chair performances as well. We would like to add children's theater, both with and for children. If you would like us to continue with outdoor performances next summer, please email anyone on the Board, give us a call or drop us a line.

Players are crossing our collective fingers that we will be able to proceed with our planned 2021 season of "Leading Ladies" in the winter, "A Streetcar Named Desire" in the spring and "Jesus Christ Superstar" in June. We are in contact with our usual venues who of course must consider the guidelines pertaining to Covid-19 in booking any events. In the meantime, we will do everything possible to continue to bring live entertainment to the Eastern Shore.



Here are the answers to the questions from our first Entertainment Trivia Night on August 4th.

FILM

Who dubbed the singing for Natalie Wood in the film "West Side Story" and for Audrey Hepburn in "My Fair Lady"?

Marni Nixon. *She had the opportunity to appear on screen as Sister Sophia in The Sound of Music*

What was the name of the boat in the movie "Jaws"?

The Orca

BROADWAY

Who is the Broadway icon who won a Tony, Emmy and Oscar all in the same year, 1973?

Bob Fosse

This classic musical was based upon the play Pygmalion.

My Fair Lady

Weekends on the Lawn

Weekends on the Lawn, a series of outdoor performances held at our 5109 Nutters Cross Road location has proven to be a huge success!

These performances have been held in a drive-in style with audiences enjoying the show from the comfort and safety of their vehicle. Each performance has been broadcast via FM transmitter directly to car radios!

Audiences enjoyed two amazing performances of each of the following productions:

Love Letters

Hate Mail

Film to Broadway Concert

Love, Loss, and What I Wore

Community Players would like to congratulate everyone who was involved in the production of each of these wonderful shows and also our faithful audiences who came to see these shows in such a unique setting!

Newsletter Updates

Rusty Mumford, Corresponding Secretary

Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Remember to nominate a fellow member for the Player Spotlight or you may be the next nominee. To nominate someone (or yourself), please email me. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!



**Next meeting
is October 7**

Players' next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 PM, face to face at our Nutters' building. Social distancing and masks will be required.

If you would prefer to ZOOM in, please email Darrell Mullins at dgmullins@salisbury.edu

**Join us for
Entertainment Trivia!**

Tuesday October 6th at 7pm



Maximum 4 players per team

\$5 Admission cash only - Masks required

Email communityplayersby@gmail.com
to register your team!

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors Spotlight



Bobbie Calloway (CPOS Board Member) is a nurse in the Emergency Department at Peninsula Regional Medical Center. Bobbie has been a Players' member for many years. She has been both on and off stage, but her favorite is being on stage. "You become someone else for a few hours, and you feel so wonderful when the audience comes on the trip with you." With the world the way it is now and the changes that are becoming the new normal, it was a great thought that our president, Sharon Benchoff, had to do Readers' Theatre. Matt Bogdan had the faith to believe that I, along with Jim King, could be the guinea pigs. It was amazing and the audience was so kind to enjoy our efforts.

Among Bobbie's favorite performances are roles in *South Pacific*, *The Sound of Music*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Calendar Girls*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Charlie's Aunt*, *Nunsense*, *Godspell*, and *On Golden Pond*.

In addition to being on stage, Bobbie is avid traveler and enjoys visiting Disneyworld regularly with best friend and fellow Mousketeer, Sherri.

***We're on the Web:
www.SBYplayers.com***

Pete Cuesta (CPOS Board Member) is a podiatrist by day. Pete has enjoyed the theatre for most of his life. He performed in high school with stops along the way to go to college and then medical school. He returned to the stage in Salisbury and thoroughly enjoys the world of imagination at Community Players. He initially started in Salisbury by helping with set construction and design at The Salisbury School. From there, he joined Community Players on stage and now directing. His passion for Theatre now transcends his family with his wife, and his daughters, Madison and Abigail, all finding a love of performance. Madison has also started the path to directing.

Past performances include: *Hate Mail* (Director), *South Pacific* (Lt. Harbinger), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Gangster 1), *Into The Woods* (Steward), *Deathtrap* (Director), *Mary Poppins* (Bank President), *Beauty and the Beast* (bookseller), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Avram), *Les Miserables* (Chorus), *They're Playing Our Song* (Chorus) and *The Salisbury Chamber Singers* (Tenor2), *Oklahoma* (Will Parker), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Hugo Peabody), *Pippin* (Pippin), & *Cabaret* (Ernst Ludwig), *The Secret Affairs of Mildred Wild* (camera man).

Community Players of Salisbury
P. O. Box 2431
Salisbury, MD 21802

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
SALISBURY, MD 21801
PERMIT 176

*Please consider
becoming a member
of Community Players.
If you are not sure if
your dues are paid for
the current year,
please check the
mailing label on this
newsletter.
If it does not show
2020-21, your dues
are not up-to-date.*

Next Monthly Membership Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, at 7 PM
5109 Nutters Cross Road



Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

President: Sharon Benchoff - fresnelop@gmail.com
Vice-President: Melissa Dasher - bizemomx5@comcast.net
Recording Secretary: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net
Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com
Immediate Past-President: Darrell Mullins - dmullins@salisbury.edu

Board Members

Bobbie Calloway, Pete Cuesta, Matt Hatfield - Term Expires 2021
Sammy Barnes, Nate Drehmer, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2022
David Allen, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2023

We're on the Web: www.SBYplayers.com