

COMMUNITY PLAYERS

of Salisbury



Back Stage

November 2022

From the desk of the President...



1). I am writing this in mid-October as we are having summer temperatures but are beginning to see fall colors. As you read this, we are a few days away from opening our 86th season with ***Little Women the Musical***. Having been to several rehearsals and set building sessions, I promise that we will be starting off with a fantastic show.

We will all be tired of election season by then, so come on out and see a heart-warming show set in a time when we really were having a civil war. Of course, our story doesn't directly involve the war.

The plot, as most of us know from the Alcott book or one of the movies made from it, is the story of the March daughters and their exploits while father is away fighting in the war, and they are growing up.

Director Darrell Mullins and Musical Director Susan Robinson are doing a terrific job bringing this show to life. Those who were not even aware that the musical existed will be astonished by the beautiful songs. The show will be enjoyed by the whole family.

We don't usually single out a cast member on this page, but we are going to give a Brava and a farewell to April Currey, who has the lead as Jo March. This is her third show with us. Sadly for us, but happily for her, she will be leaving the Shore to accept a career advancement. We wish her well. She was elected to the Players board this year. As per our Constitution, the board will fill her position at the November meeting.

See you at ***Little Women***.

Kel Nagel



This holiday season, The Community Foundation will be hosting on-line Giving Tuesday (November 29th) where nonprofit organizations can raise funds during this time of giving. Community Players will be participating again this year. Due to generous donations last year, Players were able to purchase much needed shelving storage for props, a new ladder for Costumes, radios for Tech communications, saw horses and more. Our four major productions are not all we do for the Shore. Players also lends set pieces, furniture, costumes and props to schools in Wicomico and Worcester Counties as well as other organizations for their productions. As Community Players continues to strive to present more professional quality productions for the Eastern Shore, production costs continue to rise.

Here are a few examples of our yearly expenses:

Performance Space Rental - \$17,000.00

Orchestra - \$13,000.00

Performance Licenses - \$12,650.00

Of course, the figures above do not include the money spent on sets, lighting, costumes, props, etc. As the rights of more recent Broadway productions become available, more sophisticated technical demands are necessary.

We are not complaining, we truly love what we do. No one is paid a penny to direct, design, stage manage, act, produce, work tech, build, usher, sew or paint. Giving Tuesday is our one big yearly fundraising event.

Our website will supply the link to the easy to use The Shore Gives More website where, in a couple of steps, you will be able to donate whatever you are able to give. All contributions are tax deductible and all donations are truly appreciated.

Community Players is committed to celebrating an inclusive culture of creativity by welcoming actors, technicians, designers, musicians, and production team members from varied backgrounds with regards to race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, physical & mental ability, and religious & political beliefs.

Performance Space Committee

An ad hoc committee met in August to begin exploring possibilities for a performance space of our own. Over twenty members talked about options within the walls of our current facility, on our current property, or in a different location.

We have learned that anything we do at our current location would require a zoning change. Expansion of the building might be possible. When we were on Glen Avenue, we had plans drawn up for an expansion there, but moved to Nutters, instead. We are inquiring of the architects who developed those plans as to whether they could be adapted, at least in concept, to our current site.

We are also making inquiries as to other possible sites in Salisbury.

We will have a follow up meeting at Players on Monday, November 14 at 6:30 PM to continue exploring possibilities. We must note that we are very early in this process, and we wish to be as inclusive as possible. Therefore, this meeting is open to all.

As I have said before, this project, if we can do it, will be an all hands on deck effort. I hope to see as many as possible on November 14

Season Ticket Order Form 2022-2023



This package includes one **ADULT** ticket for each of the following shows - Little Women, the Musical, Leading Ladies, Crimes of the Heart, and Singin' in the Rain. Purchasers will have the opportunity to choose their preferred performance as specific dates and venues are announced. **\$90 per package**

This package includes one **SENIOR** ticket for each of the following shows - Little Women, the Musical, Leading Ladies, Crimes of the Heart, and Singin' in the Rain. Purchasers will have the opportunity to choose their preferred performance as specific dates and venues are announced. **\$72 per package**

This package includes one **STUDENT** ticket for each of the following shows - Little Women, the Musical, Leading Ladies, Crimes of the Heart, and Singin' in the Rain. Purchasers will have the opportunity to choose their preferred performance as specific dates and venues are announced. **\$72 per package**

This package includes one **CHILD** ticket for each of the following shows - Little Women, the Musical, Leading Ladies, Crimes of the Heart, and Singin' in the Rain. Purchasers will have the opportunity to choose their preferred performance as specific dates and venues are announced. **\$54 per package**

This package includes one **FAMILY** ticket for each of the following shows - Little Women, the Musical, Leading Ladies, Crimes of the Heart, and Singin' in the Rain. A Family ticket includes both parents and all children under 18 who live in the same household. The whole family must attend the same performance. Purchasers will have the opportunity to choose their preferred performance as specific dates and venues are announced. **\$234 per package**

NAME:				
ADDRESS:				
PHONE:			EMAIL:	
ADULT	SENIOR	STUDENT	CHILD	FAMILY
___ X \$90.00 =	___ X \$72.00 =	___ X \$72.00 =	___ X \$54 =	___ X \$234 =
TOTAL = A + SE + ST + C + F = _____				
Please make checks payable to Community Players of Salisbury, Inc. Your check will serve as your receipt.				

Mail to: Community Players, PO Box 2431, Salisbury, MD 21802

LEADING LADIES

Auditions will be held for Leading Ladies on Thursday, November 17, at 6:30 p.m., Friday, November 18, at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, November 19, at 2 p.m. at the Players' home on Nutters Cross Road. Call backs, if necessary, will be held on Sunday, November 20, at 6:30 p.m. The play, directed by Matt Bogdan and produced by Sharon Benchoff, will be performed at Wor-Wic Community College. Those auditioning will be expected to read from the script. If you would like a copy of the script prior to auditions or have any questions or concerns about auditions, contact Matt via email at oceancityhappyme@aol.com.

Written by Ken Ludwig and set in York, Pennsylvania, in 1958, this farce centers on two down-on-their-luck Shakespearean actors, Leo Clark and Jack Gable. The pair discover through a newspaper that Florence, an older ailing woman, has been unable to find Max and Steve, her sister's children who moved away to England as children in order to include them in her multimillion-dollar inheritance. They decide to pose as Max and Steve to claim portions of it. When they discover that "Max" and "Steve" are actually "Maxine" and "Stephanie," they continue on, undaunted, in drag. Things get even more complicated when Leo falls madly in love with the old lady's vivacious niece, Meg, who's engaged to the local minister. Romantic entanglements abound, as *Some Like it Hot* meets *Twelfth Night* in this screwball comedy filled with bad behavior, high heels, and a world of comedy.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

(five men and three women)

Casting age is relative and flexible. The actor's ability to portray a particular age range on stage and realistically relate to other characters is more important than chronological age.

MEG SNIDER (approximate age range 30s/40s) is a young woman who dreams of a bigger world beyond York, PA. Meg is vivacious, warm, loyal, and has a great sense of humor. She loves Shakespeare and dreams about being an actor. During the play, Meg becomes a self-confident woman.

LEO CLARK (approximate age range 30s/40s) is, as Leo, a Shakespearean actor with a British accent who masterminds the plot to steal Meg's millions ... until he falls in love with her. As Maxine, she's a chic and flamboyant diva who commands the stage and all those around her. A comedic tour-de-force, he/she must be able to switch between genders and voices constantly.

JACK GABLE (approximate age range 30s/40s) is, as Jack, a Shakespearean actor with a British accent who is the faithful accomplice to Leo's schemes. As Stephanie, she is shy and demure at first, but she eventually grows more comfortable with her feminine side. This role requires great comedic timing, physical humor, and a willingness to do anything to win the love of Audrey. He/She must be able to switch between genders and voices constantly.

AUDREY (approximate age range 20s/30s) is an innocent young woman who is kind and gullible, but she's trying to improve herself and her vocabulary. Attractive, very sweet and good-natured, she is pursued both by Butch and Jack. She enjoys playing Sebastian in *Twelfth Night*.

DUNCAN WOOLEY (approximate age range 40s/50s) is the local minister. He's a good man at heart, but he's rather fussy, set in his ways, scatter-brained, and lives in his own world. He distains actors and is very suspicious of Leo and Jack. His telephone conversations with the police should demonstrate comedic timing and contrast his mild manner with occasional bursts of temper.

FLORENCE SNIDER (approximate age range 70s) is Meg's aunt and the richest woman in York. Florence is extremely crusty, has terrible eyesight, and is a tough old broad. She must switch quickly between sweetness and anger, as well as life and apparent death.

DOC MYERS (approximate age range 50s/60s) is the country doctor, a cantankerous, likeable curmudgeon that takes no guff from anyone and often spars with Duncan and Florence. He's also the Chief Moose in the local Moose Lodge. Doc is a loving father to Butch. He also plays a "rollicking" Sir Toby Belch in the Twelfth Night scenes.

BUTCH MYERS (approximate age range 20s/30s) is a former high school football star. He isn't the brightest bulb, but he is earnest and sincere with a good heart. He loves Audrey. He argues with Doc, but they adore each other. He steals the Twelfth Night scenes as Sir Andrew.

THEATRE TEASERS

Trivia by Sharon Benchoff

(October Theatre Trivia--Thankful for the Goof Things)
(Thanks to Dr. Barbara and Shawn for the theme idea)

- 1 He sings "**Food Glorious Food**" along with the Workhouse Boys.
2. "...**What a Beautiful Morning**" is the opening song from this musical.
3. Billy and Reno sing "**Friendship**" in this musical.
4. "**People Who Need People**" is now being sung by Lea Michele in what musical?
5. In the song, "**My Favorite Things**" from Sound of Music, what do kittens have and what color are ponies?
6. *Brighton Beach Memoirs* is a semi-autobiographical play about this playwright's family.
7. This Chorus Line song is a love song to the theatre.
8. "**It Might as Well Be Spring**" is from this sweet musical which came from a film which came from a novel.
9. The George Gershwin song "**Summertime**" is from what musical?
10. *Beautiful Noise* is coming to Broadway in December. It features the music of this songwriter/singer.



Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!

Rusty Mumford
Corresponding Secretary



Players' next meetings will be Wednesday, November 9 (7:00 PM) and December 7 (7:00 PM)). Please join us as we work on our 86th season.

ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:

1. Oliver
2. Oklahoma
3. Anything Goes
4. Funny Girl
5. Whiskers and Cream
6. Neil Simon
7. "What I Did for Love"
8. State Fair
9. Porgy & Bess
10. Neil Diamond

Answers:





Membership Application

(Valid September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023)

Check one:

PATRON

- LEGACY CLUB:** For a contribution of \$2,000 or greater, you will receive eight season tickets
- ANGEL:** For a contribution of \$1,500 to \$1,999, you will receive six season tickets
- BENEFACTOR:** For a contribution of \$1,000 to \$1499, you will receive five season tickets
- GUARDIAN:** For a contribution of \$750 to \$999, you will receive four season tickets
- SPONSOR:** For a contribution of \$500 to \$749, you will receive three season tickets
- DONOR:** For a contribution of \$250 to \$499, you will receive two season tickets
- FRIEND:** For a contribution of \$ 125 to \$249, you will receive one season ticket

MEMBER

- \$50.00 Family**
One household - up to 2 adults and all children who are under the age of eighteen (18), twenty-two (22) if a fulltime student or on active duty in the military
- \$25.00 Individual**
An individual who is eighteen (18) years old or older
- \$ 10.00 Student**
An individual who is under the age of twenty-two (22) and is a fulltime student

First Name:		Last Name:	
Phone:		E-mail Address:	
Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Patron or Family Membership ONLY		Last Name:	
Adult #2 First Name:		E-mail Address:	
Children:	Last Name(s):	Age(s)	
First Name(s):			

Remit Form and Payment to:

Community Players
PO Box 2431
Salisbury, MD 21802

Questions? E-mail us at: membership@cposmd.com

Players use only:

finance	
mailing	
membership	



2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Why become a MEMBER of Community Players?

Community Theatre CANNOT EXIST without its members.

It NEEDS producers, directors, builders, painters, craftsmen, set dressers, prop gathers, seamstresses, makeup artist, lighting experts, sound technicians, stage crew, ticket sellers, ushers, patrons, advertisers, actors, dancers, singers & audience members.

Community Theatre NEEDS YOU.

"I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being."
— Oscar Wilde

Membership benefits include:

- A monthly newsletter with information about auditions, productions, events, and member happenings
- A free ticket to all Player's Nights (usually a Thursday show prior to Friday's Opening Night)
- A free 85th season glass tumbler
- Free admission to a weekly tap class
- Discounted admission to summer drama camp or workshops
- The right to borrow costumes, props, or set pieces without a deposit (pending Committee Chairman approval)
- The ability to serve on a committee
- The right to vote for Officers & Directors (members age 18 and over)
- An opportunity to serve as an elected Officer or Director on Player's Board of Directors (members age 18 and over)
- A great way to meet new people, learn about the many facets of stagecraft & have lots of fun – All while working together for a common goal

Patron benefits include:

- All the membership benefits listed above
- Tickets to our main season shows
- Special seating at Wi Hi
- Patrons' Reception
- Listing in show programs
- All contributions above the retail value of tickets are tax deductible

"Great theatre is about challenging how we think and encouraging us to fantasize about a world we aspire to." – Willem Dafoe



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

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*Please consider
becoming a member
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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
2022-23, your dues
are not up-to-date.*

Next Meetings - Wednesday, November 9 (7:00 PM) and December 7 (7:00 PM)

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

President: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com
Vice-President: Tom Robinson - tomchicken@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Darrell Mullins - dgmullins@salisbury.edu
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net
Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com
Immediate Past-President: Melissa Dasher - bizemomx5@comcast.net

Board Members

David Allen, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2023
Kate Adkins, Bobbie Calloway, Robin Finley - Term Expires 2024
Sharon Benchoff, April Curry, Kyle Hayes - Term Expires 2025

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