



Our 100th Season - April 2020

The Prompter

Players Guild of Leonia Monthly Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Earlier this month, the Board met again via teleconference for our monthly meeting and made the decision to postpone the remainder of the season. We will be rescheduling Follies to a time in the Fall that will be determined, hopefully, the next time we meet in early May. We will also be holding the April Membership meeting via Zoom or some other platform at the end of the month. Additional details and instructions will be provided via an email blast. Please check the dates section or the website for more information. I must thank all Board members for their calm, clear-minded guidance as we continue to navigate through this uncharted territory in Guild history. What a way to mark the Centennial! It is not the outcome anyone would have chosen or preferred, but it certainly won't soon be forgotten. I would like to especially thank Lynne Vitale and Ralph Martinez for all the extra hours they put in managing ticket refunds and schedule changes on the website and elsewhere. We will continue to monitor and keep you informed on how the Guild will proceed. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy. Thank You!

Daniel Giordano

UPCOMING DATES:

Note: Our 2019-2020 season has been cancelled, including the Gala. Please visit our website Home page for additional information.

The June dates for Follies have been postponed, with a possible re-opening later in the Fall. An announcement will be made as soon as details and dates have been determined.



AD JOURNAL GRAPHIC DESIGNER

We are still looking for an experienced Graphic Designer to lay out the pages of the most coveted book in PGL history! We would like to offer this opportunity to someone within the organization first. If interested, please contact (talk or text) Mark Watson at 201-220-8248.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Ad Journal** - Beth Parrillo Mark Watson
- Budget/Finance** - Ralph Martinez
- Building/ Facilities** - Dan Giordano
- Costumes** - Diane Arabella, Laurette Miller, Joanne Livelli
- Director/Play Selection** - Diane Arabella
- Historian** - Annette Lenge
- Hospitality** - Diane Arabella
- Membership** - Bunny Giordano, Laurette Miller, Chris Thorn Alison Miller
- Music/Sound/Video** - Chris Thorn
- The Prompter** - Ralph Martinez, Alison Miller, Nicole Parente
- Props** - Art Penque
- Publicity** - John Garbo, Mark Watson
- Set Construction** - Steve Moldt
- Tickets** - Lynne Vitale, Bobbi Weintraub
- Website** - Ralph Martinez
- Workshops** - Alison Miller, Chris Watson, Angela Cozzi

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Membership has discussed our Centennial season and the various ways in which we need to organize and execute a memorable, celebratory season. We now have 4 committees that are seeking help!

- 1) HISTORY** - Annette Lenge - a.lenge@verizon.net.
- 2) AD JOURNAL** - Beth Parrillo (bethparrillo@yahoo.com) and Mark Watson (cwatson1093@gmail.com) - We need help scanning and organizing playbills, memorabilia and photos. Scanning can be done on premise or at home. If interested, please email: a.lenge@verizon.net
- 3) OUTREACH** - Alison Miller -yoginizucchi@gmail.com. Help is needed generating fundraising campaigns, drafting letters of sponsorship, and building morale with local businesses and dignitaries.
- 4) GALA** - Joanne & Steve Moldt - moldts@aol.com. End of the year celebration honoring the Guild's history.



THANK YOU PGL HEALTH CARE WORKERS!

The PGL would like to extend our sincerest appreciation to all members working in the medical community who are putting themselves in the path of this virus – in this unprecedented crisis. Right now, our healthcare workers are on the frontlines battling the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) that is spreading rapidly throughout our city, state and nation. Our doctors, nurses, technicians, transporters, EMTs, pharmacists and everyone who supports patient care are rising to the occasion and caring for our most vulnerable populations. Thank you PGL members for the sacrifices you make to save so many every day, and especially during this pandemic. Your dedication, commitment and courage deserve our deepest gratitude and admiration.

NOT A TIME TO BE LOSING OUR TOPS!

Monday's storm, two weeks ago, brought heavy rainfall and damaging winds to Leonia, as well as many counties across NJ and the tri-state, resulting in numerous reports of downed trees and power outages. Unfortunately, the PGL was not spared as the high wind gusts damaged our prop storage tent. Dan Giordano, who happened to stop by and check on the theater, noticed the tent mangled and strewn across the back parking area. In what seemed an impossible task, board members Dan Giordano, Ralph Martinez, Art Penque, John Garbo, Diane Arabella, and Alison Miller stepped up to the plate to offer and help with the recovery and rebuild process. The storage tent was put back together and all prop items were safely secured. Luckily, no other damages were caused to the PGL building.



2019-2020 SEASON CANCELLED

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: COVID-19 (NOVEL CORONA VIRUS) - We are continuing to closely monitor the evolving corona virus situation through updates from local, state, and national officials. The Players Guild of Leonia is temporarily closed as we continue to work on assessing and implementing preventative measures in line with the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, the State of New Jersey, and the City of Leonia. Because of this situation, **ALL SHOWS FOR THE REMAINDER OF OUR 2019-2020 SEASON HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.** Follies' postponed show dates in June have also been cancelled and board members are discussing the possibility for another postponement, hopefully with plans to announce opening dates, later in the fall. Please visit our website for updates as well as developing show details for our upcoming 2020-2021 season.

Please enjoy this virtual encore performance of **Cabaret** from 2018, directed by Michael Wurl Larson. Continue to follow us through The Prompter for additional PGL encore performance links. Until then, enjoy *Cabaret*!

[Click here to see Cabaret](#)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: LOIS RAFF CORWIN



I feel I owe profound thanks to The Players Guild for all the great opportunities I have had. The PGL has filled my life with new friends, new skills, and just plain fun! I first auditioned for *Into the Woods* in 2004.

When I was asked what part I wanted to play, I promptly responded, "The cow." I had never been in a play before, never had voice or acting lessons, and I banked on the possibility that my skill as a puppeteer and promise to build my own cow costume might be valuable to the show. I treasure that time on stage, but the fun of developing my character, learning to sing and act with others was the absolute best group experience of my life. That same year I took a corny part in *Dracula, The Musical*, directed by Dori Persson, where I was free to let out blood curdling screams. Subsequently I played more animal roles, first in *Charlotte's Web*, directed by David Jones, and second as Benjamin Bunny's mother in *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, directed by Cathy Bissell. I was allowed to let my voice come alive in *The Cole Porter Party!* directed by Chris Watson. Then I began to write and direct one act plays for the Playwrights Showcase. This was truly thrilling to have others recognize my efforts in this area. In 2010, I was given the chance to direct *Tall Tales of Paul Bunyan*, as the featured show for children. In 2017, The Players Guild gave me the opportunity to direct and show a play I have worked on for probably 8 years, *The Circle of Compassion*. It was seen as a workshop piece and dramatic reading with the best cast I could have ever assembled. It was performed on International Holocaust Remembrance Day and after the show the audience met Susan Gold, who was the true-life survivor the play was written about. My most memorable recent role was in *Amadeus* as a Venticelli. Thank you PGL for this wonderful journey.

Want to be featured in an upcoming issue of the Prompter? Send your pic and bio via email to Ralph Martinez at: rm70art@gmail.com.