



# APPLAUSE



**ON STAGE, BACK STAGE, A PLACE FOR EVERYONE**

September 2021

Issue 24



*E-note...*

*"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."*

Dear Club Members,

As we head into the 2021-2022 season, you can feel the energy and excitement of our club members, and from within our community.

Since my last eNote in August, I have exciting news to share. At this time in the season, we have sold a record number of season tickets – 446! When you see Flo Katcher, Kay Ford, Jeff Martini, Pat Carnahan, and Sandy Greenberg give them a "High Five" for all their work that made this happen.

Our first show "Farce of Nature", directed by David Seaburg, has sold record tickets - don't miss it. As of late August, Farce has sold 537 tickets. (In 2019, 325 tickets had been sold for the first show of the season in the same time period).

The QR code marketing campaign created a welcome video in flip book that not only promotes our shows but markets the fun of being a club member. The campaign was a great success with almost 700 entries.

In addition, our Marketing Team headed by Jeff Martini, along with Adam Nunez, CAM Creative Projects Manager, created a great video of presenting the winner with a \$100 gift certificate from the Grand Café. Thanks to Adam, the video was sent out to the community! Thank you all for your innovation and embracing technology! Jeff Martini, Kay Ford and Pat Halon have done it again.

Last month I referred to the Play Selection Committee, which is now chaired by Judy and Bill Shields. They are progressing and we look forward to seeing their picks for our 2022-2023 season. Contact Judy and Bill for more details if you would like to be on the team.

The Sponsorship Program to support a "Theatrical" Scholarship is making progress. The program is being headed by Kathy Dennison and Pat Carnahan. Once the details are completed, we will be making a presentation to the club.

Don't miss the "Welcome Back" meeting on October 5, 2021, in the Agua Fria room. Sandy Greenberg and her team, along with entertainment, are planning an exciting event. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

*"On Stage, Back Stage, A Place for Everyone!"*

We need you! We have committees that need volunteers. The following are some of the committees looking for help: Costumes, Dressers, Makeup, Ushers, Lighting and Sound, Play Selection, the Newsletter, Scholarship/Sponsorship program and Hospitality. Be part of the club's continuing success. If you have any questions or want to be part of any team, please contact Sandy Greenberg or me.

Some of the commitments will only take a few hours of your time in the entire season but can make a huge impact on our success!

As always, I am forever grateful for your contributions and support.

*Eileen*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2021 ARIZONI NOMINEES

ACTOR IN A MAJOR ROLE: Jeff Martini

ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE: Paula McKinny

DIRECTOR: Pat Halon and Jeff Martini

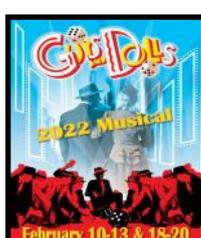
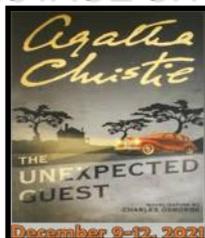
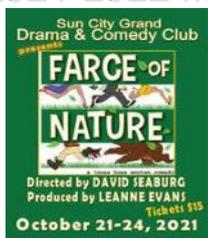
BEST OVERALL PRODUCTION: One of Your Biggest Fans (Ghostlight Theater).

The arIZoni Theatre Awards is a not-for-profit organization devoted to promoting the visibility and growth of theatre in the Valley of the Sun & Maricopa County. Each year at its annual awards ceremony, the Board bestows an outstanding contribution award and a distinguished service award to deserving individuals or organizations for their contributions to theatre.

After completion of an extensive judging process, (involving close to 100 Adjudicators) awards of excellence are presented to those individuals who have excelled in performance and production during the just-completed season.

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**2021-2022 MAINSTAGE SHOWS: Tickets on sale NOW! [PURCHASE HERE](#)**



**ARIZONI (cont)**

Jeff and Pat

Pat Halon and Jeff Martini were recognized in three categories: actor in a major role, director and best overall production from their production at the Ghostlight Theater of “One of Your Biggest Fans”. Prior to this performance, they performed this play

last year in our amphitheater.

They actually received a surprise phone call from playwrights Winnie Holtzman and Paul Dooley congratulating them on their nominations!

Backstage assistance to Pat was provided by our hair and wig expert, Joy Kreick.

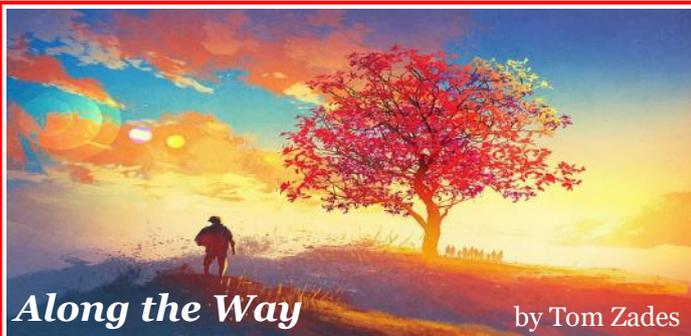


Paula McKinny is no stranger to our stage and has appeared in many productions in Cabaret Players and the mainstage. You may remember her as Santa’s ditzzy red-headed gun mol in “Sorry Wrong Chimney” in 2019.

Paula is nominated for Best Actress in a Supporting Role in “Just the Ticket”, a comedy performed in April at Stage Left Productions in Surprise. Paula played the character “Susan”.

The award ceremony will take place on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at Scottsdale Performing Arts Center.

Congratulations to Paula, Jeff and Pat on their nominations!

**Birches**

We moved in 1950 from a little rental in South Ozone Park, New York, to North Massapequa, Long Island. We were among the first waves of families moving “out on the Island” from “the city.” Per the Internet, the population of Nassau County doubled during the 1950s from one million to two million people. I was six years old in 1950. Any memories before North Massapequa are dim and fuzzy at best. But those ten years, growing up on Long Island, with woods to explore and new construction to play on, created memories to last a lifetime.

A string of ten two-bedroom, one-bath houses had been built in what seemed like “the middle of nowhere” to the adults, but we kids could not have been happier. Among the many fond memories of growing up on Long Island is learning to swing on the birch trees that were right across the street from our row of houses. One dare would lead to another, and soon we were as high up a tree as we could climb, swinging from side to side, nearly touching the ground before springing back to vertical and starting down in the opposite direction. Funny how each generation thinks they have discovered something for the first time!

Not many years later I read Robert Frost’s poem, “Birches,” and became a fan of his for life. His opening

line is: “When I see birches bend to left and right across the line of straighter darker trees, I like to think some boy’s been swinging them.”

He goes on to blame that on ice storms, but ends with wonderful reminiscing about how a boy bends a birch tree. His last line is: “One could do worse than be a swinger of birches.” How wonderful to have a childhood memory validated by the great Robert Frost!

I have had a reunion of sorts recently (electronically) with some of the very people who participated some 60+ years ago in the birch tree bending, or watched from across the street. One of them, Flavia, whom I last saw as a 15-year-old girl, has retired from a career as an English and Art teacher at the college level. I promptly sent her this article, along with an explanation of the Along the Way column. I think she called it “a lovely piece.” She didn’t mention how prominent poetry might have been in her teaching career or how familiar she was with Robert Frost in general or this poem in particular. I have sent her one or two more of my Along the Way articles. She sent me a lead to a self-publishing website.

I wrote somewhere about what are called “marked days,” which I mentioned are more properly understood to be “marked moments.” Swinging on those birch trees is certainly one. A very memorable part that I didn’t try to share was how Mom and Aunt Dot and Mrs. Hyland would yell and scream for us to stop and climb down before we got ourselves killed. We would swing all the harder and chant “Oh, we all gotta go some time; we all gotta go some time...” as if we were really braving death and were prepared to die. We probably thought that only old people died, so we were not in any real danger. Ah, to be immortal again!

Your feedback is always welcome, by the way.

Contact: [tomzades@gmail.com](mailto:tomzades@gmail.com)



## 2021-22 Drama Club Main Stage Calendar

Play/Performance	Date
"Farce of Nature"	October 21, 22, 23, 24, 2021
"The Unexpected Guest"	December 9, 10, 11, 12, 2021
"Guys and Dolls"	February 10-13 and 18-20, 2022
"The Outsider"	March 10, 11, 12, 13, 2022
"The 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Variety Show"	April 7, 8, 9, 10, 2022

What is this??



**Larry Anderson**  
working  
his magic  
for **Farce of Nature**

"The purpose of life is to discover your gift.  
The meaning of life is to give your gift away."

*David Viscott*  
(psychiatrist, author and radio host)

**SCG DRAMA & COMEDY CLUB MOTTO**  
*On Stage, Backstage... A Place for Everyone!*

**HELP WANTED**

Want to join one of these committees?

For information: [www.granddrama.com](http://www.granddrama.com)

Cabaret Players Production	Membership
Costumes	Newsletter
Dance	Photography
Dressers	Play Selection
Education	Season Tickets
Entertainment	Set Design
Hospitality	Sound Tech
Lighting Tech	Sponsor/Scholarship
Make-Up	Stage Crew
Marketing	Ushers

## THE PLAYS

**Farce of Nature** by *Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten*: This Southern-fried farce highlights one day in the life of the Wilburn family of Mayhew, Arkansas. The struggling family fishing lodge, the Reel 'Em Inn, becomes the backdrop for a motley collection of flawed characters stirring up a hilarious comic stew. In the deliciously funny romp that ensues, they all hide, lie, disguise themselves, cross-dress, and slam doors, while trying to figure out the source of an increasingly awful stench.  
**Director: David Seaburg, Producer: Leanne Evans**  
**Stage Manager: Flo Katcher.**

**The Unexpected Guest** by *Agatha Christie*: When a stranger runs his car into a ditch in dense fog in South Wales and makes his way to an isolated house, he discovers a woman standing over the dead body of her wheelchair-bound husband, gun in her hand. She admits to murder, and the unexpected guest offers to help her concoct a cover story. But is it possible that Laura Warwick did not commit the murder after all? If so, who is she shielding? The house seems full of possible suspects.

**Director: Van Rockwell, Producer: Jolene Nerdahl**  
**Stage Managers: Donna O'Donnell Figurski and Barbara Solmonson**

**Guys and Dolls**, music/lyrics by *Frank Loesser*. All the hot gamblers are in town, and they're all depending on Nathan Detroit to set up this week's incarnation of "The Oldest Established Permanent Floating Crap Game in New York"; the only problem is, he needs \$1000 to get the place. Throw in Sarah Brown, who's short on sinners at the mission she runs; Sky Masterson, who accepts Nathan's \$1000 bet that he can't get Sarah Brown to go with him to Havana; Miss Adelaide, who wants Nathan to marry her; Police Lieutenant Brannigan, who always seems to appear at the wrong time.

**Director: Annie Banton**  
**Producer: Kathy Marker**  
**Stage Managers: Jill Kirkpatrick, Flo Katcher, and Sharon Costa.**

**The Outsider** by *Paul Slade Smith* is a political satire/fairy tale about an honest, competent, humble guy who becomes governor. Ned Newley doesn't even want to be Governor. He's terrified of public speaking; his poll numbers are impressively bad. To his ever-supportive Chief of Staff, Ned seems destined to fail. But political consultant Arthur Vance sees things differently: Ned might be the worst candidate to ever run for office. Unless the public is looking for... the worst candidate to ever run for office.

**Director: Eileen Brooks**  
**Producer: Kathy Marker**  
**Stage Manager: Leanne Evans**

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Variety Show.** Creator and Director, Joyce Stern Greenberg, promises an entertaining show featuring music and performances spanning 100 years of show business.  
**Director: Joyce Greenberg**  
**Producer: Jolene Nerdahl**

Are you always in the know? Do you manage to be right in the midst of all the action? Would you like to have an excuse to be "nosey"? Join our NEWSLETTER team!

OR...do you have an item or photo to share? Please contact Pat Carnahan: [pac2maui@gmail.com](mailto:pac2maui@gmail.com).



Did you, Did you?  
Did you save the  
date??

# Tuesday, October 5, 2021

**Our annual Welcome  
Back Party**  
**We are sooo ready for  
this!!!**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Agua Fria Room**



**See your friends**



Penny	Pfeiffer	September 5
Barbara	Fuller	September 9
Amy	Hanridge	September 18
Gayle	Salter	September 21

Sandy	Nonas	September 22
Katherine	Dennis	September 23
Sue	Dunn	September 29

*The birthday list is populated from your application. If omitted, please edit your application if you wish to be listed.*

## Welcome Returning and New Members

Ruthanne  
Haubrich

John  
Rushon

Karen  
Koller

### LAUGH

lines

The pastor saw a youngster looking at a plaque prominently displayed on a wall in the church lobby. He approached and asked the boy if he had any questions or concerns. The boy asked what all these names on the wall meant. The pastor explained that these were all church members or loved ones who had died in the service.

A worried look came over him, as he asked "The 9:00 o'clock service or the 10:30 service?"

