

April Roundtable on Volunteerism:

How to Find Them, How to Keep Them, and How to Make Them Happy!

With April as National Volunteer Month, now is the perfect time to direct a little special attention to your



beloved volunteers. Please join us for our next roundtable on **Tuesday April 16**, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. This is a great opportunity for you to share unique ideas about how you manage your volunteers -- and find out how other groups do it so well.

We all need our volunteers and some days we just don't have enough. Please join our panelists:

- ☆ Ruthann Liagre Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts, Owosso
- A Mike Artis Kalamazoo Civic Theatre
- ☆ Mary Jo DeNolf Circle Theatre Grand Rapids

Link to Sign up. https://forms.gle/R4BaApr8Qzb87bBR8



Ruthann Liagre



Mike Artis



Mary Jo DeNolf

HELPING COMMUNITY THEATRE THRIVE IN MICHIGAN SINCE 1951!



Community Theatre Association of Michigan

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Callboard

Editor......Mary Lou Britton This is the official newsletter of the Community Theatre Association of Michigan, issued monthly to all group affiliates and individual members with e-mail addresses on record. Distribution is by e-mail with a link to the newsletter on the association website. Back issues are available on the association website. Correspondence to the **Callboard** should be sent to <u>maryloubritton@gmail.com</u>. Updated e-mail and postal addresses are maintained by the Administrator and should be sent to <u>CTAMthrives@gmail.com</u>.





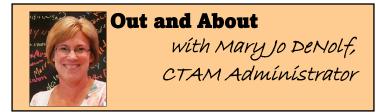


Meeting the next member of your CTAM Board of Directors!

In this installment of our Meet the Board articles, we're featuring Gary Walker from Grand Rapids Civic Theatre as one of our newest CTAM board members. Gary comes with vast board experience with non-profits organizations. But here are some fun fact about Gary Walker that many of us who have known him for years didn't know !

- ✓ If you've seen "Big Bang Theory", Gary was one of those guys in grad school (more Leonard than Sheldon!)
- Gary is an amateur photographer and has had work hung in a museum show.
- Such a handyman that the only thing in his toolbox is a contact list for contractors.
- His wife was an artist and did many showings of glass ornaments and acrylic paintings on wood panels.
- ✓ First time on stage was a walk-on part purchased by his wife - he was in his late '40s.
- Not a native to Michigan, born in Louisville KY.
- Gary is a former President of AACT and has been involved in the national theatre scene for years.





On the road again, CTAM President, Michael Wilson, and I went out and about to see one of our local community theatres in action. This time we went to <u>Holland Community Theatre</u> to see their production of *Noises Off.*

Noises Off, as we all know, is the farce of all farces. Some more modern farces such as the *Play That Goes Wrong* are modeled after this show. It has the ability to take a bad day and turn it upside down with side-splitting humor of slamming doors, missed entrances and mayhem, from the beginning to the end. This production did not let their patrons down.

Directed by Marcus Chapman, they cast a wonderful ensemble group of actors and crew to make this magic happen. Holland Civic performs in an old church in downtown Holland, Mi (which has a very small stage). This is one of the reasons I wanted to see how they would be able to pull off this very complicated set. Kudo's to Jim Pearce and the whole production team and crew for not only a very detailed set up one that still turned completely around twice.

Holland Community Theatre also takes advantage of CTAM's Adjudication team. Each year they ask CTAM trained adjudicators to come and give feedback to their cast and crew. This is a marvelous process to provide to your cast and crews to learn and grow. It's not meant to change anything that has been performed or to critique, but to provide insight on the production and assist these members on options to improve their craft.

Laughter in the dark winter months can be the best medicine for us all. Next time your play selection is looking for something to make the folks laugh, take a look again at *Noises Off.* Holland did, and it was a sold out night when we were there and a lot of smiling faces as they were leaving. What's not to love about a show of slamming doors....and sardines.

If you would like more information about how your theatre can be adjudicated, please email us at: ctamthrives@gmail.com.











Lapeer Community Theater presents Directors

Workshop!! Lead by Bill Anderson of CTAM

Workshop for aspiring and established directors ages 18 and older covering a range of topics including selecting scripts, set and costuming, auditions and rehearsals and more!!

Saturday April 13th 10am-230pm 3551 Hadley Rd, Hadley, MI, 48440

Tickets and lunch available to purchase until April 10th at www.lapeercommunitytheatre.com \$25 admission comes with catered lunch from Jimmy Johns, beverages, and the remaining years membership

(\$11 off coupon for members sent via email) Tickets available without lunch purchase \$11



Remember your volunteers this month

Each year the National Points for Light appoints April as National Volunteer Month. And then there is National Volunteer week: April 21-27, 2024.

And let's not forget National Volunteer Day - which in my opinion - IS EVERY DAY!

Volunteers are an essential part of any organization but in theatre - it's who we are. Volunteers in theatre are the lifeblood of the organization. They are the pulse that beats life. They are the brains behind the crazy ideas. They are the structure that holds us all together. We are who we are - good and bad - day to day and night to night in the theatre.

During April I challenge each of you to reach out to your volunteers. Maybe do something special. It can be something as easy as baking cookies and bringing to the theatre during a night of build. Or maybe you don't have a show going, so invite everyone into the theatre and have a little gathering with some desserts. Or send an email to everyone who volunteers at your theatre - with some simple words "we appreciate all that you do for ABC Theatre Company thank you" CTAM Administrator Mary Jo DeNolf has done a workshop in the past that talks about volunteers and part of this discussion is "100 ways to thank your volunteers". Keep in mind, every day, every week, every month, we all should do a better job of thanking those who give their time, talent, dedication and creativity to our theatre organization. Here's some examples of ways you can make a difference in their lives.

☆ SMILe

☆ LISTEN

☆ Greet by Name

SUBBESTION BOXES

☆ Bring a case of water in for cast/crew
☆ Free Coffee

☆ THANK YOU NOTES AFTER SHOWS

* Have a reception or gathering

☆ Talk to them

☆ LISTEN TO THEIR CONCERNS

* ASK FOF FEEDBACK AFTEF CLOSING

* Make cookies for stage crew

SEND GET WELL MESSAGES

☆ SEND BIFTHDAY CAFDS☆ DO A VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH CLUB

🖈 DO a volunteer spotlight in the lobby

☆ GIVE COMPS OF DISCOUNTS

☆ Train thêm ☆ Plan a summer picnic

THANK THEM EVERY DAY!

Theatre this Spring in Michigan

March 29 - April 7, 2024	SOUTHGATE COMMUNITY PLAYERS	While the Lights Were Out
March 29 - April 21, 2024	STAGECRAFTERS	Children of Eden
April 5 - 13, 2024	OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE	Radium Girls
April 5- 14, 2024	KALAMAZOO CIVIC THEATRE	Forever Plaid
April 5 - 14, 2024	GROSSE POINTE THEATRE	The Play That Goes Wrong
April 6 - 7, 2024	NORTHERN LITES READERS THEATRE	Witness for the Prosecution: A
April 11-27, 2024	HOLLAND COMMUNITY THEATRE	On Golden Pond
April 12-21, 2024	MIDLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS	Vanya and Sonia and Masha and
April 12 - 21, 2024	CLIO CAST AND CREW	Cinderella of Loveland
April 12 - 21, 2024	FENTON VILLAGE PLAYERS	Southern Fried Nuptials
April 13 - 21, 2204	PINCKNEY PLAYERS	Charlotte's Web
April 17 & 18, 2024	GRAND RAPIDS CIVIC THEATRE	Ten for All
April 19-28, 2024	OWOSSO COMMUNITY PLAYERS	Murder on the Orient Express
April 19 - 28. 2024	KALAMAZOO CIVIC THEATRE	The Lion King Jr.
April 19 - May 5, 2024	TWIN CITY PLAYERS	Rumors
April 19 - May 5, 2024	GRAND RAPIDS CIVIC THEATRE	Murder on the Orient Express
April 25 - May 4, 2024	MASTER ARTS	See Rock City
April 25 - May 18, 2024	FARMINGTON PLAYERS	Something Rotten
April 26 - 28 & May 3-5, 2024	PORT AUSTIN COMMUNITY PLAYERS	Spring Show (TBA)
April 26 - 28 & May 3-11, 2024	ROSEDALE COMMUNITY PLAYERS	An Inspector Calls
April 26-28, May 3-5, 2024	BAY CITY PLAYERS	Into The Woods
April 26-29 - May 2-5, 2024	TAWAS BAY PLAYERS	The Subject was Roses
May 1 - 5, 2024	THORNAPPLE PLAYERS	Cinderella (org version)
May 2-5, 2024	MUSKEGON CIVIC THEATRE	Ragtime
May 2-5, 2024	CIRCLE THEATRE	Curious George and the Golden
May 2-12, 2024	FLINT COMMUNITY PLAYERS	Joseph and the Amazing Techni-
May 3-11, 2024	PLAYERS DENOC	Fantastic Mr. Fox
May 3-18, 2024	CLARKSTON VILLAGE PLAYERS	Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
May 3-19, 2024	PLAYERS GUILD OF DEARBORN	Into The Woods
May 3 - 19, 2023	KALAMAZOO CIVIC THEATRE	Catch Me if You Can
May 3 - 25, 2024	OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE	Wedding Singer
May 3 - 19, 2024	VILLAGE PLAYERS OF BIRMINGHAM	The Prom
May 3 - 12, 2024	GROSSE POINTE THEATRE	Newsies
May 9 - 19, 2024	THE SAUK	The Last Lifeboat
May 9 - 19, 2024	ALPENA CIVIC THEATRE	The Music Man
May 10 - 18, 2024	LIVONIA COMMUNITY THEATRE	Working, the Musical
May 10 - 19, 2024	PIT AND BALCONY	Wild Party

If your information is incorrect or missing and you are an affiliate member of CTAM, please send the correct information to CTAMthrives@gmail.com to be included in the next issue.

