

SOCK & BUSKIN

September, 2011

Rehearsals for *The Music Man*
are 'Trouble, Trouble...'

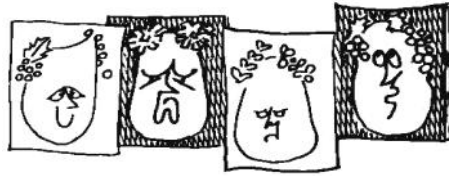


Trip to Bountiful Auditions

Grosse Pointe Theatre's next show, *Trip to Bountiful*, is set to audition September 17 and 18.

An American classic set in 1953, *Trip to Bountiful* is centered on Carrie, an elderly lady, who wants to visit her hometown of Bountiful, Texas, one last time. Her efforts are stymied by her son, who feels she'd be too frail for the trip, and her self-absorbed daughter-in-law. A determined Carrie turns to strangers to help make her dreams come true. It is a bittersweet tale of recapturing love and compassion in a world that no longer seems to care.

Auditions will be held by Director **Ron Bernas** and Producer **John Casey** Saturday September 17, 12-4 pm and Sunday September 18, 10 am to 1 pm. Rehearsals, beginning September 20, will be Tuesday and Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Production dates are November 6-19. Scripts are available at 315 Fisher. Call John Casey at 313-885-8880 for more information. Note: all characters will have a slight southern drawl.



**MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MONDAY SEPT. 12, 7 PM
CRYSTAL BALLROOM - GPWM**

Talking Headstones

If you have not had the pleasure of seeing a *Talking Headstones* production, here is your opportunity. This year's fourth annual performance is completely brand new and scheduled for the evenings of September 8, 9, 10 and 11. A collaboration of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society and Grosse Pointe Theatre, it is once again set in historic St. Paul Cemetery, with the stage lit by hurricane lamps and torches. The cemetery is located at the corner of Moross and Country Club Lane in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Featuring short stories that focus on Grosse Pointers from the 1910s to 1940s, this year's staging includes the beginning of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society with one of the founders, Ellen Probert, the shock of Diego Rivera's mural commissioned by Edsel Ford, a young Julie Harris's thirst for acting, the flu pandemic from WWI featuring the Boone family, a dramatic episode during WWI involving the Van Tiem family, a love story from WWII featuring Lawrence Kennedy, former Grosse Pointe school administrator, and the death of the Lone Ranger featuring former Grosse Pointe Farms police chief Joseph Trombley.

This year's *Talking Headstones* is a must see. Free parking is available at G. P. United Methodist Church across the street. Attendees must bring their own chair and make certain to wear appropriate clothing for the weather. A flash light is also recommended for exiting. Show times are 8:00pm every evening. For tickets call Grosse Pointe Theatre at 881-4004. Tickets are \$10.00 for members of GPT or GPHS and \$15.00 for nonmembers. All performances last year were sold out, so don't miss out on this extraordinary event!

Here's a sample of last year's production filmed during dress rehearsal:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7NZ22V5bLM>

The Music Man News

The cast of *The Music Man* will be performing on the streets of Royal Oak on Monday, September 5, between 11:00 am and 12:30 pm. This performance was arranged by one of the organizers of Arts, Beats, and Eats, **Larry Garcia**, our show's Publicity and Marketing Chair. The cast will be giving another preview at the Grosse Pointe Block Party on Saturday, September 10.

That day will be busy as it is also Set-up at Fries. Tech Director, **Rick Hawley**, will need lots of assistance moving the set on Friday, September 9th, and again on Saturday. **EVERYONE IS INVITED** to help with this important part of the production. Lunch will be served.

Tech Week begins on Sunday, September 11 and ends with the final dress rehearsal on Friday, September 16. The membership is welcome to view this rehearsal. *The Music Man* opens on Sunday, September 18 and runs 'til Sunday, October 2. You won't want to miss this fun production! Contact House Manager **Clif Levin** at cliflevin-gpt@yahoo.com, if you wish to usher.

Our mission: To present theatre excellence that exceeds the expectations of our patrons and members.

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE

2011-12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: **Doug Clark**
248-548-0085
djclark@baeind.com

VP/Education & Workshop: **Rick Hawley**
734-634-6474
cimpro@aol.com

Secretary: **Marianne Casey**
313-618-5676
mtcasey618@aol.com

Treasurer: **Christine Kaiser**
313-881-8040
ckaiser113@comcast.net

Membership: **Donald Bischoff**
586-295-0126
owen.kyle2@comcast.net

Executive Director:
Marcia Scavarda - 313-886-3315
gptmarketing@yahoo.com

Public Relations: **Lyndsey Briggs**
313-882-9879
lyndseybriggs@comcast.net

House: **Clif Levin**
313-268-6260
Cliflevin-gpt@yahoo.com

Production: **Don Adzigan**
313-885-5887
dadzigan@sbcglobal.net

Social: **Danielle Caralis**
313-319-3961
daniellecaralis@gmail.com

Technical: **Eric Lesczynski**
313-884-8886
ericlisa10@gmail.com

Tickets: **Arlene Marie Schoenherr**
586-774-7663
armaschoen@yahoo.com

Sock & Buskin Staff

Editor: Geoffrey Nathan
Assistant Editor Gwenn Samuel
Contributors: Gwenn Samuel, Board Members
Photography: Dale Pegg, Tim Reinman, Larry Garcia

This is the official newsletter of Grosse Pointe Theatre, issued and mailed or emailed monthly to all members of record. Any news not received for publication will be delivered via the **GPT Weekend Update** which is sent to all members with email addresses on record. All correspondence should be sent to:

Sock & Buskin c/o Grosse Pointe Theatre
315 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
email: geoffnathan@wayne.edu

GPT Calendar

| Date | Event |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Sept. 6, Fisher Rd. | Board Meeting, |
| Sept. 8-11, 8:00 PM, St. Paul Cemetery | Talking Headstones |
| Sept. 12 | Membership Meeting |
| Sept. 16, 8:00 PM, War Memorial | <i>The Music Man</i> Dress Rehearsal |
| Sept. 17 and 18, Fisher Rd. | Trip to Bountiful Auditions |
| Sept. 18 | <i>The Music Man</i> opens |
| October 2, 2:-00 PM, War Memorial | <i>The Music Man</i> added matinee |



Out and About with Gwenn Samuel



Ruth Ellen Mayhall and her sister traveled to Richmond, VA for the wedding of their great nephew. Their brother from California also came, and for eight days, the three siblings had a great time visiting cousins and family all over Virginia and West Virginia.

George and Kay Hunt were in Niagara on the Lake for ten days in July at the Shaw Festival—saw wonderful stuff, especially *Heartbreak House* and *The Admirable Crichton*. Kay reports “I’m having a hip replacement next week—don’t expect it to be a big deal from all reports. After that I need to get better fast because our oldest granddaughter is being married October 7 at an inn on an island in Casco Bay, out from Portland, ME. Life is good, we are healthy and are both still singing in local choral groups which is a lot of fun. George celebrated his 80th last January and I my 75th in June. Both of us have been doing a lot of volunteer stuff and are now easing off major commitments. Time to be Indians, not chiefs. George ran a local chamber music series for over five years and I have just finished up a two-year term chairing a neighborhood nonprofit called Fearington Cares.”

From **Marty Bufalini** “The only thing we did (because when I take time off, I lose money) is go to Grand Rapids a couple of weeks ago for the premier of one of my movies, *Alleged* with **Brian Denehey, Fred Thompson and, Colmn Meaney**. A few TV and radio commercials, some voice-overs and the usual radio stuff, but that’s about it.”

Don, Tracy, Owen and **Kyle Bischoff** went twice to their “happy place” - Bar Harbor, Maine, before settling in to put *The Music Man* on stage.

Amy Kuta didn’t go far this summer, but she had a great time during a week in Sutton’s Bay. Also, she is working a new job! After almost 11 years at Carl Zeiss Vision, she segued over to Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Hills, where she is the Executive Assistant to the CEO. She loves it, and it offers a lot less stress and more work/life balance. Plus, seeing puppies, having dogs around the office and being a part of an organization that helps the blind and visually impaired gain their independence is super rewarding!

Traveling a long way were **Ed** and **Ericka Thomas**, who had a spectacular trip to Italy to remember. After a short trip to Las Vegas and the Grand Canyon in May came a two-week Mediterranean cruise starting in Barcelona, moving on to Marseilles, then Italy--Savona, Portofino, Rome, Naples, Capri, Sorrento, Pompeii (active volcano #1, Mt. Vesuvius), Messina (active volcano #2, Mt. Etna), Venice and a sail-by of active volcano #3 (Mt. Stromboli) which was erupting at the time – and then back to Palma de Mallorca, Spain. The return flight took them through London for a day. Last month Ed’s son **Mike** joined them for a baseball trip to Chicago and Milwaukee, where they saw home games for the Cubs, White Sox and Brewers.

In July **Pat O’Brien** visited her goddaughter in Seattle who is getting PhD in neuroscience. Traveling on to Chicago to see her kids and grandkids, she brought her grandson to Michigan for a week. On to Cape Coral FL for a family wedding. She only worked seven days in July and had a great time! Tires us out just following her criss-

(Continued on page 3)

Out and About, Cont'd



September
GPT Birthdays



crossing the country!

Another **Pat (Chasteen)** has been so busy with "Life and work" that she hasn't had an opportunity to be or work in a show. In March of last year her thyroid was removed, which brought her singing to a halt for a while. She has now gone from an alto to a tenor!! Her mom, **Helen Honderich**, passed away this past February in Arizona. She retired there 22 years ago after teaching 25 years in Grosse Pointe. Pat says she was a wonderful kind lady.

Pat Stewart has been in rehearsals this summer with the Michigan Opera Theater for the upcoming October production of *Carmina Burana*. She hopes GPT members will get a chance to see it because it will be a phenomenal production! She spent a few days in Baltimore for the Dove Chocolate Discoveries National Conference where she learned more about the business of being an Independent Chocolatier. and was visited recently by her son, **Charles Taylor**, and his family. (He is a chemistry prof at Pomona College.) To wrap up the summer, she and her husband, **Archie**, are taking the Amtrak to Denver, CO, to visit his son, **Kirk**, who is the Entertainment News anchor for the NBC affiliate -- 9News. They hope to tour the Denver Center for the Performing and go to the Red Rock Amphitheater for a Beatles tribute!

News from the **Ferraras**. **Margaret** is now full time at Walt Disney World working as a concierge in the Contemporary Hotel's VIP area. She gets to schmooze up the guests which is right down her alley. **William**, is leaving for his Junior Year Abroad in Japan. They spent a weekend in DC in July which William and **Peter** continued on to Orlando and **Meranda** flew home to work. Peter and Meranda are planning two weeks in Nantucket in October.

Peter DiSante, **Erin Ann Conway** and their three kids spent a week enjoying the Cheeseburger Festival in Caseville. Pete says they ate way too many cheeseburgers!

Barb Elliott had a busy summer. She directed the Senior Show for Macomb C.C. (did last year's too). As usual, she spent several stints up North at her cottage

Ken Hebenstreit and Shar Douglas are headed to NYC over Labor Day weekend. On deck: *Anything Goes*, *Follies* and they will pick up others at TKTS. Also going to the U.S. Open tennis tournament. And then, there are always books. On Sundays the usual MO in NY is that Ken goes to the Strand bookstore and Shar goes bargain hunting on Orchard Street.

Marliese Kimmerle had a busy summer which started off playing a psychiatrist in a play about bipolar disorder for Theatre Intrigue, Windsor. A quick jaunt to Ottawa for a girlfriend visit to take part in the Prince William and Kate party was followed by some serious canoe paddling in the Ontario wilderness of Algonquin Park. Getting talked into dressing up as Rapunzel by the ever persuasive **Mary Lou Britton** as part of GPT's participation in the fairy tale festival at the Ford House rounded out the summer. Isn't retirement fun!!!

Geoff Nathan and **Margaret Winters** spent a month in Asia, sightseeing in Shanghai and Hangzhou, attending a conference in Xi'an (and visiting the Terracotta Warriors), then on to Kyoto and Nara, with another conference in Osaka, finishing up with a weekend in Tokyo. All fabulous. Hundreds of pictures available upon request.

Nedra and **Peter Walilko** went to the Laurentian area of Quebec to visit friends in August.

Here's something different—**Dorothy Wasinger** visited the Galapagos Islands off Quito Ecuador, South America.

And here's something NOT different— Our travel diva **Carolyn Darby** went to Norway on a coastal cruise from Bergen all the way up to Kirkenes on the Russian border (and back). Says the scenery was spectacular, food was great and weather (because of being in the Gulf Stream with temps between 55 and 70 even above the Arctic Circle) was excellent..

Stan Harr and **Laura Bartell** spent a week at Stratford and Shaw and a week in New York. As usual, they saw about 18 shows in a two-week period. On to Wisconsin to attend her sister's wedding; picked up Jeremy from camp. Laura is newly cast in the Stagecrafters Second Stage production of *Wit*, running October 14-16 and 20-23.

Bill Giovan cruised the Greek Islands July 28 to August. Started at Venice, ended at Rome.

Talk about short trips—**Dianne Graham** went as far as St. John Hospital TWICE. first hip replacement was in January and her second was in June. Part of December in New Orleans, part in Pensacola with her cousin. It will be fun in the airport when she goes through the scanner— four screws in her leg, a plate in her neck, a plate in her wrist—and the two hips!

Also partly bionic is the well-traveled **Bob Battaglia**. He spent a wonderful month of July

- 1 John Smick
- 2 Beth Battjes
- Bob Brown
- 5 Milicent Edmunds
- Allison McClelland
- 8 Lisa Johnson
- Peggy Ptasznik
- 9 Judi Dara
- Joy Raya
- 10 Mary Lou Britton
- James Fielding
- 12 Pat D'Alessandro
- 14 Perry Calisi
- Marisa DiSante
- Stanley Harr
- 15 Amy Kuta
- 17 Trudi Hubbard
- 18 Leslie Anderson
- Alex Dillon
- Olivia Wickline
- 19 Joseph Munem
- 21 Ellen Taber
- Eric Swanson
- 22 Miranda Ferrara
- 23 Deanna Saputo
- 24 Erin Ann Conway
- 25 Patricia Stewart
- 26 Timothy Higgins
- 27 Carolyn Darby
- Mickie Pizzimenti
- 28 Hildy Corbett
- Amy Muawad
- Susan Petz
- 29 Arthur Thompson
- 30 Gayle Arnold
- Joe Backer



Dance rehearsal: *The Music Man*

VISIT: www.gpt.org

Out and About, Cont'd

with his granddaughter **Samantha** who now lives in Phoenix with her parents. They saw a Tiger baseball game in 105 degrees and a Britney Spears concert. (Bob said, "Seeing that crowd made me realize just how old I am!") In Bloomfield, Indiana he was able to see the University of Indiana campus, go to a winery and visit a wonderful artisan town called Nashville. On August 3rd he had aortic valve replacement and one bypass surgery. He is recovering well and sends thanks to the theatre for the wonderful get well flower arrangement.

Kim Carney, our playwriting instructor and mentor for the past three years, has once again picked up another prestigious award. On September 24 she picked up Best Play of the Year at the Wilde Awards, beating out Mitch Albom among others. Kudos to her!

The **Reinman** family had a busy summer. Weekends on the farm and up north with friends; the kids spent a week in Hamilton-**Mary** at the stable with **Katie** and **Connor** on the golf course with **Liam**! Both did a week at camps here in MI. They are saving the big trip for Calgary for nephew **Patrick's** wedding in October. The big event this summer was rehearsals for *Music Man* where all but **Marie** are on-stage.

Dennis and **Deborah Martell** purchased an acre of land in Sugar Springs, MI around the Gladwin area. A portion of the property was excavated and they have been storing their fifth wheel on the property now known as the Double D Ranch and enjoying the new/used 25 ft. pontoon boat which is named *The Ambergris*.

Clif Levin's brother from Dallas and his lady friend brought some joy into Clif's life. They visited the DIA one day and the Zoo another.

From **Nick Dara**: DTW to Rome, Rome to St. Agata (Sorrento), up the Amalfi Coast, Positano, Capri, then trained to Florence for a few days, then to Rome for a few days. Glorious, with son **Jim** and family.

Marty Bufalini has started rehearsals for the GPNorth HS fall play, **Ron Bernas' A Little Murder Never Hurt Anyone**, which runs Sept. 30, October 1 and 2. of the Sanctuary service scenes.

Roger Williams is recovering well from a quadruple bypass in June. He's walking proud!

Barbara Bentley left us August 31 after a long battle with cancer.

We also lost another good guy—**Terry Davis**. There will be more on both next month, with deep condolences to **Susan, Chip** and family and **Mike** and **Leslie** and family.

CTAM Happenings

The Community Theatre Association of Michigan (CTAM) is getting all set for their annual Fall Conference the last full weekend of September. The conference this year is September 23-25 at McGuire's Resort in Cadillac.

Official delegates representing GPT this year will be President **Doug Clark** and CTAM Liaison **Mary Lou Britton**, who also sits on the state Board of Directors. The conference features workshops all day Saturday, with special entertainment and performances on Friday night and Saturday night. Doug will attend a special Saturday luncheon for all member group Presidents to discuss common concerns they could all be facing in the upcoming season. Registration is still open for the conference.

Other upcoming CTAM activities are as follow:

The 2012 Spring Conference will be in Escanaba the first weekend in May. Workshops, parties and networking are planned, along with a performance of *Last Mass* at St. Casmir's.

A Master Class weekend is again planned for next summer (July 20-22) at the MacMullen Conference Center on Higgins Lake. Two concurrent workshops run all weekend; subjects to be announced soon.

Then, the following weekend (July 27-31, 2012) will feature the CTAM trip to New York! Theatre-lovers from across Michigan will fly to New York for three nights/four days of theatre and sightseeing.

Visit the CTAM website at www.communitytheatre.org for more information about all CTAM programs contact **Mary Lou** at mellbee@earthlink.net.

Correction and apology

Due to travel commitments and proofreading errors it was incorrectly announced that the picnic would be September 14, rather than August 14, and additionally, many received the paper edition too late to make it to the picnic. My apologies.

Geoff Nathan, Editor, S&B

Aisle Be Seeing You

As this issue goes to press, I still have a few openings to usher the block-buster show *The Music Man*! Don't miss your opportunity to see this great show and help our patrons while you are at it! Please contact me ASAP with your availability. I can be reached at

cliflevin-gpt@yahoo.com or at 313.268.6260.

Thanks. Hope to see you---in the aisle!

The Social Butterfly

Hello from...The Social Butterfly! I am extremely excited about GPT's 64th season and really looking forward to socializing with everyone this year!

First up, I'd like to thank everyone that came by 315 Fisher for our Welcome Back BBQ on Sunday, August 14th. The rain stopped, the clouds parted, the sun came out so we could have a pleasant afternoon. Big thanks to our grill master, **Dante Bufalini**, who can cook a mean cheeseburger! I also want to thank everyone that brought a dish to pass and helped set up and "strike" the party. You all were so great; I'm going to call on all of you for your assistance throughout the year! No phone call screening!

Next, our first general membership meeting is Monday, September 12th. Please come to the Crystal Ballroom at 7pm for refreshments, summer vacation debriefing and to hear all about the exciting year ahead for GPT!

Lastly, *The Music Man* Cast/Crew Party will be Saturday, October 1st at 315 Fisher. After that evening's performance, come by 315 and enjoy dinner and memories from the show. Producer **Lyndsey Briggs** will be the 'keeper of reservations'...stay tuned for ticket price info.

Goodbye... Until Tomorrow!

Danielle Caralis (313) 319-3961
daniellecaralis@gmail.com