

# *Back Stage*

**August 2021**

**COMMUNITY  
PLAYERS**  
*of Salisbury*



*From the desk of the President...*

Dearest fellow theater lovers,

Community Players 85th Season is here and we are super excited! One thing we learned during our long COVID-induced dark stage is how much we need theater. Our June performance of *A Streetcar Named Desire* was amazing. Whether you were on the stage, assisting behind the scenes, sitting in the audience, supporting financially as an advertiser or patron or sharing our posts on social media, we appreciate you. It feels good to be back!

A world-wide pandemic was not all bad for our organization though. We were forced to get creative and think outside the box. Many of the ideas we tried over the past 15+ months were actually pretty good and you will see them continue this season. In addition to our 4 regular season shows be watching for announcements for upcoming appearances of Players' members in skits at local festivals, music reviews in our backyard, special presentations of works of Poe at various local establishments, working at the Wicomico Civic Center as a fundraiser and maybe even something special to celebrate our 85th season.

Of course, we can do none of this without you. Please consider partnering with our non-profit organization by becoming a member, patron, advertiser or sponsor today.

*Melissa Dasher*  
President



Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me ([popirusty@comcast.net](mailto: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



You know it is not all about the actors when it comes to producing a quality musical or play. There are many jobs in the theatre that are both creative and rewarding. Community Players is seeking people who are interested in directing, designing and building sets, designing and running lighting and sound, producing, stage managing, designing a costume plot, props and more.

No experience necessary. There are veteran members of Players that are eager to teach and mentor. You will have the opportunity to learn, broaden your skills and work with people who can become lifetime friends. Just ask those of us who have been a part of Players for decades.

Don't be shy, join us at our next Players meeting at 7:00 on August 4th and we can talk afterward.

*Ken Johnson & Sharon Benchoff*





## CAST LIST

JOHN GOWER – Pete Evans

PERICLES – Ken Johnson

CO-NARRATOR – Steve Culver

Antiochus, Helicanus, Cerimon, Suitor, Warrior, Sailor, Fisherman, Knight,  
Cleon, Simonides, Lysimachus, Princess, Dionyza, Fishwife, Pirate, Thaisa,  
Marina, Goddess, Townspersons –

Matt Bogdan

David Brannon

Lily Bruce

Cass Dasher

Judy Hearn

Julie Morrison

Rusty Mumford

Bonnie Northeimer

Jay Weaver



Para-Cles will be performed as part of the first Renaissance Festival at Furnace Town Historic Site in Snow Hill on August 21st and 22nd.

## 2021-2022 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)
  - Player's Night Member's Reception
  - 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

"There is only one of you in all time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium and it will be lost."

-Martha Graham

### Patron benefits include:

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



# Membership Application

(Valid September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022)

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

Adult #1 First Name:		Last Name:	
Phone:		E-mail Address:	
Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
<b>Patron or Family Membership ONLY</b> Adult #2 First Name:		Last Name:	
Phone:		E-mail Address:	
Children: First Name(s):	Last Name(s):	Age(s)	

Remit Form and Payment to:

**Community Players**  
**PO Box 2431**  
**Salisbury, MD 21802**

Questions? E-mail us at: [membership@cposmd.com](mailto:membership@cposmd.com)

Players use only:

finance	
mailing	
e-mail	
membership	

# NOISES OFF AUDITION INFORMATION

## **Audition Dates and Times:**

August 24, 25, and 26, 2021  
7pm at Players'

Callbacks – Friday, August 27 if needed.

Additional Audition Materials available on the Community Players Website. Be prepared to perform a one – two minute comedic monologue. Monologues **should be memorized**. British accents not expected.

**Synopsis** - Noises Off, a comic masterpiece, is not one play, but two: the hilariously horrible, British farce, Nothing On, and the comedic nightmare that ensues backstage. Slamming doors, flying props, prat falls, sardines and two-story revolving sets abound as we see the first act of Nothing On presented three times, each with successively less attention to the script. The under-rehearsed actors and technicians desperately try to perform even as their rapidly deteriorating relationships cause mass hysteria and make for some hysterical comedy both offstage and on. They all quickly find that as they muddle through, the more they work to take control, the funnier and more chaotic it gets! Noises Off is written with a wit and heart that allows it to be more than mere farce or parody of farce; it speaks to what we love about theatre and makes us laugh at our dramas, both onstage and off.

## **Character Descriptions:**

**Dotty Otley (Mrs. Clackett)** - This lovable, fading sitcom star has put all of her life savings into the show. She is playing "the same" part here that she has played for years. Dotty is constantly forgetting her lines, entrances and props and has a thing for younger men, like Garry. She also has a spiteful side. Plays Mrs. Clackett, the scattered lower-class housekeeper. (Age: 45-55)

**Lloyd Dallas** - This director is smart, frustrated, passive aggressive and condescending. He struggles to balance his personal life with his professional life and to cope with the continually difficult actors. (Age: 35-45)

**Garry Lejeune (Roger Tramplemain)** - Garry takes himself very seriously and is easily excited into a jealous rage when it comes to Dotty. He is not very articulate and has a habit of not finishing his sentences...you know? Plays Roger Tramplemain, a real estate agent with other intentions who is concerned about the way things appear to others. (Age: 25-35)

**Brooke Ashton (Vicki)** - Sexy, sweet but a terrible actress (probably got the job because she "knows" the director). When she's not performing, she is entirely self-absorbed and absolutely clueless to what's happening around her. She is completely blind without her contacts, which always fall out. Plays Vicki, the half-dressed love interest of Roger, who is wrapped up in her work. (Age: 20-30)

**Poppy Norton-Taylor** - The Assistant Stage Manager who is stressed out and trying her best to keep the play from falling apart at the seams. Young and naive to the ways of the artistic types all around her, understudies the actresses; a cute girl who is hiding a big secret. (Age: 20-30)

**Frederick Fellowes (Philip Brent)** - A bumbling, over thinking actor with a heart of gold, gets himself in trouble for being entirely clueless. A bit of a wimp, he gets terrible nosebleeds at the thought of violence and faints at the mention or sight of blood. Plays Philip Brent, an upper-class man who has been running from his taxes. (Age: 35-45)

**Belinda Blair (Flavia Brent)** - The sweet, cast gossip, always seems to be in the know and loves to let everyone know it. Works overtime to try and salvage the show, but then gets wrapped up in the drama herself. Plays Flavia Brent, Philip's classy, yet opinionated, wife. (Age: 35-45)

**Tim Allgood** - The trusty Company and Stage Manager who never seems to get a break and who must fix everything. Eager to please everyone and constantly sleep deprived. He is also the understudy for all the men. (Age: 20-30)

**Selsdon Mowbray (Burglar)** - An elderly, recovering alcoholic with a penchant for missing entrances, forgetting lines and disappearing entirely. Selsdon seems to be clueless but knows more than he lets on. Plays the Burglar, a former high-class thief who now resorts to any job that arises. (Age: 60-70)



CPOS has been invited to perform at "First Saturday" sponsored by the Stevensville Arts and Entertainment District and Kent Island Federation for the Arts. The event will take place on August 7th, 2021 in Stevensville, MD. Shelbie Thompson, Matt Hatfield, Heather Oland, and Pete Evans will be performing two skits ("Late Date" and "Who's on First?") and the Folk Villains will be providing musical entertainment.

Come support our local actors/performers. We are stretching our boundaries!!!

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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*Please consider  
becoming a member  
of Community Players.  
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  
2020-21, your dues  
are not up-to-date.*

**Next Monthly Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 4 at 7:00 PM.**  
**5109 Nutters Cross Road**



**Community Players Officers & Board of Directors**  
**July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022**

*President: Melissa Dasher - bizemomx5@comcast.net*  
*Vice-President: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com*  
*Recording Secretary: Darrell Mullins - dgmullins@salisbury.edu*  
*Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net*  
*Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com*  
*Immediate Past-President: Sharon Benchoff - fresnelop@gmail.com*

**Board Members**

*Sammy Barnes, Matt Hatfield, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2022*  
*David Allen, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2023*  
*Kate Adkins, Bobbie Calloway, Robin Finley - Term Expires 2024*

***We're on the Web: [www.SBYplayers.com](http://www.SBYplayers.com)***