

# BACKSTAGE PASS

## PW VIDEO "MOMISMS"

"When your children are teenagers, it's important to have a dog so that someone in the house is happy to see you" (Nora Ephron). That is a "momism, an "observation or advice made by a mom. . . it can be wisdom, humor, or both."

In honor of Mother's Day, Players Workshop will present 3 "momism" videos in May.

Read by local actors, PW's "momisms" will be in 3 groups: Life, Family and Children. Some of the quotes are from local ladies, while others come from a star-studded group of celebrities; look for them on PW's Facebook page and YouTube channels during the first 2 weeks in May.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE FUND

Players Workshop has received the following donations since the last issue of *The Backstage Pass*. A big thanks to Carol Copeland, Kathie Erickson, Al & Cyndy Fabel, John & Judi Gram, Bettie Raines, and Terri Rauhaus.

Also, thank you to those who contributed in memory of the late Dorothy Nelson (mother of Peggy Ell): Marge Classen, Cathy Collins, Brett & Kerri Grimshaw, Sharon Hayes, Joyce Maxson, Patty Milton, Jim & Wendy Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Parker, Paul & Mary Polahar, Denny & Carol Rose, Marilyn Rose, Nancy Sears, Clara Spencer, Kevin & Susan Sumpter, Roger & Janet Thompson, Janet & Dean Wehrle, and Judy Woodside. **PW THANKS YOU SO MUCH!**

## PW ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SET

PW's annual membership meeting will be on Wed., May 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. Participants may attend either in person or via ZOOM. Those attending on ZOOM will be able to vote via secret ballot at the same time those in the auditorium are voting.

The secretary will mail all dues-paying members notice of the upcoming meeting, no later than May 16; instructions will be included as to how to contact Kent Lewis if a member wishes to participate using ZOOM, as Kent must send the person a ZOOM invitation.

Only those who have paid dues for the 2020-21 year are eligible to vote at this meeting; if you still wish to pay dues prior to the meeting, send \$20 to Players Workshop, Attn: Membership, POB 793, Burlington, IA 52601. If you are not sure if you've paid your dues, contact Carol Hinkle of the membership committee by phone (319-850-1394) or email (hinklecc@gmail.com.).

**BREAKING NEWS:** PW's spring garage sale earned \$1550! Big Thanks to all who donated or bought, and to Libba Flores, Mary Fox, Al Fabel, and Eric Smith for making it happen.

## PW PARTNERS WITH BPD IN CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING PROGRAM

From April 20-23, 2021, PW members Gene Anderson, Libba Flores, Mary Fox, Jayne Gobble, Kent Lewis, & Eric Smith participated in crisis intervention team training hosted by The Burlington Police Dept.

The actors took part in various role playing scenarios focusing on the multiple facets of mental health/addiction/cognitive impairments, and how police, first responders, corrections, dispatch, and emergency personnel can best de-escalate and properly respond to individuals in these types of situations.

The training association (Southeast Iowa Link) donated \$750 to PW as a thank you for participating.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, contact Gretchen Lewis (753-0470 or [kwlawyer@msn.com](mailto:kwlawyer@msn.com)) to have your name removed from the mailing list. (Prefer an email version? Contact [pw6623@gmail.com](mailto:pw6623@gmail.com), to have the newsletter converted to electronic format.)

## PW PRES. FOX TO RUN AGAIN

MARY FOX, running for her final term as PW president, became involved in PW in 2014, with her role in *Sex Please, We're Sixty*. She has since served in multiple "roles," both onstage and off. She was instrumental in setting up and running the garage sales as well as the art raffles, which helped to successfully raise enough money to fix PW's roof. This past year she has been highly involved with the CPR committee, which has been putting together online entertainment, developing new skills in video technology which will be useful going forward. She states, "In the past three years as president, I have seen many positive changes in the theater, thanks to the hard work of individuals and committees. I would like to see this trend continue with us being proactive in becoming more inclusive and welcoming to both members and patrons. My passion for PW continues as we strive to reopen as soon as we safely can do so."

## MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR PW'S BOARD

The following have indicated that they will be seeking terms on the Players Workshop Board of Directors in May 2021. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order.

**GENE ANDERSON** incumbent, has been involved in PW since 1988. He was chair of the planning committee when the Kelly Addition was added, and chairs the house and grounds committee. He says, "I have seen a great many improvements,

Players Workshop  
P. O. Box 793  
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### MEET CANDIDATES FOR PW BOARD (con't.)

both large and small . . . and still have some unfinished projects. . . . The work is never done, whether on or off stage.” He has been in at least one play every year (except last year), and says, “The challenges of presenting live theater are sometimes daunting, but the support of fellow board members and volunteers is incredible.”

**BRITTANY GERST** has been a PW member since 2017. She began at PW as a sounds/light person and soon became involved in YAP. She is now a part of the Young Actors Productions and is on the CPR committee. She states, “My goal, if I were to become a member on the board, is to bring more talented young actors in and build their skills in acting, tech, make-up, etc., with hands-on practice, so they can be successful in the future.”

**CHRISTOPHER JACKSON** joined the board in 2018; he has degrees in music education and has appeared in numerous PW shows. Says Jackson, “I wish to further help preserve the rich tradition of live theatre here in my hometown that has been established at The Players Workshop. It is important that these opportunities remain to help build and sustain a diverse community within which we live, adding enrichment to our children’s lives, as well as our own, for generations to come.”

**STEVE POLING** says he wants to return to the board “to help continue the work that has made Players Workshop an integral part of this community” . . . helping to make some of the new ideas learned during the pandemic “come to life,” saying “we must change with the times to keep our theater alive and well.” Previously a board member for 30 years, he has worked on and off stage and “feel(s) he has a good general knowledge of how the theater works.”

**ROD REEVES**, incumbent, is usually found working “behind the scenes” at PW, and has enjoyed “doing many of the jobs that make the theater a welcoming experience for both performers and our loyal audience,” for close to 20 years. For 3 years he has been in charge of the reservations team, is now a

member of ticketing, fundraising, and re-opening committees, and looks forward “to the challenges ahead as we eventually resume live performances.”

**RANDY WISCHMEIER**, incumbent, has been at PW for over 25 years, working backstage on almost every show, in some capacity, with expertise in set, lighting, and sound design. He says, “I feel I provide needed expertise in the technical areas when updating of the equipment and facility is needed.” He has also designed many plays outside of PW and tries “to bring these diverse experiences to broaden the theatre experience for both the audience, participants, and our members.”

### *DONATION FORM*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

You may also contribute by clicking on the DONATE button at the top of the PW website (playersworkshoptheater.com) or using the link on the PW Facebook page.

**Send completed form to  
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Editor: Bonnie Downes (catlady60450@msn.com)  
Circulation: Rebecca Teater, Gretchen Lewis,  
& Bonnie Downes  
President: Mary Fox  
Players Workshop  
1431 Grove St. POB 793, Burlington, IA 52601  
(319)753-6623