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The Puppet Guild of Greater Saint Louis, Inc.

founded June 12, 1939

a chartered guild of The Puppeteers of America, Inc.

June 2015 Tom Bonham, Newsletter Editor - 314-335-7537 or [Tom\[at\]PuppetGuild.org](mailto:Tom[at]PuppetGuild.org)

PGoGSL answering line 314-252-0051

Hi Members,

Our 2014-2015 fiscal year is ending May 31st and so is my presidency. It has been fun and challenging. During my ten year reign, I've enjoyed presiding over the meetings, watching members create and entertain us, and seeing the guild have a presence in the community. Along the way, I've had some personal challenges, but all well now.

In addition to my puppetry, I'm excited about new projects with my music and storytelling. Jackie and I were chosen to be featured on a concert at the National Storytelling Network's Conference in Kansas City in July. I'm working with some symphony musicians on a project scoring a film, which is why Jackie and I will not be at the picnic. I'm also working on a CD with some avant-garde musicians.

It's been a pleasure and I wish the new administration the best.

"Papa"

Our May Puppet Festival (May 9) featured Monica Leo's Eulenspiegel Puppet Theater held in the RAC Theater in the Delmar Loop. She presented her show of Mexican Folktales. Her home base of West Liberty, Iowa is small town out in an agricultural area blessed with a significant Mexican population. Her assistant Eli, from Mexico, helped with authenticity and bilingual aspect of the productions. The production was well done.

Unfortunately the day was had a constant, heavy downpour which despite the work of many members to build an audience resulted a smaller than expected turn-out.

[Click here for map and directions to Bierne Park](#)

June Meeting, Picnic, Performance, and auction

Sat., Jun 6, 2015, 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Bierne Park

10630 Country View Dr, Saint Louis, MO 63141

RSVP! (314) 252-0051

-or-

rsvp@PuppetGuild.org

Please, please, RSVP, preferably by June 3 so we can order enough fried chicken.

RSVP either by email to
rsvp@PuppetGuild.org
or calling 314-252-0051.

Note the phone number is an answering machine which can be called 24 hours a day. There is no one monitoring the number for immediate contact, so none will be awakened by midnight rsvp call.

ALSO! Please let us know what you intend to share. If we already have too much of one item, we will suggest you might bring another item to share. Suggested categories are:

- Appetizer (arrive early!)
- Starch Salad (potato or pasta)
- Vegetable Salad
- Lettuce Salad
- Fruit Salad
- Cookies
- Pre-cut Brownies and cookie bars

Avoid layer, sheet, and bundt cakes, jello dishes and food requiring chilling to stay set (likewise dishes requiring heating).

Please do not forget serving utensils.

AND FINALLY, there will be the traditional auction of puppet related items: Puppets, books, "hard to find" construction materials, etc. Please bring what you have to sell. Proceeds will go into the guild treasury, and help defray the cost of food for the picnic

Minutes of the February 26, 2015, Member Meeting of The Puppet Guild of Greater Saint Louis

The meeting was called to order with President Papa Wright presiding. Minutes were approved as posted in the newsletter. The treasurer Jackie Wright gave her report.

The nominating committees slate of board nominations of Daniel Romano, Michelle Gulick, and Tom Bonham was presented. There were no additional nominations from the floor. It was moved and seconded to close the nominations. The board was then elected by acclamation.

It was noted that this is the last business meeting of the fiscal year and the terms of the current board expire on May 31. The next business meeting will be the picnic in June.

There was discussion of the Puppeteers of America national festival.

As Michelle Gulick was still in transit, and scheduled to present details of the March and May events, the meeting was in temporary recess.

There were no show and tell submissions.

Karen Anders gave a preview, dress rehearsal of her new show of a bunny in a winter depression longing for spring.

The meeting resumed.

Michelle Gulick announced that the guild will celebrate the International Day of Puppetry on Saturday, March 21 at the Ferguson (Missouri) Public Library. She and Stan would be presenting a show and Papa will present his interactive percussion demonstration. There would be no admission charge.

Michelle Gulick also announced the event originally scheduled for the National Day of Puppetry on April 26 would be on Saturday, May 8 instead. Since the Puppeteers of America has moved the National Day of Puppetry to coincide with UNIMA's International Day of Puppetry, it would no longer be a National Day of Puppetry. Tom Bonham suggested reviving an old, old guild tradition and call it the "May Festival."

Michelle Gulick continued that Monica Leo's Eulenspiegel [OIL-en-SHPÉE-gull] Puppets would be performing a morning show, a participatory session, and an afternoon show. The May Puppet Festival will take place at the Regional Arts Council building in Saint Louis. A nominal admission of \$3 will be charged. Groups of 10 or more will be \$2. To encourage reservations, reservations will be admitted to the theater as early as 30 minutes prior to the show. The rest of the public will be admitted 15 minutes prior to the show. Tom Bonham will create flyers for the event and a Facebook event. Dan Romano encouraged members to use their Facebook accounts to indicate their attendance, share, and invite their Facebook friends to the event.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Bonham, acting secretary

PuppetGuild.org:



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The guilds fiscal year begins June 1 and dues are now payable:

Adult (21-64 yrs.) \$20

Family (2 adults & children) \$30

Junior (13-20 yrs.) \$10 (also included in family)

Senior Members have a \$5.00 discount per member.

Make check payable to then send to:

The Puppet Guild of Greater St. Louis

Tom Bonham, Treasurer

1815 Elm Tree St

Saint Peters MO 63376

ONLINE POLL — A personal project of Tom Bonham

I will be persistent in sending **weekly** reminders to all FY 2014-15 members *who have not responded.*

This is a personal project that I want to bring up for board consideration. I have an on-line poll regarding meeting places and times at <http://goo.gl/forms/MEg8YUxKW6> . Please go to the site and respond to the poll.

While not binding, I envision the poll as helping the board set a course for future meetings.

For the first 25 years or so, the guild was constituted of large number of school teachers, always met on the 4th Friday, and eventually settled into having all meetings at the First Unitarian Church on Waterman in the city. While the initial focus was national festivals in Saint Louis in the 40's, the guild's focus changed to a May Puppet Festival with performance only to close the season. An early June picnic followed to start the new year and hopefully meet people who expressed a desire to join at the May Puppet Festival. Summer activity was vacated due to the teachers' vacations, national festival, and I am sure the heat. Over the last 25 years the guild has undergone many changes from "tradition". Our membership, times, and lifestyles are continually changing, and a current poll on membership opinions on the basics of the guild operation seems in order at this time.