

Please do not use your reply button for comments to the editor. Instead click the red link below. Thank you.  
If you are unable to read this newsletter, please go to [PuppetGuild.org](http://PuppetGuild.org) for alternatives.



# The Puppet Guild of Greater Saint Louis, Inc.

founded June 12, 1989

a chartered guild of The Puppeteers of America, Inc.

August 2015 Tom Bonham, Newsletter Editor - 314-335-7537 or [Tom\(at\)PuppetGuild.org](mailto:Tom(at)PuppetGuild.org)  
PGoGSL answering line 314-252-0051

**September Meeting**  
**Tom Bonham presenting**  
**Music Composition, Recording, and Playback**  
**and Wifi Controlled LED Puppet Stage Lighting**  
**Thu Sep 24, 2015, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**  
**Saint Louis County Library**  
**Thornhill Branch, Small Meeting Room**  
**12863 Willowyck Dr (off Fee Fee 1 mile north of Olive)**  
**Saint Louis, MO 63146 - (314) 994-3300**

[Click here for map and directions to the Thornhill Library](#)

## Board Meeting

The next two board meetings will be on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the home of Tom Bonham in Saint Peters. The meeting is open to all paid members, but as this is scheduled for a private residence, a reservation is required. Contact a board member, e-mail [rsvp@PuppetGuild.org](mailto:rsvp@PuppetGuild.org), or call the guild number if you want to attend.

The guild is still without a program chair. The position is to work with the board and members to co-ordinate meeting programs for 5 meetings. The program chair is not necessarily expected to personally conduct programs at meetings. Contact a board member if interested. Please. Please. Please.

Important Notices:

The board is still actively pursuing a regional festival to be located in Saint Louis City or County. We are seeking a venue with a theatre or theatre room, classrooms, and nearby reasonably priced hotel accommodations. The date now appears to be the first weekend in August.

**If you have ideas please tell me or the board right away, do not wait until the September meeting. Time is of the essence in this pre-planning stage.**

## **Minutes from the Board Meeting of The Puppet Guild of Saint Louis, Inc. on July 29, 2015**

The meeting was held the home of Tom Bonham.

The first order of business was discussion on filling the office of Program Chair. Daniel Romano and Michelle Gulick will continue the search. The board would like to see meeting programs with members presenting short "slam"-type performances, or full length if the member so desires. The May Puppet Festival is planned as members performing short "slam" type pieces. It is hoped that members will preview offerings at meetings.

Dues renewal notices will be set in September.

Daniel Romano will present his Halloween show for the October meeting.

Audience building was discussed. And it was decided that in addition to the e-mail list, a post card mailing will go out to everyone expressing interest in shows.

Ideas on a regional festival were discussed. The fact that we have some RAC grant funding coming in that can be devoted to paying outside puppeteers makes this advisable at this time. Due to funding restrictions, such a festival would have to take place in the city or county of Saint Louis prior to July 1, 2015. An optimal date of June 9-11 was determined. The location is still being investigated. Puppeteers of America Regional Director Stan Gulick announced that he would be unable to attend the national festival for health reason, and Tom Bonham will be the only board member in attendance at the festival. Stan is appointing Monica Leo as chair of the regional meeting, and Tom Bonham is delegated to present the Regional Festival proposal.

The Holiday Party at the December meeting is scheduled for the small room of the Thornhill Branch of the Saint Louis County Library. However, there is a good chance of getting it transferred to the larger room of the McClay Branch of the Saint Charles County Library just across the river and off the Page Avenue extension. The meeting program is still open but Daniel Romano and Michelle Gulick will be asking specific members to present a holiday program.

Tom Bonham suggested holding the 2016 meetings at the Creve Coeur Government Center which is only slightly more expensive and allows us to continue past the 8:45 deadline of the libraries.

Tentative dates were set for 2016 pending obtaining venue space: Friday, January 22; Friday, February 18; Friday, March 18; Friday, April 29; Saturday, May 14 (May Puppet Festival); Thursday June 9-11 (Regional Festival). Assuming we are able to keep this schedule, there will be no June picnic this year.

Additionally, the National Day of Puppetry has been dropped by Puppeteers of America and replaced with the International Day of Puppetry on March 21 (3 21). As this occurs on a Monday and at time of possible severe weather, the guild will make no plans for the International Day of Puppetry.

Stan Gulick was elected to the Board.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Bonham

## **Report on the Great Plains Regional Meeting**

Stan Gulick was re-elected regional director in absentia.

Monica Leo repeated the offer to incorporate her children's festival into a regional festival.

The regional treasurer (in Iowa) has not been to any festival in 10 years and there is about \$5K in the fund. She and one other are the only signatories on the account. And the other signatory moved away long ago. Current by-laws require P of A to be the "banker" for regional funds, and the current treasurer is reluctant to comply. Current by-laws make the regional treasurer an appointed position, appointed by the regional director and presidents of the guilds in the region. Monica will be the treasurer, retrieve the funds, and comply with the P of A and IRS requirement.

Mary Susan Macrae raised a question about structures and finance. The guilds are independent corporations, totally autonomous in operations and finance. The region is a "company" line of business" in the corporate structure of the P of A. Her comments lead into a discussion with her and Nancy Clark about re-establishing or resurrecting a guild in Kansas City, The divisive issues were in the past, and it is time to move forward.

I presented the bid for the regional festival at the meeting. There were only a few families from the region at the meeting. While I explained the reason for the early June date, there was opposition to the date as June and July were library and camp show months. I noted that some schools in our area had already started during the festival. But they were adamant with a first weekend in August date (Wednesday, Aug 4 – Sunday, Aug 7).

[I further note having worked many years with outdoor summer productions at the Kirkwood amphitheater that the final week of July is traditionally the worst week of heat and humidity. As the first of August hits humidity tends to lessen (not disappear) and the night time temperature tends to drop a bit.]

Later, I was approached by a couple from Wisconsin who I guess sought me out noting I was from Saint Louis (but my badge read Saint Peters. They told me that the Great lakes region (Kentucky, West Virginia, Eastern Pennsylvania, and north) was not having a regional festival, they had a new director and wanted to join with us. I mentioned the date "argument" and they sided with August date. Stan Gulick will be contacting their regional director.

Tom Bonham

## Board Members

**Daniel Romano, President - [dromano55@gmail.com](mailto:dromano55@gmail.com) - (314) 771-8576**

**Michelle Gulick, Vice-President - [shllcslt@yahoo.com.au](mailto:shllcslt@yahoo.com.au) - (314) 805-5492**

**Tom Bonham, Secretary - Treasurer - [Tom@PuppetGuild.org](mailto:Tom@PuppetGuild.org) - (314) 335-7537**

**Stan Gulick, - [stanggulick@yahoo.com](mailto:stanggulick@yahoo.com) - (314) 223-6931**

**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**

The Guild's fiscal year starts June 1. If you have not paid dues for fiscal 2015-16, they are now due. For convenience, those who have not yet paid, you will be receiving a PayPal invoice with a dollar added for PayPal processing. You do not need a PayPal account to pay dues via credit or debit card through PayPal. You may still pay at a meeting via check (please no cash). (Failure to pay the pay a PayPal invoice will have absolutely no affect on any credit ratings.)

## New Policy on Meeting Programs

The Program Chairperson will not be creating programs, but rather coordinating your offerings.

ALL members will be expected to contribute to meeting programs. Team up with another member if you wish. Preliminary results show members are wanting more technical programs or demonstrations of what others are doing with their puppetry. Do a puppet slam act if nothing else!

**You will be asked to give a program this year.**

PuppetGuild.org:



Watch us,



Like us,



and Follow us



# **October Meeting**

## **Halloween Party and Performance**

### **"TBA"**

**Thu., Oct. 29, 2015, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Buder Branch - Saint-Louis Public Library**

**4401 Hampton Ave**

**Saint-Louis, MO 63109**

## **The Puppet Guild of Greater Saint Louis**



### **PUPPETFEST 2015**

**10:30 A.M. PUPPET SHOW**

**"90 SECOND PUPPET STORIES"**

**TOM BONHAM PUPPET AND MARIONETTE PRODUCTIONS**

**11:15 A.M. PUPPET-MAKING WORKSHOP**

**"TBA"**

**TBA WORKSHOP LEADER**

**Sat., Nov. 21, 2015**

**Buder Branch Library**

**Saint Louis Public Library**

**4401 Hampton Ave - 63109**

with financial assistance from



REGIONAL ARTS  
COMMISSION OF ST. LOUIS

# **December Meeting**

## **Holiday Party and Performance**

### **of "TBA" by TBA**

**Thu Dec 17, 2015, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Saint Louis County Library**

**Thornhill Branch, meeting room**

**12863 Willowyck Dr (off Fee Fee 1 mile north of Olive)  
Saint Louis, MO 63146 - (314) 994-3300**