



San Francisco Bay Area Puppeteers' Guild
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

July 2013

In Breaking News...



Yes, it's that hot!

- In this issue:*
- New Board Members
 - GIFTS by The Independent Eye
 - Giant 4th of July Puppets
 - A First Marionette
 - Calendar
 - And proof of global warming (see above)...

2012-2013 Board of Directors and Guild Officers

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WebMaster
Position Open

Watch this space next month for your new board and officers.

SFBAPG Board Elections

New Guild Board of Directors Elected

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that the candidates running for the Board of Director positions have been unanimously accepted by the Guild membership. Our new Board members are Camilla Henneman, Olivia Huff and Tom Crystal. We are very fortunate that they will be sharing their skills and expertise on the board.

Many "thank you's" to Art Grueneberger (President) Jesse Vail (Programming) and Talib Huff (Newsletter Editor), who will be leaving the Board. Thank you for all your work in support of the Guild. Your commitment to fostering the art of puppetry through our local Guild is an exceptional gift to all.

Submitted by the Nominating Committee
Valerie Nelson
Sharon Clay
Lee Armstrong

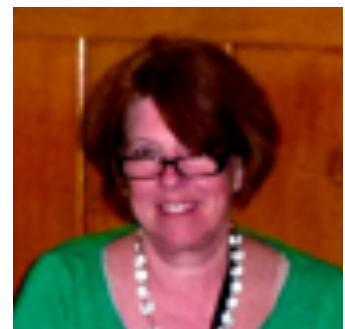
*Congratulations to our new
board members!*



Tom Crystal



Olivia Huff



Camilla Henneman

Reviews and News

GIFTS in July

The independent Eye is now touring a new show, GIFTS, designed specifically for house concerts and intimate venues. Two shows are upcoming in July. Monday, July 1st, we perform for the summer class at Dell'Arte International, Blue Lake, CA. And on Sunday, July 14th, 4:00 pm, we offer a public performance at Occidental Center for the Arts, in Occidental (<http://www.occidentalcenterforthearts.org>)



GIFTS is a duo show created & performed by The Independent Eye's Conrad Bishop & Elizabeth Fuller, plus puppets, objects, an electric sander, a steering wheel, and a pepper grinder. GIFTS offers three interlocked dramatic tales of love, loss, change, and gift. A young couple are trapped on an endless freeway leading them back, at last, to another try at Life. A mid-life dream of a prestigious award dissolves into begging for scraps but culminates in a banquet of riches. Elders moving into a third-floor walkup discover gods in a cardboard box and accept their very strange gift.



Responses to the show, plus a video sampler, may be seen at <http://www.independenteye.org/plays/gifts.html>. GIFTS is available free of charge to hosts with space to accommodate 10 or more friends. Free-will donations and refreshments follow the show.

--Conrad Bishop & Elizabeth Fuller

Inspiration Finally Takes Root

Talib Huff

For years I've been inspired by other puppeteers, both in our guild and around the world, to make (and use!) a processional parade puppet. I made two for a local Tudor Fayre, but hadn't yet made one for my own use. A few years ago we came across some red, white, and blue striped fabric. "This would make great legs for a giant Uncle Sam," I thought to myself. Well, this was the year. We found a number of friends and family who were willing to help out, and so we got to work. I looked on the web for advice and the best piece I found was, "There will always be surprises. Some good, some bad." So far, the worst surprise is the unseasonably hot weather! Uncle Sam and his eagle friend have come along nicely. Although there were a number of times when a part needed to be reengineered or thrown away completely, the excitement of working with a large group of people on a big project was very satisfying. As you can see from the picture, Sam is so tall he has to duck to go under our telephone wires.



If you would like to see the eagle in flight go to:
<https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/2529573/Flight.m4v>

My First Marionette

I've designed and commissioned marionettes, and purchased some but have never actually made one until now. I am preparing for a Halloween show and needed a dragon marionette for the play I had written. I was frustrated in not finding one that was just the right size or appearance. My marionettes are basically 12" in height and the few I found were either too big, too cute or too expensive.

So, with a certain amount of trepidation, I decided to craft one myself. To get an idea of how to proceed, I watched a number of videos on You Tube on how marionettes are made. After viewing these, I opted try my hand at making a paper mache dragon. That too was a first, as I never made anything from paper mache, not even as a youngster in school.

As my wife took off to visit family in New York I had some spare time and got down to work. I bought a few supplies (mainly glue, eyeballs, glue gun and modeling clay) and then drew a sketch. To give the marionette more support, I cut up a metal hanger and used the metal rods as a sort of inner skeleton to give it more support. The videos I studied generally had the paper mache covered with fabric yet I chose to coat the paper mache dragon with an outer coat of clay. This not only saved me time from cutting up little pieces of cloth but allowed me to put a little more detail when I made the scales. For the teeth and spike I bought some baking clay.

I had a few accidents along the way. My hooks for the front legs were crooked, so the right front leg appears slightly shorter than the left. I also used too much water in my glue and the paper mache at times became rather soaked, forcing me to redo it. Not being familiar with acrylic paint, I discovered that the colors appeared rather dull and drab. So I began mixing the colors and then coated them with a glossy finish. It took me about a week to finish, but I overall, I am pleased with the results. It was a good learning experience – very messy but fun. Perhaps I might try my hand at making a mummy next!

Have a great summer!
Dennis Vierling



Calendar

Fratello Marionettes

July 2, 3:00 pm
"The Vaudeville Follies"
Springstowne Library

July 2, 6:30 pm
"Aladdin"
Albany Library

July 3, 1:00 pm
"Aladdin"
Redding Library

July 9, 11:00 am
"Aladdin"
Avenal Branch Library
2:00 pm
Kettleman City Library

July 10, 11:00 am
"Aladdin"
Lemoore Branch Library
2:00 pm
Stratford Branch Library

July 11, 10:00 am
"Aladdin"
Hanford Library
1:00 pm
Corcoran Library

July 13, 2:00 pm
"The Frog Prince"
South Natomas Library

July 15, 3:00 pm
"Aladdin"
Atherton Library

July 16, 11:00 am
"Aladdin"
Meadow Vista Library

July 17, 10:00 am
"Aladdin"
Woodside Library at the Woodside Town Hall, Woodside, CA
1:00 pm
Belle Haven Library @ 413 Ivy Dr
Menlo Park, CA

July 19, 2:00 pm
"Carnival of the Animals"
West Valley Library @ 1243 San Tomas Aquino Rd.
San Jose, CA

July 24, 3:30 pm
"Aladdin"
Fairfield Civic Center Library @ 1150 Kentucky St
Fairfield, CA

July 27, 3:00 pm
"Carnival of the Animals"
MLK Library @ 150 E. San Fernando St.
San Jose, CA

July 31, 10:30 am
"Aladdin"
John F. Kennedy Library @ 505 Santa Clara Street
Vallejo, CA

July 31, 4:00 pm
"Carnival of the Animals"
Cambrian Library @ 1780 Hillsdale Ave
San Jose, CA

Magical Moonshine Theater

July 1, 7:00 pm
San Bruno Library: Puppylocks and the Three Bears

July 3, 2:30 pm
Saratoga Library: Puppylocks and the Three Bears

July 9, 3:30 pm
Puppylocks and the Three Bears at the Sausalito Library
7:00 pm Dimond Branch, Oakland Library
Puppylocks and the Three Bears

July 10, 10:30 am
Golden Armadillo at Vallejo Library
3:00 pm Puppylocks and the Three Bears at Rio Vista Library

July 11, 10:15 am
Puppylocks and the Three Bears at Westlake Branch Daily City
Public Library

July 13, 11:00 am
Puppylocks and the Three Bears at the Fairfax Library
3:00 pm Puppylocks and the Three Bears (bilingual)

July 16, 3:00 pm
Santa Clara Library: Golden Armadillo
7:00 pm Puppylocks and the Three Bears at Burlingame Library

July 17, 10:30 am
The Puppet Man, ML King Branch, Oakland Library
6:30 pm Cirque du Cafe, Walnut Creek Library

July 18, 2:00 pm
Puppylocks and the Three Bears at Alameda West End Branch
Library

July 20, 11:00 am
Puppylocks and the Three Bears at Hayward Library, Main
Branch

2:00 pm
Puppylocks and the Three Bears at Hayward Library, Weekes
Branch

Storybook Puppet Theatre

Saturdays and Sundays

11:00 am, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm

The Elves & The Shoemaker, May 22–July 11

The shoemaker has a problem. Every time he leaves leather on his workbench to make shoes the next morning, someone beats him to it during the night. Join the Shoemaker, Cinderella, The Prince, Puss in Boots and the Witch of the North from Oz as they try to find out.

The Magic Blossom, July 12–Aug. 29

William Shakespeare's timeless tale of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" comes to life for children. Join King Oberon and Puck and the other fairies as they try to trick Queen Fairy Titania. Puppets, script & scenery by Lewis Mahlmann.

Puppet Art Theater

July 2, various times

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Monterey Area

11am Greenfield Library

1:30 pm Soledad Library

3:30 pm Gonzales Library

July 3, various times

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Monterey Area

1:30 PM San Ardo Library

3:30 pm King City Library

Three Billy Goats Gruff

11:00 am Guerneville Regional Library

2:00 pm Central Library (Santa Rosa) T

July 5, various times

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Monterey Area

1 pm Aromas Library

3 pm Pajaro Library

July 9

1pm and 2pm Dublin Library Tale of the Dragon's Tail

6pm Livermore Library Tommy's Pirate Adventure

July 10

Three Billy Goats Gruff

11:00 am Sonoma Valley Regional Library

2:30 pm Cloverdale Regional Library

July 11 11:00 am

Three Billy Goats Gruff

Healdsburg Regional Library

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Monterey Area

11am Prunedale Lib

1:30 pm Castroville Lib

3:30 pm Marina Lib

July 12, 4:00 pm

Three Billy Goats Gruff

Larkspur Lib

July 13 10:30 am

Pacifica Library Dad and Me at the Library

July 16

Three Billy Goats Gruff

11:00 am Sebastopol Regional Library

2:00 pm Windsor Regional Library

6:30pm Galt Library Little Red Riding Hood

July 17

10:30 am Suisun City Library Three Billy Goats Gruff

July 18

11am Belvedere Tiburon Lib Boy Who Cried Wolf

330pm John Daly Library, Dad and Me at the Library

July 19

1030am Los Altos Library The Three Little Pigs

11:00 am Rincon Valley Regional Library (Santa Rosa)

Three Billy Goats Gruff

July 24

7pm San Leandro Main Library, Hansel and Gretel

July 25

Three Billy Goats Gruff

2:00 pm Northwest Regional Library, Santa Rosa

4:00 pm Rohnert Park-Cotati Regional Library

4:00 pm Franklin Library, Sacramento, Little Red Riding Hood

July 30

7:00 pm Benicia Lib Tommy's Space Adventure

July 31, 10:30am

Menlo Park Lib, Three Billy Goats Gruff

The Independent Eye

July 14th, 4:00 pm

GIFTS

Occidental Center for the Arts

See the article above for details.

Again with a note on the calendar: These dates and information are (mostly) pulled from the webpages of the puppeteers. Consequently, there are great variations in formatting. This leads to many opportunities for me to introduce errors as I try to bring them into some sort of conformity. The summer months are especially difficult as there tends to be more listings. Rather than leave listing out if they are not submitted in a designated form or spend more than I have on massaging the data, this month I've left some of the individual formatting intact. If you have any thoughts either way (didn't notice at all/your lack of text styling is appalling), please let me know.

-Your humble Editor

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Save the Date(s)

The Programs committee has agreed on the following dates and locations for 2013:

- Summer Meeting/Puppet Faire on Saturday, August 24 at Fairyland
- A Mini-Meeting with Lee Armstrong for TV Puppetry and Movie Night is penciled in for September -North Bay
- Mini-Meeting to attend open dress rehearsal for “Driveway Follies” on Wednesday, October 30 - Oakland
- Fall Meeting on Saturday, November 9 -San Francisco
- Holiday Party 2014 on Sunday, January 26 -North Bay

If anyone has a suggested meeting place for the November meeting in San Francisco, please contact Jesse Vail.



Puppeteers of america

Puppeteers of america, a national non-profit organization founded in 1937, provides information, encourages performances, and builds a community of people who love puppet theatre. Share the enchantment of puppetry with professional puppeteers, puppet builders, teachers, librarians, therapists, youth leaders, hobbyists and audience members who are enthusiastic about puppetry. To learn how to join, visit: www.puppeteers.org