

## FALL LANDSCAPING AT THE GUILD



Several members met on two Saturdays back in October to do some "power gardening" on the Guild property. Our group included **Phil Booth, Diane Cliff, John and Lois Sczomak, Jana Smith, and David Wood.** We were fortunate to have good weather! Together, we weeded, transplanted, and planted 250 tulip bulbs. We plan to continue our work to maintain and beautify our grounds and will announce future dates for get-togethers. All members are welcome!

- Lois Sczomak

## AMAZON SMILE

As you do your holiday shopping this season, don't forget to shop Amazon Smile. For every purchase that you make through [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com), Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the Guild. You can expect to find the same products, prices and Amazon Prime perks on AmazonSmile as you're used to. It's easy to switch over and start shopping. Here's how:



1. Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com).
2. Sign-in with your regular Amazon account info, or create a new account if you have never shopped on Amazon before.
3. When it asks you to Select a Charity, go down to "or pick your own charitable organization"; type in Players Guild of Dearborn and click "search".
4. Once it recognizes Players Guild of Dearborn, click "select" and the Guild will remain your choice for charity unless you manually change it again.
5. Shop as usual!  
Be sure to set this web address as a favorite, or remind yourself to shop here instead of the regular Amazon site. The profits will go to the Guild only if you shop through AmazonSmile.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CAST OF



### SHOW DATES:

January 12th-14th, 19th-21st, and 26th-29th, 2018

<b>Leon Tolchinsky</b>	Alex Gojkov
<b>Snetsky</b>	Adam Lynch
<b>Slovitch</b>	Phil Booth
<b>Mishkin</b>	Chris Boudreau
<b>Yenchna</b>	Sheryl Faber Vachon
<b>Magistrate Kupchik</b>	Tom Sparrow
<b>Count Gregor Yousekevitch</b>	Matt VanHouten
<b>Dr. Nikolai Zubritsky</b>	Bill McCloskey
<b>Lenya Zubritsky</b>	Tiffany Mullins
<b>Sophia Zubritsky</b>	Kori Bielaniec

## THANK YOU!

Thanks to the Elmhurst Tap Room for being a returning advertiser in our season program!





## STANDING OVATION

**Anita Stinson** for her beautiful painting of the Empire State Building on the set of *Come Blow Your Horn*.

**Stan Guarnelo** and all those involved in the Guild-y Horror Improv Show back in October. Thank you for using your time and talent to fundraise for the Guild!

## BEHIND THE SCENES WITH YOUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS: REBECCA HERMEN, PROPS GOVERNOR

### ALL ABOUT YOU

**Where are you from/where do you live?** Dearborn. I've spent most of my life here within 2 miles of the theater.

**Introduce us to your family:** I am married to Mike (who isn't from Dearborn or even Michigan originally) and have three boys: Garrett, Nate and Matt, all of whom you've seen around the theater.

**What are 5 things about you (personally) that you'd like our members to know?** I went through Dearborn Public Schools, DuVall, Stout and Edsel Ford. I've worked for the Dearborn Public Library for 20 years. Presently, I'm the Youth Services Supervisor. Like many of our Guild members, I have a connection to the Henry Ford. I was an Historical Interpreter during the late 1980s, early 1990s.

**Hobbies:** Handspinning, knitting and general craftiness. Also, like to go camping. Love the outdoors.

**How/when did you first get interested in theater?** Truthfully, I wanted to be an orphan in *Annie* after seeing it at the Fisher in 1978. My grandmother wouldn't take me downtown for auditions. I finally got on stage at Stout Junior High in a show called *Coming of Age*, directed by Phil Marks. I was involved with all of the shows when I was at Edsel Ford and on stage in all but one of them.

### ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT AT THE GUILD:

**When did you join the Guild and what/who got you involved?** I joined the Guild in 2012 when my two oldest (Garrett and Nate) were cast in *Willy Wonka Jr.* with the Guildlings. It's Nate's fault.

**What are some of ways you've been active at the Guild since becoming a member?** Before becoming Props Governor this year, I spent most of my time doing intermission and 50/50. I was parent liaison for *Little Mermaid Jr.* with the Guildlings and co-produced *Super Herolympics* with the Guildlings. On stage, I was Mrs. Fitzgerald in *Cheaper by the Dozen* and the Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical the Musical*. For *Promises, Promises*, I'm singing with the Pit Orchestra.

**What keeps you at the Guild?** I love the people here. I've made some great friends and reconnected with family. We are really creating magic here.

### ABOUT YOUR BOARD POSITION:

**How long have you been on the Board?** Just since June.

**What are your primary responsibilities as Props Governor throughout the season?** Keeping all the furniture, set dressings and carry on items in order. Pulling together all the things you see on stage from the lighter in someone's pocket, to blankets on the bed, to curtains on the windows to the couch the actors sit on. And then putting all those things away after a show. Or finding someone to pull those things together and put them away.

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## CONTINUED BEHIND THE SCENES WITH YOUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS: REBECCA HERMEN

**What does your committee do and if a member were interested in joining your committee, what kind of tasks/jobs could they expect to do?** Like I said, Props is responsible not only for the things actors carry or hold, but what they sit on and what hangs on the walls. People on the props committee need to have an eye for design, some crafting ability (manufacturing prop pieces is often necessary,) organization, and an interest in visiting thrift shops. Sometimes it's as easy as pulling things from the extensive collection of prop pieces and furniture owned by the Guild. Sometimes you have to work with other area theaters and borrow pieces. Sometimes you borrow from other Guild members. Sometimes you have to build things from scratch. There are even times where you bake or cook props. (Yes, what the actors eat and drink on stage is the responsibility of the props department.)

**You get your own WANT AD... Do you need help this season and if so, in what capacity?** I'm always looking for help. Especially, if you'd like to chair props for a show. We still have three more. It's actually fun and not as hard as it sounds. You get to build a whole world, adding those little things that make it all real. Props is all about the little things.

**In regards to props, what important things do you wish every member knew?** First rule of props: If it isn't yours, don't touch it. Just kidding. Props are everywhere at the Guild. The chairs, couches and tables all around the Clubroom and lobby could be a part of the next set. We decorate more than just the sets.

### FOR FUN

**Favorite show the Guild has done:** *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*

**What show would you love to see the Guild do?** For musicals, I'd love to see the Guild do *Chess* or the *Boys from Syracuse*. For straight shows, I'd put a bid in for *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* or *M. Butterfly*.

**Prefer to be onstage or behind the scenes?** I love both sides. One can't exist without the other.

**What's your "I wish I could do that" job at the Guild?** I find lighting fascinating. Color and intensity to set the mood, special effects, creating setting with light and shaped lights. It's more than what you light, it's what you don't too.

## TURKEY LURKEY TIME



When *Promises, Promises* first arrived in the late sixties, it was missing the show-stopping dance routine of the Act One closer, "Turkey Lurkey Time." While several other of Burt Bacharach's songs from the show would become giant radio hits, "Turkey Lurkey Time" went on to create a cult sensation in the theatre world. The dance number, choreographed by Michael Bennett and headed by Donna McKechnie, took this goofy, campy song and elevated it to a truly unique experience. Musically, the song rarely stays in one place, dynamically weaving from melody to melody, only occasionally repeating itself, until it crescendos into a burst of wild energy - and the dance does absolutely the same.

When Kelly first discussed with me the possibility of her directing *Promises, Promises* for the Players Guild of Dearborn's 90th season, the one thing that never changed was that she wanted to recreate the "Turkey Lurkey" choreography from the original Broadway production. This would be no mean feat, considering Donna McKechnie herself had previously equated performing the number to running a mile. Many of the dancers in the original Broadway production professed to going to chiropractors to assuage the strain it put on their bodies.

Fast forward to today, with the show well under way, and lo and behold, our cast is performing the number with gusto! Co-choreographers Adam Lynch and Kelly White made "Turkey Lurkey Time" one of the first dances the cast learned, thinking it would take the entire run of rehearsals to perfect the dance's crazy head bops, flailing arms, and manic energy. But even weeks before opening night, the number was already a delight. It's been amazing to see these actors take this iconic, difficult dance and really make it their own.

I hope you had a chance to see this show. So much work, care, and love went into every facet of this project, and I'm proud of what this team has accomplished.

- Adam Carey, Assistant Director

# BEHIND THE SCENES WITH PROMISES, PROMISES



THE CUBES.  
NATE AND GARRETT HERMEN



THE PIPES.  
ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT TOTAL





PROMISES, PROMISES CAST AND CREW DINNER  
CLOSING NIGHT : DECEMBER 3, 2018



## SPEED DATING YOUR BOARD

There's no time in the agenda at a Tuesday night board meeting for this kind of chit chat, but our governors and board members are some pretty interesting folk. See what a few of them have to say when given the floor.

### TREASURER - JULIE BALLANTYNE BROWN

1. Favorite stage show: *Les Miserables*
2. Least favorite stage show: *Cats*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Teacher*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Writing and crocheting*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Give out money*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Reconciling books*
7. One word that describes you: *Tired*
8. One talent you have: *Baby-whisperer*

### SECRETARY- PATTI MARTIN

1. Favorite stage show: *Our Town*
2. Least favorite stage show: *Cats*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Intership Program Director*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Vegetable garden and taking care of my dog Rosie*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *N/A*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Doing paper ballots in the mail instead of electronic ballots*
7. One word that describes you: *Complicated*
8. One talent you have: *BWriting upside down, backwards, and both*

### MEMBERSHIP - MATT RIPPER

1. Favorite stage show: *Anything Fosse*
2. Least favorite stage show: *Annie*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Professor*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Being outdoors & doodling*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Interact with all you crazy actors*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Hmm... ushers for sure*
7. One word that describes you: *Cosmopolitan*
8. One talent you have: *I could tell you .. but I might need to kill you.*

### PROGRAMS - MEGAN LIZBINSKI

1. Favorite stage show: *Inherit the Wind will always have a special place in my heart.*
2. Least favorite stage show: *I fell asleep during Spelling Bee*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Guest Services Manager at The Henry Ford*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Reading and shopping*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Publish 7 fantastic programs every season!*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Secure new advertisers*
7. One word that describes you: *Organized*
8. One talent you have: *Can I say organizing again?!*

### PUBLIC RELATIONS - MIKE MOSELEY

1. Favorite stage show: *Tie between Man of La Mancha and Fiddler*
2. Least favorite stage show: *Easy - Spring Awakening*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Caring for people at The Henry Ford*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Amateur presidential historian and movie enthusiast*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Brag about the Guild*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Nothing headachy...it really is all fun...I think the hardest thing is managing the calendar. All of our committee members are talented, busy folks. It's tough to get together and to stay on top of deadlines.*
7. One word that describes you: *Passionate*
8. One talent you have: *I think I have a knack for seeing (and celebrating) the best in people!*

### FINANCIAL CHAIR - RICHARD MOORE

1. Favorite stage show: *Spamalot*
2. Least favorite stage show: *Annie*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Project management, financials*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Music, concerts, playing piano*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Meetings held at Millers (finance is boring)*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *The 990 non profit IRS tax return*
7. One word that describes you: *"Fun"*
8. One talent you have: *Play piano*

### WAYS & MEANS - FRANN STEMPEK

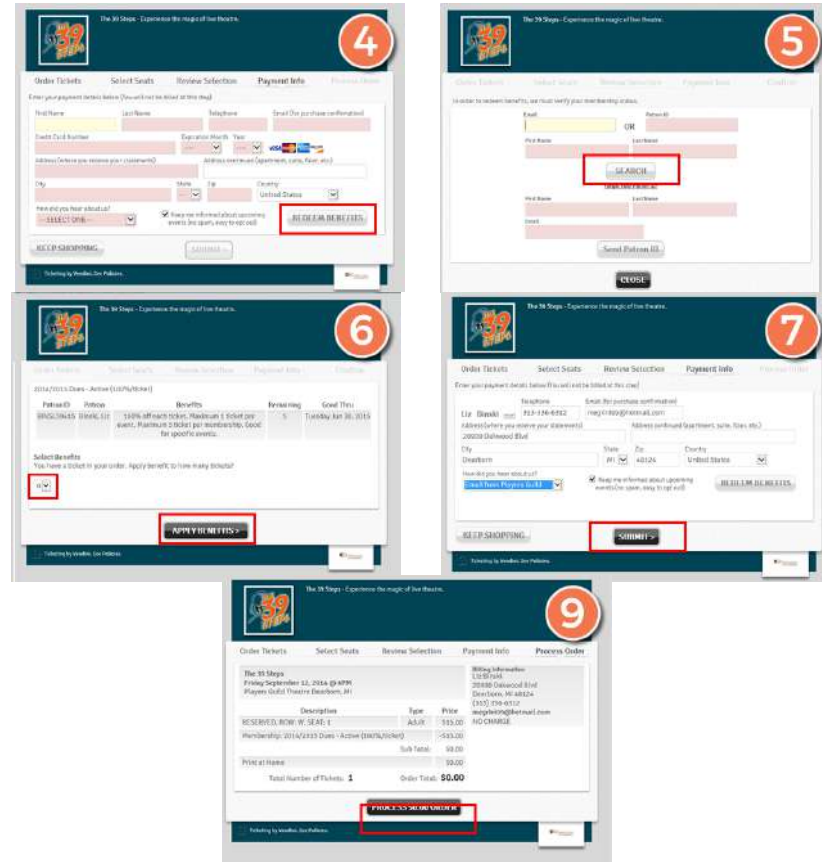
1. Favorite stage show: *The Full Monty*
2. Least favorite stage show: *Laura*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Credit Union Member Service Rep.*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Scrapbook card making and Thirty-One*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Deal with patrons*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Deal with patrons*
7. One word that describes you: *Compassionate*
8. One talent you have: *Singing*

### GUILDING CHAIR - MARC WALENTOWICZ

1. Favorite stage show: *Godspell*
2. Least favorite stage show: *The King and I*
3. Your job/career outside the Guild: *Highway Dept. for Dearborn Heights Public Works*
4. 2 hobbies (aside from the Guild): *Baseball and movies*
5. Most fun thing your PGD committee gets to do: *Work with some outstanding kids*
6. Most annoying/headachy thing your PGD committee has to do: *Trying to please everyone when we know full well we never will*
7. One word that describes you: *Tired - haha*
8. One talent you have: *Uhh wow, I really am useless*

## HOW TO REDEEM MEMBERSHIP TICKETS

1. Log onto our website [www.playersguildofdearborn.org](http://www.playersguildofdearborn.org)
2. Click on the "Buy Tickets" button.
3. You will be able to select your show, the date, and your seats. After you've done that click "Proceed to Payment."
4. On the next screen (pictured) click "Redeem Benefits."
5. We've set this up so that members can use their email address as their log in. On the next page, members should enter their email address and first and last name. Members without an email address in their patron record will not be able to order online. Click "Search."
6. Members will see the number of benefits they have available. Everyone will start the season with 5. As they redeem their tickets this number will dwindle. Members need to change the quantity from 0 to 1 and click "Apply Benefits."
7. They will be required to enter the information on the following page and then click "Submit."
8. To receive their tickets members will have to get to the "Process Order" page. This is located after the request for additional donations.
9. Click "Process \$0.00 Order" to complete the transaction.



## 2017-2018 BOARD MEMBERS & GOVERNORS

President - **John Sczomak**  
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