

	<p>The official newsletter of San Francisco Bay Area Puppeteers' Guild <i>Looking for updates and missed information?</i> <i>Check for it at SFBAPG.ORG</i></p> <p><i>SFBAPG is a charter guild of the Puppeteers of America, Inc., a non-profit, tax exempt organization</i></p>
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July 2017



Next Guild Event, July 4 Giant Puppets in the Vallejo parade. The USS Mariano Vallejo nuclear sub (made in Vallejo—the original as well as this one) sports a moving eye periscope designed by Kevin Menegus, as well as a collection of Ken doll Naval officers that all salute (operated by strings)- This year's theme will be aquatic and a fish puppet making party (?) will take place on Monday the 3rd in Vallejo- If you are interested in joining us on the 3rd or the 4th, email magicalmoonshine@gmail.com ASAP- Check the guild Facebook page for updates-

- Inside this Issue
- New Presidents Speak in Harmony
 - Fundraising for African Puppetry
 - Summer of Love and how to Groove with Puppets
 - Updates from our Members
 - August 27 Puppet Fair at Fairyland, Oakland
 - Calendar, Mrs Bandersnoot and more!

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Message from your Presidents (Peter Olsen, above L, and Tree Bartlett, R)

A Brief Conversation between Tree and Peter Upon Becoming Co-Presidents of the Puppetry Guild

Peter: So, tell me Tree, now that we're big shot co-presidents of this great puppetry guild, and we get to say something to all the members in this informative and entertaining newsletter that Michael so skillfully pulls together EVERY MONTH (!), what happy thoughts are on your mind?

Tree: Well first off I'd like to say I am humbled and honored to serve, along with you, Peter, as co-presidents of such an amazing guild. I am proud of our guild's accomplishments over the years. Folks who haven't done so yet should really go to the Guild's website and read our history.

<http://www.sfbapg.org/about/history/> It's amazing! So much to be proud of. I recently did just that and it made me realize I have some pretty big shoes to fill, even if they are big floppy red ones.

Peter: I know! Such creativity, such diversity, such good potlucks! And it's not just the past history that's so rich. I'm really excited about all the possibilities in this current historical moment...opportunities for collaborating with wonderful artists, sharing ideas and skills, seeing where our shared creativity and diversity and goodwill can take us.

Tree: Yeah! I feel like making baseball hats that say "Make puppetry great again!," except it never STOPPED being great. But of course, to realize our full fabulous puppet potential, we need each and every one of us as guild members to step up and participate. We as a board certainly don't have a corner on good ideas and creative energy. I encourage everyone to join in on committees and help out at guild events, for all of us to share our creativity, expertise, and wonderings

Peter: You're so right Tree. I'm wondering how we, as a board, and even you and me as fancy pants co-presidents, can make it easy for all our members to pipe up with ideas and desires. You know, find out what kinds of events and resources people are interested in...speakers, workshops and gatherings, stuff we haven't even thought about yet.

Tree: Yep, I think that's crucial. I encourage folks to jump in however they can. Personally, I'm also curious to hear folks' thoughts on how we might take this art form out into our local, and even global, communities in ways that foster positive social change. I've seen this sort of thing in action in South Africa. It's so powerful to see a whole community changed for the better through puppetry. I see the

possibility that working together as a guild, we could do something like that here in the Bay Area. What do you think?

Peter: Dude, I'm down! "Know Puppets, Know Peace!!" Tree, I hope that, just as you and I felt so welcome coming into the Guild, we can add our voices to that sense of warmth and welcome. I also hope that we get fancy robes and crowns to wear at guild functions.

Tree: Really?

Peter: ummm, not really.

Tree and Peter, together: "Hi San Francisco Bay Area Puppetry Guild. We Love You!!"



Tree's Plan for Puppet Fundraising for South Africa Organization

This is my Uncle Pete in South Africa. He is the one standing with me in the picture. In the other picture you can see my nieces and nephews. We must be related because they called me uncle when I was there visiting. Anyway around mid-July I plan to roll out an online funding initiative through something like go fund me to raise money to benefit the children in my family that are so far away. There is a local organization called Net vir Pret (Just for fun) that is run by my Uncle (Peter Takelo). This organization provides programs and services that directly benefit my nieces and nephews. Also this is the parent organization that directly benefits from the Day of Reconciliation Puppet Parade and Performance in Barrydale, South Africa. This was a big part of my experience when I went to South Africa to build puppets with the Handspring Foundation and Ukwanda Puppet Collective. All of the kids who participate in the parade and performance come from their association with this organization. Net vir Pret has a variety of special programs that directly benefit the youth and children of this area that serve these kids 365 days a year. So the money raised from this portion will go to help fund these programs.



The American dollar can stretch so much further than it can in the states so what you contribute can really change the lives of these kids and "give them the childhood they deserve," as stated on the Net vir Pret website - <http://www.netvirpret.org/>. Please stay tuned for more information to come. I hope then you will join me and contribute what ever you can afford to this worthy organization that's making a big positive local impact in the lives of these children.



After I had decided to do the fundraiser for Net vir Pret I sent emails out to my various friends in South Africa. I soon received a thoughtful email from Basil Jones, one of the founders of Handspring Puppet Company, thinking I was raising money to benefit the Barrydale/Smitsville Puppet Parade. Originally I thought I would just raise money for Net vir Pret. Then as I read on in Basils email he explained how the Handspring Foundation doesn't have much funding available for the Puppet Parade and that it was the intention of the foundation all along to eventually turn over the operations of putting together and creating the puppets and the parade to Net vir Pret and Ukwanda Puppet Collective. So it became apparent to me that additional funding is needed and would be welcome.

I have since decided to fundraise for both. My hope and dream would be for the guild to join me and help to build community through puppetry on an international scale. Plus there would be an opportunity to create a relationship with Handspring Puppet Company, Ukwanda Puppet Collective and Net vir Pret with the San Francisco Bay Area Puppeteers Guild . I am also hoping to generate interest in the project while attending the National Puppetry Festival in St. Paul at the end of July. I hope to create a network of connections across America with other Puppeteers and guild organizations as well to help with this fundraising endeavor. In this age of social networking it seems possible to raise a lot of money through small donations. At this point I plan to launch the fundraiser online probably at the beginning of August and I hope you will join me and become a part of this adventure. As this develops I will send out links to the guild and post on Facebook as well.

What Are Our Members Up To?

New website for Create, Minister, Teach!

I'm so pleased to finally be going live with my new website: www.CMTministries.org. As I'm sure many of you know, personal projects tend to fall on the back burner and this was one of them. With my last design being 5 years old though, it was overdue for an update.



This new design is more modern, dynamic and mobile-friendly. With at least 70% of online visitors to a website now being from a mobile device, a strong website needs to look good on a desktop, tablet *and* mobile phone. I invite you all to take a look at the new website. If you spot something funky - I'm still working out minor bugs - please let me know!

If you happen to be in the market for a designer, I am also available for print/web design and writing services. Say hello: gabrielgaldamez@gmail.com

From Ilene Cleveland of Kennedy Puppets



These are just some of the puppets that I have made over the months. The one with me is a puppet named Sully. He was made for a child at Make A Wish foundation. I felt so honored I got to talk to the parents of the child who received him.

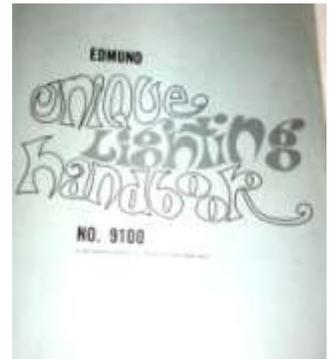
More photos on page 5-



Feelin' Groovy by Elisheva Hart

Dear "Guilders" both young and old, yet another homage to a happening scene, 50 years ago.

ENTIRELY MISSED OUT ON 'SUMMER OF LOVE?' or BEEN THERE, CAN'T REMEMBER MUCH [EITHER BY AGING OR INHALING]? AHA, TAKE A QUICK MAGICAL, MYSTICAL TOUR THROUGH THE "EDMOND UNIQUE LIGHTING HANDBOOK," published in 1969. Alas Edmond Scientific Co. of Barrington New Jersey no longer exists. Anyhow their subsequent publications became very humdrum in content and graphics.. Pity. The following information is shared by Elisheva, who has a precious copy of this Handbook. If I remember, I'll bring it to our next meeting. If I remember.



(Editor's Note: 3 copies of this book are currently available on Amazon starting at \$130!)

Introduction [to this 1969 handbook]: "ENTER INTO THE WORLD OF LIGHT

The overnight popularity of light shows, psychedelic music and lighting, discotheque decorating, and special effects for combos has created an information gap. The need for facts about the latest techniques and ideas for



unique lighting effects is a definite concern of anyone contemplating producing a light show or running a discotheque. This handbook answers that need with facts, ideas, techniques, suggestions, and other information that you will find essential to most unique lighting productions."

The fascinating handbook was published as an add-to manual, complete with pre-punched holes in the left margin. *Check out* the overhead projector project given at the end of this review.

SECTIONS-

-BLACKLIGHT, THE OUT OF SIGHT LIGHT: Tells how ultraviolet lighting can create unusual effects in discotheques and light shows.



-FLASHING LIGHT FANTASTIC: Discusses electronic, mechanical, and fluorescent strobes; how to make a mechanical strobe, and other important information.

-SPECIAL EFFECTS WITH OVERHEAD PROJECTORS.

-35 MM PROJECTORS: Discusses the role of 35mm projectors in light shows. Contains a helpful projection chart. Can give you ideas for various effects.

-SLIDES: Useful ideas for light show effects with various types of slides. Discusses polarizing effects, how to make crystal slides, how to make organic slides, and many other useful facts.

-COLOR WHEELS: Tells how to make your own color wheels and stands, how to use them with projectors and color organs, and more.

-SCREENS, what to project on: Discusses conventional screens, low-budget screens, rear projection screens, and front and rear projection screens. Gives unusual screen ideas, such as, a screen dome, screen tube, a screen tent, etc.

-ORGANS: Gives a brief history of color organs in general, facts about color organs today, and some ideas for light show and discotheque usage.

-MIRRORS: Discusses front and back surface mirrors, mirrored film, and various unusual ideas for using mirrors in your show.

-LIGHT BOXES (the light show in a box): Tells how to make light boxes, discusses their various components, and gives ideas to create some very unusual light boxes.

-MUSICVISION: Learn how you can actually see a song and add a new dimension to music.

-KALEIDOSCOPE PROJECTORS: How you can use them to create unusual effects.

-LUMIA (the anti-shape): Tells how to create lumia and tie it in with projectors, color organs, and reflective devices.

-GROOVY MOVIES: Ideas for using film in your light show or discotheque. Discusses subject matter, duration, and closed circuit TV.

-LIGHT SOURCES: Facts and applications for various light sources considered for light shows, discotheques, and theaters.

-WHAT'S WATT? (Electricity for light shows): Discusses the various electrical requirements for light shows, how to test circuits, and how you can compute your requirements.

* THE COLOR BURST* AN EFFECT FOR OVERHEAD PROJECTORS.

Probably one of the most interesting wet show recipes involves only water and powdered dye. To implement this, first dissolve the powdered dye in water [in a separate container]. Use a very strong concentration. Fill a clock crystal with [clear] water. [Edmond's sold clock crystals-which originally were made for class room type clocks. They have no brand name-or recycle code!- on them to distract from the projection. Nowadays, we have so many transparent plastic lids for prepared salads etc. which we can repurpose. If a recycle code or other distracting imprint exists on the lid, cover it with something- a star perhaps!]. Place a drop of mineral water in your "clock crystal" using an eye dropper. The drop of mineral water will float on the [container's] water like a round island.

Using an eye dropper, place a small drop of the dye solution on the drop of mineral oil. The color will, at first, be imprisoned in the mineral oil drop. It will seem to press against the walls of the drop. Then, when you least expect it, the color will break out of the mineral oil and fill the screen. -from the Edmond Unique Lighting Handbook.

ARE YOU FEELING GROOVY? The Marin County Fair, Civic Center, San Rafael, June 30 through July 4th, has "LET THE FUNSHINE IN - SUMMER OF LOVE" as a theme. They have a special exhibit chronicling the Summer of Love's origins in Marin County starting in June of 1967-50 years ago- through photos, posters and graphics, info on the multitude of local bands, concert footage, etc. (Sounds like psychedelic light shows will be part of the experience!) Alongside of Grooviness, there is a special exhibit for the (can you believe it?) also 50th Anniversary of the Renaissance Pleasure Faire in Marin County. This interactive exhibit will entertain yet another generation of Marin guests with music, song, children's participation theater, and PUPPET SHOWS! The Renn Faires offered employment to and enjoyment of many entertainers, including puppet shows back in the day. Guild member Ruth Stotter performed puppets there and probably did storytelling, another of her talents. Can you imagine performing outdoors, with noisy crowds strolling by, with no amplification? Incredible!

THE SUMMER OF LOVE EXPERIENCE: ART, FASHION, AND ROCK & ROLL is currently on exhibit at the De Young Museum in Golden Gate Park through Sunday, Aug. 20th. Their blurb mentions along with the title topics, "interactive music and light shows". I haven't had a chance to go-yet-but a cool slide lecture on this exhibit was at the Novato Library. I really got "into" the usage of color in the rock concert posters and how their artists achieved a 3-D effect just by placement (and shapes) of these colors. No special glasses needed!

EZ WAY TO MARBLEIZE PAPER, another groovy homage to Summer of Love, by Elisheva



How is marbleized paper/card stock useful for puppeteers? Paper theatres of course; Prosceniums, puppet figures, 'fab' puppet gowns, scenery (wild autumn leaves, wacky flowers, etc.) program covers,

signage, and so forth. Most of these can apply to other types of puppetry as well. The marbled paper often resembles "frozen" light show projections. Or extra fancy Easter eggs.

BASIC SUPPLIES:

1. A can of shaving cream, cheapest at \$Store. Unscented works best for groups.
2. Food coloring, available at most food markets. Besides ordinary colors, 'mod' neon colors are also available.
3. Flatish containers, larger than the paper you are dyeing. The ones prepared foods come in are good. For creating round art, use a round cake tin, ice cream carton lid or cut your paper round before/after dyeing it.
4. Toothpicks, disposable to-go forks, or a comb to swirl and/or rake patterns onto the container of flattened shaving cream.
5. Paper. Typing paper is handy. 8 1/2 x 11 card stock (same weight as index cards) is really handy and sturdy. [I keep a package of 250 sheets in my workroom. And it is flexible enough to use in a printer. I bring my own to "Kinkos" and load it into their printer. We usually think of marbleizing white paper and it is fun to experiment with other colors.] Another bonus of using card stock is (after scraping) you can rinse the small specks of missed foam from it-unlike regular paper-without dissolving it.
6. A spatula, plastic ruler, or tongue depressor to scrape foam off art work. Junk mail provides me with extra large adverts which are laminated like credit cards. Most excellent scrapers.
7. Old newspapers to dry dyed artwork on. Paper towels, and disposable gloves if worried about dyeing your hands.



PROCEDURE:

1. Cover work space with newspapers.
2. Be sure paper/card stock is cut to size-a little smaller than the foam container, at the same time a little larger than finished product, so you can safely pick up the edges.
3. Spray shaving cream into bottom of container. It expands after spraying, so go slowly.
4. Level out surface with spatula, ruler, or tongue depressor, etc.
5. Drip, dribble, splat, etc., a wee bit of food coloring here and there on the snowy whiteness of the flattened shaving cream. Begin with two or three colors to start with. If too mixed up the color foam can become muddy.

6. Gently swirl toothpicks, etc. (see #4 under supplies) to create patterns and designs.

7. Gently drop the paper onto the foam. Try different techniques, like starting by dropping it at one end of the container and easing it towards the other end in a continuous movement.

8. Remove the paper from the foam. Immediately scrape the surplus foam off the paper. Discard it. Lie the dyed paper flat on paper towels or newspapers to dry out.

NOTES: The above is the basic procedure. It is a fun and amazing process to do with children. Most people reuse the foam another time or two, dribbling some more food coloring where needed. This gives very bright and clear colors. Then the artists totally clean out the container and begin again with fresh batches of foam. (At least shaving cream is easily dispensed with "down the drain"!) So when I am changing the foam frequently (to keep colors bright and the background crisp), I use a very shallow container because it does not require a lot of foam and creates less waste. Usually I try to get more use of the original batch of foam by adding other colors, etc. Then the foam colors become more "used" and often the "inbetweens" (background colors between newly added bright colors) become sepia or other muted colors. It all depends upon the desired effect!



Dear Mrs. Bandersnoot,

What a lovely pitch you made about puppet shows for children in our June, 2017 SFBAPG Newsletter. No, we should never forget the tikes. Among other good qualities they may grow up and become audiences for adult shows! Even create and perform with puppets in the future!

Besides this letter being fan mail, here is a burning question from me. I've noticed during my years of entertaining at birthday parties that around 2nd grade the boys do not want anything to do with fuzzy puppets. So they used to have (in the rainy season) mud wallowing parties- or rock climbing (nowadays video games are the boy magnets), while too many of the girls still love "cutesy wootsie, passive-rescued by the prince-type" fairytales. I need some ideas of stories to turn into dynamite shows with strong characters which will attract both the girls and the boys! And not be preachy, just terrific. I think puppets should be palatable and thrilling to all ages and stages of children. Plus any nearby adults.

Thanks so much, Signed: A searcher for equality and great story ideas.

Dear Searcher for equality and great story ideas,

Thank you for your kind remarks. My opinion is always SO true!

While Mary was teaching the Multicultural Puppetry class at CSUS last year, she researched a number of stories from other cultures and read them aloud to me. There are many interesting stories with colorful characters in that genre! Besides lots of material to work with, there is the added benefit of celebrating our county's diversity by sharing stories from other cultures. Since many cultures have a heritage of puppetry also, a little research can ferret out some of the stories they tell through puppetry. (A head start!)

Researching stories that already exist can also be very inspiring! Perhaps the Troll is a girl troll from that Icelandic folk tale can meet the sly boy coyote from that Native American tale; each on a quest for a deeper purpose, and to change negative stereotypes that label them. (Roll flipping: The girl would be the stronger more physically powerful character and the boy at times dependent on her strength) Together they can set off on an adventure to discover and recover the lost pearl from that story from China. The pearl need to be returned so peace can be restored between two clashing clans; a conflict brought about by a silly misunderstanding. Obstacles can be overcome by cooperation

and collaboration. Their differing sizes, experiences and skill sets can set up the means by which the obstacles are met and conquered. Rivals at first, the two can be fast friends in the end, appreciating each other's differences, stop the conflict and celebrate through something they both have in common - A love for Sweet potato pie!

Oooh! Perhaps this could be a jumping off place for a slam challenge! Take one coyote, one troll, one clan war, one silly misunderstanding, add one missing treasure and one sweet potato pie! Make a story, get some puppets and GO! Your only limitation is your own imagination!

Power to a good story! Most affectionately, Mrs. Bandersnoot

Please submit a question to Mrs. Bandersnoot, email Mary Nagler mary.nagler@gmail.com. (Mrs. Bandersnoot lives with her and Mary will relay the message!) Or, give Mary a call (707) 303 0093 No question too silly. Silly is good

CALENDAR

August 19, Forbidden Puppet Cabaret Celebrates Summer of Love

August 19, starting at 7:30 at Bay Area Stage Broadway Theatre, 515 Broadway Street Suite H, Vallejo, CA Short form puppetry with a number of guild members performing, for adults, with music, food, drink and a GROOVY theme! Tune in and drop out- Tickets available soon- For more info, keep an eye on Forbidden Puppet Cabaret's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/ForbiddenPuppetCabaret/>

August Meeting on Sat., Aug 26 at Fairyland.

Don't miss the annual Weekend of Puppetry at Fairyland. Lots of great shows by talented puppeteers. The Guild meeting will be on Sat, Aug 26, where after a fun filled day of performances, and the park closes to the public, the Guild will have supper together and a short program. More information will be included in the August newsletter. And remember the Sunday shows too. The complete lineup as at <http://fairyland.org/events-and-performances/schedule-of-events/>.

August 27 Puppet Fair!

10:30 a.m. The Frog Prince presented by Will Lewis and Dragon Fly Theatre

11 a.m. & 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. Puppet Show: The Adventures of Peer Gynt. 12 p.m. Puff The Magic Dragon, presented by The Puppet Company

12 p.m. - 2 p.m. The Marilyn O'Hare Arts & Crafts Center is open with activities geared toward children and their families.

12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m. Children's Theatre presents: Aesop's Fables –

3:30 p.m. The Fratello Marionettes will use their impressive talents to present the "Vaudeville Follies".

WANT TO KNOW WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON? Lots! Check out the guild calendar (see screen shot to R) at

<http://www.sfbapg.org/events/calendar/>

Help make our puppet calendar great by submitting your events or ones you hear about to

<http://www.sfbapg.org/events/notify/>

