

# Back Stage



April 2017



COMMUNITY  
**PLAYERS**  
*of Salisbury*



Happy Easter to each of you! And I hope that the Spring season chases away the winter doldrums.

Once again, it is a very busy time for Players. *Deathtrap* has ended a very successful run. *Arsenic and Old Lace* is gearing up. We have just vote on next year's season. Elections for officers and Board members are next month. In addition, there are Constitution and By-Laws amendments to be voted on next month.

If you have something to go in the newsletter, please submit it to me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month at [popirusty@comcast.net](mailto:popirusty@comcast.net) or you can give it to me at the monthly meeting and it will go in that month's newsletter.

## Constitution and By-Laws Amendments

In this newsletter is the explanation of the proposed amendments to the Players' Constitution and By-Laws. For each, you will see what is currently in our documents and the proposed change. The proposed changes are intended to bring our documents more in line with what we are actually doing as an organization and to prepare our group for further growth as we move forward toward our goals (artistic and business).

We will vote on these changes at the meeting on May 3.



## Meeting Notice

President Megan Davis has announced that the next meeting will be May 3 at 7 PM at Players on Nutters Cross Road.

Business to be handled at this meeting will include election of officers and Board members and discussion of/voting on amendments to the Constitution and By-laws, as well as regular monthly business.

We hope to see many of you at this very important meeting.

## Election of Officers

Nominations Chairperson, Sharon Benchhoff, presented a slate of nominees to those present at the April meeting for consideration. Nominations from the floor were accepted. Nominations for officers and three Board positions were closed at the end of the meeting.

The ballot for next year's slate of officers and Board members is included with this newsletter. We will vote for these positions at the meeting on May 3.

Newly-elected officers and Board members will begin their terms at the June meeting.



## Proposed Constitution and By-laws Changes

To be voted on May 3, 2017

### *In the Constitution now...*

#### Article IV-Dues

Section A - Dues for membership including Individual, Family, and Student membership shall be established by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership who are present at the meeting where the motion is presented.

Section B - Dues shall be due on September 1 of each fiscal year and shall be considered delinquent if not paid by October 31.

### *In the By-Laws now...*

#### Number 2

9. The Membership Committee shall receive applications from new members, make available applications to prospective member, shall issue to all new members (with Board of Directors approval and dues payment) a membership card (and general information as appropriate), and shall keep a roster of all members in all categories.

### *Proposed change...*

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# Proposed Constitution and By-laws Changes—To be voted on May 3, 2017

## *In the By-Laws now...*

### Number 2

11. The Production Committee shall be comprised of members appointed by the President on a rotating basis representing as many facets of theatrical expertise as possible. This committee shall receive titles of shows (musical and drama) from members, non-members, and potential directors, shall read the shows and discuss the merits of producing each (considerations to include royalties, set expense, cast size/requirements, costumes, etc.), shall check on show availability, shall recommend to the Board of Directors at the March meeting two (2) or more selections for each of the musical and drama categories, shall recommend directors for each show submitted, shall keep a current file of play selections, and shall be responsible for the distribution of personal materials to each of the Board of Directors members (allowing ample time for reading prior to the April Board of Directors meeting).

### Number 3

Section A-Definition of the four categories of membership:

1. An Individual Membership shall be a membership available to an individual who is eighteen (18) years old or older, who shall be entitled to all rights and privileges and subject to all obligations which membership in Players requires. Without limiting such rights and obligations, such rights will include: the right to vote on business matters and officers, the right to seek and hold a position on the Board of Directors, the right to borrow costumes and prop, or set pieces without a deposit, the right to participate in workshops free of charge or at a reduced rate, receipt of the newsletter, and attendance at dress rehearsals without cost. The obligations of a member include attendance at membership meetings, participation in productions during the season, and prompt payment of annual dues.

2. A Family Membership shall be a membership available to couples or parents (or legal guardians) of children who are under the age of eighteen (18) or twenty-two (22) if a fulltime student or on active duty in the military. Those eighteen (18) and over will have the rights and responsibilities of an Individual Member.

3. A Lifetime Membership may be granted by the Board of Directors and all rights and privileges of membership will be given with dues payment waived. To be eligible for Lifetime Membership, a person must be at least 60 years old and have been a member for at least 20 years. A letter of recommendation from a member must be submitted to the Board of Directors by the August meeting. A nomination must be made by a Board of Directors member based on that letter of recommendation. Voting will take place based upon these recommendations. No more than two Lifetime memberships shall be awarded in any year.

4. A student Membership shall be a membership available to an individual who is under the age of eighteen (18) and is a fulltime student. Rights and obligations of a Student Member shall include all rights and obligations of an individual member with the exception of eligibility to seek office and the right to vote.

Section B - Patrons shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of membership at no additional cost.

Section C - Dues shall be waived for the Director and Music Director of a Players' show, and their family, for the fiscal year of the show.

Section D - Dues shall be set by the Board of Directors annually.

## *Proposed change...*

### Number 2

11. The Production Committee shall be chaired by the Vice-President and be comprised of members appointed by the Vice-President. Members of this committee should represent as many facets of theatrical expertise as possible. The committee shall be comprised of nine members, including the committee chairperson. No member of the committee shall be a potential director submitting a show for consideration, nor a close relative of the director. This committee shall receive titles of shows from potential directors (members and non-members). The committee shall read the shows and discuss the merits of producing each (considerations to include the type of show, cost of the show, cast size, cast type, show availability, etc.). The committee shall list all the shows they feel should be considered to the Board of Directors at the March meeting. There should be at least two (2) or more selections for each of the musical and drama categories. The committee will also recommend a slate of shows for the upcoming season (shows that the committee feels would make a well-rounded season). The committee shall be responsible for distributing copies of all the scripts to each member of the Board of Directors (allowing ample time for reading prior to the April Board of Directors meeting).

### Number 3

Section A - Definition of the three (3) categories of membership:

1. (A) An Individual Member shall be a membership available to an individual who is eighteen (18) years old or older, who shall be entitled to all rights and privileges and subject to all obligations which membership in Players requires. Without limiting such rights and obligations, such rights will include: the right to vote on business matters and officers, the right to seek and hold a position on the Board of Directors, the right to borrow costumes, props, or set pieces without a deposit and all of the benefits by the tier level an Individual Member purchases as outlined in Section C. The obligations of an active member include: attendance at membership meetings, participation in productions during the season, and prompt payment of annual dues.

(B) Patrons shall have the rights and obligations of an Individual Member at no additional cost.

2. A Family Member, shall be a membership available to couples or parents (or legal guardians) of children who are under the age of eighteen (18) or on active duty in the military. Those eighteen (18) and over will have the rights and responsibilities of an Individual Member and all of the benefits by the tier level a Family Member purchases as outlined in Section C.

3. A Lifetime Membership may be granted by the Board of Directors and all rights of Individual Membership will be given with dues payment waived. To be eligible for Lifetime Membership, a person must be at least 60 years old and have been a member for at least 20 years. A letter of recommendation from a member must be submitted to the Board of Directors by the August meeting. A nomination must be made by a Board of Directors member based on that letter of recommendation. Voting will take place based upon these nominations. No more than two Lifetime Memberships shall be awarded in any year.

Section B - Dues shall be set by the Board of Directors annually.

Section C – Membership Tiers

1. Membership tiers shall be available for Individual and/or Family Membership purchase. Tier pricing shall not exceed that of Patron level pricing at any given time. The cost of tier pricing is directly related to that of member dues and shall be set annually per Section B.

2. Tier levels shall be assigned as follows:

- a. Mezzanine Membership (Tier 1)
- b. Orchestra Membership (Tier 2)
- c. Center Stage Membership (Tier 3)

3. The benefits associated with each tier shall be reviewed, with changes proposed, by the Membership Committee annually.

4. Any changes in the benefits, obligations, and/or responsibilities associated with membership, regardless of tier level, shall be communicated to the general public no later than 30 days prior to implementation. Those members who hold a standing membership (those who have purchased several years or membership) shall not be affected by any changes unless it is in the favor of the member.

5. Changes in benefits, obligations, and/or responsibilities associated with membership shall take effect in coordination with the organization's fiscal year per Article IV, Section B of the Constitution, unless it is in the favor of the member.

**COMMUNITY PLAYERS OF SALISBURY - 2017 BALLOT**

**NOMINEE FOR VICE PRESIDENT:**

**Ken Johnson**

**NOMINEE FOR RECORDING SECRETARY:**

**Sherri Hynes**

**NOMINEES FOR CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:**

**Robin Finley**

**Rusty Mumford**

**NOMINEE FOR TREASURER:**

**Charles Linton**

**NOMINEES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (Vote for 3)**

**Joe Benamati**

**Melissa Dasher**

**Alanna Phillips**

**Sharon Benchoff**

**Matt Hatfield**

**Peter Cuesta**

**Darrell Mullins**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please Print)**

All adult members (18 and over) whose dues are paid for 2016-17 may vote.  
(Individual, Family, and Patrons)

This ballot may be copied so that all adult members may vote.

Bring this ballot to the May General Membership Meeting or mail it to:  
Community Players - P. O. Box 2431 - Salisbury, MD 21802

**All mailed ballots must be received by May 2, 2017**

Community Players of Salisbury  
P. O. Box 2431  
Salisbury, MD 21802

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
SALISBURY, MD 21801  
PERMIT 176

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Membership**  
**Dues Reminder**

If the address label on this  
newsletter does not show  
Member 2016-17 or 2017-18  
— your dues are not current.

Join today!

**Next Monthly Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, May 3, at 7:00 PM

At Community Players, 5109 Nutters Cross Road, Salisbury 21804



**Community Players Officers & Board of Directors - 2016-2017**

President: Megan Davis - m david9094@gmail.com

Vice President: Tom Robinson - tomchicken@aol.com

Recording Secretary: Sherri Hynes - shynes@wcboe.org

Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net

Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President: Tom Robinson - tomchicken@aol.com

**Board Members**

Pete Cuesta, Ken Johnson, Katie Simms Parsons - Term Expires 2017

Steve Culver, Judy Hearn, Kel Nagel - Term Expires 2018

David Allen, Sammy Barnes, Robin Finley - Term Expires 2019

**We're on the Web: [www.SBYplayers.com](http://www.SBYplayers.com)**