

Newsletter

Fall 2012

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*Remember the Pasadena Playhouse Alumni
& Associates in your Estate Planning*

PPA&A CONTACTS

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PPA&A Website
www.ppa-a.org and
www.pasadenaplayhousealumniandassociates.org

Henry & Joyce Sumid Scholarship
www.Sumidscholarship.com

Pasadena Playhouse Archives
archives@pasadenaplayhouse

Playhouse Website:
www.pasadenaplayhouse.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The intention of an alumni association is to serve as the nexus for shared experiences and memories among its classmates. Those who attended our school probably have a varied list of experiences, some uniquely their own. While everyone has their individual story it seems each of us has the same reaction when you say the name, **Bea Hassel**. In my experience, mentioning her name has never failed to bring a smile to an alumna’s face. I’ll bet you’re smiling right now as you recall her. There are not enough adjectives to rightfully describe this wonderful teacher and charming lady. In many ways, she was the heart of the college, and she touched everyone who met her.

Bea passed away in August, a few weeks shy of her 105th birthday. This newsletter contains many letters from classmates with their memories of the amazing lady we all hold close in our hearts. If you have a reminiscence of Bea that you wish to share, please send it to us. If you have a special memory or something you wish to relate about **any** of the wonderful instructors who taught at our school please send that, too. These are the stories that bind us.

An alumni association is also meant to present opportunities for its members to come together in reunion. We are pleased to announce we are now making plans for the **Diamond Jubilee 60th Annual Brunch** to be held Sunday June 9, 2013. The PPA&A has nobly continued the tradition of an annual gathering for 59 consecutive years! Unfortunately, the 60th year may be our last annual gathering. Please see the articles in this newsletter regarding our big party next year.

As always,
Valerie

Cash Flow Statement
Ending August 31, 2012

Balance Brought Forward	\$8,833.91
INCOME:	
Regular memberships	1 45.00
Life membership	0 0.00
Directory Sales	3 10.50
Brunch tickets	5 220.00
Brunch Raffle income	461.00
Note card sales	105.00
Donations	5000.00
Ralph's Program income	51.82
Bank interest	.72
Total Income	\$ 5,894.04
EXPENDITURES	
Archive intern Honorarium	109.75
Brunch refund	(450.00)
Brunch supplies	317.06
Pasadena Playhouse donation	1500.00
Total expenditures	\$ 1,476.81
Ending Balance 5/31/12	\$13,251.14

Board Minutes Excerpts

All meetings were held in the Playhouse third floor conference room.

July Absent – Ross Eastty, Neva Wallace, Eric Johns, Jack Scott, Ellen Bailey

August Absent – Charlyn d'Anconia, Ross Eastty, Jaclyn Palmer, Neva Wallace, Marje Cates, Jack Scott,

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT: *July/* A tentative date of June 9, 2013 was chosen for the 60th Diamond Jubilee meeting. ~ In light of the unexpected refund of \$450 from the Marriott for the Brunch, Valerie asked that we increase our donation to the Foster Challenge from \$1000 to \$1500. MSP *Aug/* The Carrie Hamilton Theatre is now rented through May 2013. ~. A new Executive Director has been selected and will be announced soon.

BRUNCH: *Aug/* Our first choice for the next year's brunch location would be to have it at the Playhouse and Valerie is checking out this possibility. Discussion continued on ways to make this a memorable brunch since it was acknowledged that this may be our last brunch for some time to come.

AWARDS: *Aug/* It was discussed that since this may be our last brunch for some time, we need to 'think outside the box' regarding the awards. We could do more than one of each award if we have enough nominees that warrant this.

ARCHIVES: *July/* Ross Clark reported the need of a special scanner, software and external hard drives needed in the archives in order to complete the transfer of archival data to the database. ~ Ellen has a meeting with the Huntington Library to set up a schedule for her two interns to search their archives for programs and information we are missing in order to add the information to our records. *Aug/* Ross reported the cost of the items needed for the archives was \$950. Motion was MSP to make the purchase. ~ Ellen requested honorariums for the departing interns. Request granted. In the future a \$100 gift card could be purchased for interns who donated 150 or more hours and a \$50 gift card for interns that donate 100 to 149 hours.

SUMID SCHOLARSHIP: *July/* Valerie distributed updated financial information as of June 30, 2012 for the Sumid Scholarship fund. She also informed the board that she is stepping down as a voting member of the scholarship committee, but will continue to administer the program. Ross Clark is joining the committee as a voting member.

RALPHS/KROGER: *Aug/* September 1st is the date when members need to re-register for the community giving program.

MEET & GREET: *Aug/* We may no longer be able to give out our welcome letter and PPA&A information packets to the new casts, as we do not have anyone who can/will create the actual packets.

LIAISON: *Aug/* The Foster Grant has been completed (\$250,000). ~ The first HotHouse has been planned for October –*A View of the Mountain*. ~ The new Major Gifts Officer, Christine Franke, starts September 4.

Respectfully submitted by
Valerie Amidon for Neva Wallace
Secretary

The Big 6-0!



Yup! This is it! Next year we will be celebrating the 60th Annual Reunion of the Pasadena Playhouse Alumni & Associates.

The **60th Diamond Jubilee Brunch** will be held on Sunday June 9th, 2013. The location is yet to be announced as we are searching for a very special place to hold this very special event.

There are two important items for our members to consider with regard to this landmark event. First, it is most noteworthy to state that our Alumni association has held annual events and continues to maintain a connection for its members **43 years** after the closing of our school. That must be a record of Guinness book caliber.

Secondly, and most difficult to announce, the 60th Annual Reunion is likely to be the last *annual* reunion of the PPA&A. As much as we desire to maintain an annual event, it has become more difficult to organize it with declining attendance.

If you have been putting off plans to attend the Brunch - **THIS IS THE ONE TO NOT MISS**. If you're one who has been saying 'maybe next year'; this is the year - **THIS IS THE ONE TO NOT MISS**. If you are one of many who have never missed a Brunch, don't break that incredible record now! **THIS IS THE ONE TO NOT MISS!**

So, start making your plans now to attend the 60th Diamond Jubilee Brunch on June 9th, 2013. Details will be announced in the next newsletter and via an email blast to the membership.

Valerie Amidon

2013 Award Nominations

Planning for our big 60th Diamond Jubilee is under way and we are eager to receive your nominations for Man and Woman of the Year, the Gilmor Brown Award and the Keeper of the Flame. The selection process takes some time and we want to give our awardees

sufficient notice to make plans, so we need your nominations by January 1st. In order to nominate someone for these awards, please send your name, the name of your nominee, the award you want them to be considered for, why you think they should receive that award and their bio, if possible. You can send in nominations by email to gimslc@verizon.net or to Bridget Furiga, 17351 Chapparral Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92649.

If you are not sure if someone is already a recipient of a particular award, please email me at gimslc@verizon.net and I will check our records. Please keep in mind that because someone has already received one award, that does not mean they are ineligible to receive a different one. When you are making nominations, please keep in mind the following guidelines.

Man and Woman of the Year-The eligibility for honorees selected is the same as the eligibility for membership. They must have attended the Pasadena Playhouse School, performed on one of the stages, or have been affiliated with or employed by the organization in some manner. The nominees should have maintained an outstanding career in the theatrical field of their choice.

The Keeper of the Flame-The eligibility for honorees selected is the same as the eligibility for membership. It is awarded to those who have made a significant contribution and devoted dedicated energy to the ongoing activities of the Pasadena Playhouse and/or the PPA&A.

The Gilmor Brown Award-This award is granted on the basis of outstanding creative and artistic achievement covering a period of several years of work in a special field, making a significant contribution to the theatre that reflects the ideals exemplified by the long and illustrious example set by Gilmor Brown. The honoree need not have had any connection with the Pasadena Playhouse and/or the PPA&A.

We had absolutely wonderful awardees this year and we want to have ones that are just as wonderful next year. In order to do this, we need your input. This is your chance to help us decide who our awardees will be for 2013.

Bridget Furiga
Awards Chairperson

IT'S YOUR TURN

GET INVOLVED

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND THE 60TH DIAMOND JUBILEE, **you will be missing a historic event!**

IF YOU DO NOT MAKE AN AWARD NOMINATION, **there will be no awards!**

A Bit of History

At a recent event featuring the Playhouse archival collection at the Huntington Library, someone asked me if we were taught all this history of the Playhouse while we were students. The answer, of course, was no. We probably knew about the spectacular productions of Eugene O'Neill's *Lazarus Laughed*, that the Playhouse was the first US theatre to perform all of Shakespeare's plays and that in 1937 the Playhouse became the State Theatre of California, but that's about it.

When we were students we were concentrating on us. What we did know was that we chose the right school in which to learn and hone our craft. It felt like a magic place where we not only became adept at our craft, but we learned lessons that enriched our lives from that time forward.

Did you know that the Pasadena Playhouse is the oldest regional theatre in the country still in its original building and is still producing top quality productions? Are you aware of the highs and lows of its fascinating history?

Luckily, the operating staff of the Playhouse kept great records for the majority of the life of the theatre. However, when the Playhouse went into bankruptcy in 1969 those records were scattered to the four winds. **Peggy Ebright** and her group bought most of the records when they were auctioned off and after stashing them in several inadequate locations they were finally given to the Huntington Library. When the Playhouse reopened in the 1980's programs, pictures, books and other related material started being returned to the Playhouse by alums and others and so the onsite archives started to grow and develop. The collection at the Huntington, though well protected, was not readily accessible, so the onsite collection continued to expand, being organized and catalogued by volunteers and an occasional intern for over thirty years.

Starting with information garnered from the original card catalogue listing every person who ever played on a Playhouse stage and every play ever produced on one of the five Playhouse stages since 1916, all pertinent information is currently being digitalized to a dedicated database. Currently it lists over 4000 plays and over 54,000 people.

Very recently a partnership was developed between the Huntington Library and the Playhouse, so now we have ready access to their collection and are able to combine records from both sources. This is a huge step forward and means there is a lot more work to be done. The volunteers refer to it as job security.

The Huntington Library Playhouse collection is huge, much larger than the onsite collection, and absolutely fascinating. There are large scrap-books of reviews, beautiful scenic designs and costume plates, personal scrapbooks and letters old financial records, boxes and boxes of pictures, even a picture of Gilmore Brown's cat.

All this is now accessible to us and is currently being scanned and added to our collection. The Huntington, however, is not open to the public, but at least now we can have special showings and events where this fragile material can be shared with special interested groups.

So the vast and fascinating history of the Pasadena Playhouse, an important part of the national regional theatre history, is being well taken care of and preserved. What the Huntington lacks the Playhouse collection has including its large collection of theatre themed books and plays.

In the future we will endeavor to have more events so that more people have a chance to view the combined archives. It's worth a visit. You would be very impressed.

If you have anything you would like to add to the archives please contact me at archives@pasadenaplayhouse.org

Ellen Bailey
Pasadena Playhouse Archivist

Bazaar at The Playhouse

If you plan to be around The Playhouse on **Saturday, October 13**, drop in on The Friend's Bazaar. There will be baked goods, crafts, holiday items, vintage jewelry, and even a White Elephant sale. Begin your holiday shopping early and support The Pasadena Playhouse at the same time!!!!

A Novel Idea

PPA&A alumnus **Mark Martin** ('69) has written a novel that takes place at the Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts. It is now available at amazon.com for downloading to a Kindle or to your computer. A hard copy publication is pending.

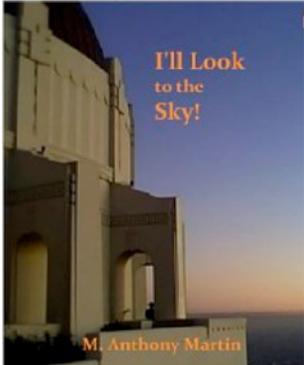
Mark has generously pledged to donate 5% of gross royalties he receives to the PPA&A and another 5% to the Pasadena Playhouse. This is a unique and enjoyable way to support your alma mater and The Playhouse. Please see Mark's description of his book below.

Valeri

Hello Everyone:

I am very happy to announce the electronic publication of my new novel, *I'll Look to the Sky!* now on sale in Amazon Kindle Stores in the United States, the UK, Europe, Australia and Canada.

Here's a brief description of the title:



A Retro Tale of Star-Crossed Hollywood.

Long before such relationships became acceptable in today's society, a beautiful and talented thirty-six year-old divorcée with two daughters fell in love with an aspiring student actor of twenty-two. Faced with the prospect of being the older

woman in a tenuous relationship, she entered a world of the dreams and passions of young Hollywood hopefuls; finding love, disillusionment and resilient self-discovery. Told from the perspectives of two men and two women of principal and supporting characters, the story explores their psyches; their hopes, aspirations, struggles, consequences; and above all, their personal triumphs as they strive for their individual goals in pursuit of their dreams.

Set at a prestigious theatre arts college in Pasadena of 1968 and later in a changing Hollywood of the 1970's, the story not only follows the relationship of the principal characters, but the exploits and camaraderie of eclectic lifestyles.

You may find the book at this link to Amazon.com:
http://www.amazon.com/Ill-Look-Sky-ebook/dp/B008OJXE8O/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1343837679&sr=8-1&keywords=I%27ll+Look+to+the+Sky%21

My book is currently for sale to read on all electronic devices such as Amazon Kindle, iPad,

iPhones and Androids. If you do not have a Kindle Reader, and if you have an Amazon account, you may download what is called 'Kindle for PC' directly into your computer for free, allowing you to read an array of books and magazines on your PC. Just click on 'Kindle Store' at the top of the page, then click on 'Kindle for PC' under the Apps section to the left and you will be shown how to download Kindle for PC. My book may then be purchased for download. Otherwise, you'll have to wait for the Hard Copy printing that is now pending. Downloaded books are offered for much lower prices than Hard Copies.

The book has been in review in the Author's Community of Harper Collins Publishers in London for about three months now. Here are some of the very nice reviews which I have received so far:

"The characters are compelling in their vulnerabilities and one cannot but cheer them on in their efforts to cut through the smog to find truth. Vivid descriptions and edgy dialogue are salient props."

Kenneth Edward Lim, Author: *The North Korean*

"Extremely readable, enthralling mind-candy (not that it doesn't have depth - it does!) A delightful book."

Dr. Pat Johnson-Laster, Author: *Breaking Free!*

"I like the theme of the older woman meets younger man. You have certainly made a good job of it and the characters really come alive in all their depth. This is a tight and original story."

P. Schniedewind, Author: *The Self Healing Soul*

"This is interesting - a romance-based expose of the Pasadena/Hollywood acting scene of the late 60s/early 70s. I really enjoyed this and am happy to give it 5 golden stars."

Joe Kovacs, Author: *Ginger the Buddha Cat*

Thank you so very much for taking the time to read this announcement. I certainly hope that you will consider purchasing my book. Please feel free to forward this message on to others if you so desire.

All the Best,

Mark (writing the book as: M. Anthony **Martin**)

• • •

I'm pleased to share some news. I'm appearing as Mrs. Nishio in "Criminal Minds" Season 8, Episode 3, *Through the Looking Glass* which will first air on Wednesday, October 17, 2012, 9:00 PM on CBS.

Jeanne Joe, '66

A Step Back in Time

Since the recent Partnership between the Pasadena Playhouse Archives and the Huntington Library, **Ellen Bailey** and her volunteers have spent many hours at the Library finding and scanning information that is missing in the archives at The Playhouse. Using the dedicated database developed by **Ross Clark** makes this possible.

Recently, **Peggy Ebright** arranged an evening at The Library for some of their collection to be on display. The Playhouse Ambassadors, Playhouse board members, and others who attended were amazed at the wealth and depth of material available. Most of those attending had no idea what a fabulous theatre history began at The Playhouse. So many playwrights began or developed careers by having their plays produced here. To name just a few: Eugene O'Neil, Maxwell Anderson, Tennessee Williams, and William Saroyan.

Some the highlights of the display were a letter from Eugene O'Neil to Gilmore Brown at the opening of *Lazarus Laughed*, a display showing the extent of the curriculum at the school, some beautiful costume and set design plates, financial reports from the very beginning of The Playhouse, huge scrapbooks of reviews and articles. This is just 'the tip of the iceberg'. There is an enormous wealth of information there.

Ellen Bailey spoke about some of the highlights of the collection and **Ross Clark** gave a demonstration of the current computerized Archives. Thanks to Ellen, Ross, The Huntington Library and the many volunteers who are part of keeping The Playhouse archives alive, our history is more complete. Every alumnus should be proud to be part of this rich history and thankful to the many people who are keeping it preserved.

Lenore Almanzar, '54

Short Takes

Stuff I have done recently:

Taped the digital series *H +* produced by Bryan Singer for YouTube; played a reporter in *Into The Equinox*, a horror movie, release date in November; a recurring part in the new pilot *Rock Buffington: Discount Gigolo*; voice over in *Elector-Cute*, an animated short film that won the best comedy short at the Indie Gathering and was in the AOF Film Festival in Pasadena; *The Eye and the Ice*, shown at Outfest; played a funny friend in the film *Love Carries* now on the festival circuit.

Jaclyn Carmichael Palmer

I am thrilled to be part of an art exhibit at LAX, Terminal 1, Gate 1, Southwest Airlines. The exhibit is titled, "Le Petit Jardin" and will hang August - November.

Since most of us will not have the opportunity to see the exhibit, please go to this link to have a look. <http://lepetitjardinairportlax.blogspot.com/>

Anne Cheek La Rose

Recent Losses

Neva Wallace, '53 1929 – 2012



I met Neva Wallace at a small ad agency in Pasadena in the early 60s. She was a talented artist, actress, poet and raconteur. After graduating from the Playhouse in 1953, Neva appeared as the ingénue in the long-running melodrama *The Drunkard* in Hollywood. After several months her pale, alabaster complexion became bumpy and red spots requiring several extra layers of greasepaint to adequately disguise same. An older cast member offered help and took her to a nearby steam bath where she was ensconced in a large box with only her head protruding



from a hole in the top. Every few minutes an attendant would wipe her face, show her the results, and toss the dirty towel away. After what seemed like many hours (probably 2) and dozens of towels, the final towel appeared colorless and she was released bumpless and with a new respect for

steam. From then on, she was steam-cleaned frequently and carefully maintained her lovely complexion up to and including the years she served so ably on the alumni board.

I will miss her smile and enthusiasm and willingness to serve.

Marie Cates, '59



After leaving the Playhouse, Wayne did many TV shows and commercials using his middle name, Winton. He was a joy to those who met him. They saw what a kind, humorous, gentle person he was. Everything lit up when Wayne was near. So, right now heaven must be extra

bright.

Helen (Armstrong) Winton, '52

Wayne and I did not go to the Playhouse at the same time, but years later with our mutual friend, Alec Finlayson, we three became the first-call team at Utter McKinley Mortuary of Pasadena. We had a great set-up for actors. We had free rent and were on-call every night to make pickups of the deceased of Pasadena. That meant as three actors living at the Mortuary, two of us could do shows at the Playhouse, while one of us took on the duty of the Mortuary.

Imagine, an actor rehearsing his lines in an empty chapel, but for an occasional interrupting phone call of 'come and pick-up granddaddy. He just passed away'. You can also imagine the dialogue that went on in our apartment reviewing a show one of us was in, or the night before 3am call to pick up someone's relative.

Wayne's humor was priceless, no matter how serious the conversation, Wayne would always interject a bit of humor with a bit of a twinkle in his eye to set it off. I'll always remember Wayne with his usual last remark – always a little bit of Wayne Winton humor.

Ray Guth, '51

Wayne Winton was one of my dearest friends, and I am going to miss his gentle humor and warm friendship.

When I was a Playhouse student Wayne had already graduated, but I admired his many appearances on the various stages at The Playhouse, and I became a fan. His outstanding talent always brought a special glow to his characters making him a 'stand-out' in every production.

In later years, Wayne and his wife, Helen, became good friends. We shared many meals, parties, and get-togethers. Wayne could always be relied upon for good stories to make us laugh. They were also there in times of need; always making things seem better.

Wayne and Helen became members of The Friends and ushered both shows at The Playhouse on

Saturdays for many years. They brought food for Saturday dinners, helped with mailings and anything else that required assistance. His wonderful cartoons graced The Friends newsletter and were a 'looked forward to' part of each issue. He loved The Playhouse and enjoyed being a part of keeping it alive and healthy.

Wayne had a successful career as a character actor on TV appearing in many shows and commercials. One commercial for Sparkletts was so popular that he couldn't walk down the street without someone recognizing him. His character, Harvey Hood, was one of the rare times a figure in a commercial became known and popular. It was fun to be with him when people would yell from their cars or greet him on the street with, "Hi Harvey Hood"! Wayne loved it and would answer with a wave and a smile. He always had funny stories to tell about his various filming adventures. In 1988 Wayne was part of the very successful production of Born Yesterday at The Playhouse. For him, acting on Mainstage again was another highlight of his career.

Wayne was a gentle, conscientious, talented, caring, person. He loved people and they loved him. The world and, especially his friends, were better for knowing him. His wonderful friendship will always remain in my memories and my heart.

Farewell, Dear Friend!

Lenore Bond Almanzar

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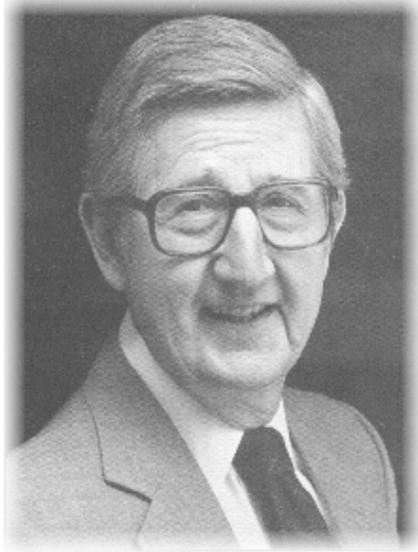
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Wayne Winton (cont'd)



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Farewell, Dear Friend!
Lenore Bond Almanzar

Morgan Stock '40 1919 - 2012



Morgan Stock, the Peninsula theater veteran who founded the Monterey Peninsula College drama program, died recently at his home in Pebble Beach. He was 93 years old.

Morgan was appointed the first head of MPC's theater program in 1954. He directed the first play on the college's main stage, a 1970 production of *West Side Story*, ushering in a legacy of theater on the Peninsula that inspired several generations. The college's main stage was renamed the Morgan Stock Main Stage more than a decade ago. He retired as the theatre department chair in 2011. The PPA&A honored Morgan with the Man of the Year award in 2005.

He studied acting at the Pasadena Playhouse before he was drafted. After returning home from World War II, getting married and settling down in Southern California, he discovered his joy for teaching. He enrolled at Stanford University, where he majored in speech and drama, earning a master's degree.

Brian Stock said his father taught the family to simply pursue their passion. "Follow your heart," was the advice he passed along to his children," said Brian. "We've all had very fulfilled lives because we followed our hearts. That's what he did with his drama and acting career."

Remembering Bea Hassel



Bea Hassel left this world a little poorer when she disappeared just a month prior to her 105th birthday.

Since Bea was on the staff of the Pasadena Playhouse from 1935 to 1969 and she worked or was familiar with almost every student that attended school there.

If you didn't have a chance to work with her, at least you knew who she was because she was an integral part of the school's operation.

I knew her first as a director when I was a student. Later we were on an 8-month cross country tour together. I was acting, she was the stage manager and that's where we became friends. That friendship continued while I was teaching on the staff with her and continued until she moved to Orange County.

It pleases me that we received so many remembrances of Bea for this newsletter. She made a difference to so many people's lives and almost everyone has a special story. There are many people you meet during your lifetime that become an integral part of your life. Several become friends. A few you remember with a smile on your lips. Bea was one of those.

Ellen Bailey '44

Bea mentored new faculty as well as the students. In the fall of 1955 I left CBS - where my job in TV production had become less and less creative - to teach and direct at the Pasadena Playhouse School of the Theatre, as the College was then known. Gilmor Brown was very genial when I met him, and the Dean who hired me [newly-hired himself] showed me where my office would be and gave me a list of the courses I would teach and welcomed me in a general way. I felt quite lost and uninformed about so many details. But meeting Bea Hassel changed all of that. Coming to my rescue, she answered any and all questions, filled me in about my teaching and directing colleagues - reassured me in so many ways those first days.

One of her main duties was attending the auditions of all new students, and then assigning the students to their first-year projects and directors. After a six or eight week period she repeated the process, trying to mix the groups so each worked with new classmates and a new director, which afforded the greatest exposure to different approaches to acting - and to our professional attitudes about theatre.

For the second and third [graduate] year students she also assigned their plays, the various directors - and the theatres in which each would work. She would leave the specific casting to the director, but made suggestions about which role would challenge a certain student, or showcase their strengths and professional promise. Bea's knowledge of many period plays was great, and she was equally conversant with current Broadway and off-Broadway works.

A dainty little lady, but with a big interest in the theatre and film professions, and a sincere desire that each student grow in their art and craft while attending the Playhouse! She was equally sincere that each director on the faculty had the maximum opportunity to do interesting and their most creative work.

Dorothy and I had the great pleasure of knowing Bea [and her husband Jerry Rogatz] and kept up with her after the School closed in 1969. We would often visit her at her Laguna Woods home, where she served us pie and Pepsi - and much love!

We miss her greatly - but treasure our friendship over the many years.

Gail Shoup

Of all the wonderful folks that made up the Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts, Bea Hassel was the most memorable to me. Among us students, she was never known as 'Ms. Hassel' or 'Bea' - but always 'Bea Hassel'. Got a problem with your class schedule? Go see 'Bea Hassel', Rehearsals conflicting with your Mainstage assignment? Go see 'Bea Hassel'. Whatever the issue; Bea Hassel was always there to advocate for her students. ...And it goes without saying, that 'her students' included ALL of us.

I know that she championed my candidacy for the second year scholarship - which I sorely needed to continue at the Playhouse at the time. I will always be grateful and humbled because of her personal support. Thanks again, Bea Hassel.

Bea Hassel: you lived a long, blessed life doing just what you loved best! And that's pretty awesome! You enriched our lives as students, and your memory will continue to enrich our lives as long as we live.

Bless you, Bea Hassel!

Bob Artz '68

My first memory of Bea Hassel really typifies to me who she was. And it would influence me all through a 40 year career as a theatre teacher. I came to audition just after the IRS 'difficulties' and was more than a little nervous. I had a full scholarship to the University of Washington but my heart was at the Playhouse. It was a gamble at the time, after all that had happened to give up a sure thing for the iffy future of the Playhouse. A gamble that paid off, just barely, for me.

I came into the darkened Patio theatre and there were 3 faces in the gloom sitting in the audience. Everyone but Bea looked very serious. Bea had an ear to ear welcoming grin on her face. I did a monologue from *St. Joan* and then a Monty Python piece. Bea laughed out loud several times and beamed thru the whole thing. It made me feel wanted and welcome and sealed the deal for me. She liked the audition so much that she put me in the first Mainstage show, *Captain Brassbound's Con-version* as a glorified extra. I was thrilled. Only two other rookies were put into that show right away.

Later I had the pleasure of taking her stage management class which was really one of the most helpful classes that I took at the Playhouse. I had done a lot of stage managing before the Playhouse, and was pretty good at it. Her class gave me an M.O. and a focus that I still use. Not to mention passing it along to generations of students.

One of my first student stage managers to benefit from this legacy parlayed his great skill as a stage manager into producing. This fall he opens a major musical at the Broadhurst Theatre on Broadway!

Pete Parkin, '69

Brilliant, bold, colorful, kind, compassionate, smiling Ms. Hassel on towering platform shoes, dressed in full circle skirts with mile high crinolines under them and a sparkling twinkle in her eye. She'll be missed.

Sherry Adamo, '66

Of course I remember Bea, she was also my teacher when I studied at the Playhouse back in 1951-1952. She will be in my Rosary prayers from now on and I will pray for her soul at Mass next Sunday.

Cordialmente,
Jaime Delgado, '47

How can one begin to describe a person who was and continues to be as much of the playhouse as the bricks and mortar that first saw its construction, just after the turn of the previous century? The stars that light the heavens are numerous, yet great teachers and directors are few! I first met Bea Hassel when I was honored and privileged to be a student-actor in one of her many first-year projects entitled *Bernardine*. I wish I had kept the playbills of the cast: I was 17--what did I know about life and what a treasure those names would be decades later?

Bea Hassel was everything you might want in a director. I remember her being petite and vivacious and just full of life! I do not recall that she ever stood still; she seemed to be moving or on-the-go constantly! A smile that outshone the sun, to be sure, might be a small part of who she was. I recall seeing her in the halls, at the front office and in the greenroom, all at the same time, but how could that be? That means I must have been her shadow! LOL! Most important, the college was wise indeed to place some of their best directors with first-year productions: these productions served as a foundation for our years at the Playhouse and the Playhouse gave us the 'stuff of life' that has sustained us through life; small wonder it continues in our hearts and minds. May gentle rains, soft summer breezes, and starlight lead her beyond this life to the next!

Respectfully and lovingly,
A. Anthony "Tony" Oseguera, Ph.D., '60

I did my third year at the Playhouse for my MTA in 1949-50. I chose Pirandello's play, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, for my required production. Bea Hassel was my faculty adviser. My cast included Bob Hacha, Carolyn Jones, Jack Moore, and others whose names I would have to look up. My 'publicity' was cartoon-like characters by Bill Hunt and my set designer was Chuck Koon. And I had tremendously encouraging support from Bea throughout the whole endeavor. It took all summer for me to write my thesis, working part-time as a waitress around the corner on Colorado.

For her to have made it to 105 gives me hope, since I will reach 87 in November and am still going strong, swimming an hour a day and still working part-time!

Pat Franck Sheffield, '49

Heads turned when Bea walked down the hall in the Playhouse with her high heels & her clipboard. She was adorable and she loved theatre and actors completely. She never over-came the actors. She allowed them to work in the play as they grew and fell in love as they learned. She was a beautiful little lady that taught Big Time! I was there for 2 years - 1953 to 1954. I loved it all!!!!

Years have gone by, but not our friendship. She became my first child's Godmother. She really wept with joy--Very Happy!

Bea left the Playhouse when she married Jerry and moved to Leisure World and traveled around the globe.

Bea and I have remained friends. She called me her daughter, and I enjoyed that! We usually had lunch at the Laguna Hotel and enjoyed the plays at the Laguna Theatre.

All I can say is you will always be loved and in my eye always beautiful. Thank you, Bea - enjoy your Angels and begin a wonderful new play!

Billie Markas

Bea Hassel was the first director I had at The Playhouse. Coming from a small town with mostly high school plays under my belt, I was extremely nervous. Then, when we began pantomime, and the expert Ralph (Jerry) Fisher was so good, I was even more nervous. Add to that, Lucy (McAleer) Marlowe was in our group. She had loads of experience and was truly a major talent. It was very frightening.

Thanks to Bea, she made us all realize where our challenges and talents could lead us and how best to use them. She was always encouraging and helpful, so I was quickly over my apprehensions. Though tiny in size, Bea had a large heart and personality and was a wonderful influence on every student who was lucky enough to work with her. She truly leaves a legacy of love for the theatre.

Lenore Bond Almanzar, '54

Bea was a wonderful teacher but this is what I remember best about her and have used for years with my own actors. I had speech right after dance class and was late to speech only once because of a shower and change of cloths. I got the "There is no change in the theatre that should take more than 30 seconds." I was never late again.

Chuck Stilwill, '60.
WCP Artistic Director

What a truly great woman and teacher! Like so many of us I remember my first day of classes at the Playhouse as I sought at the time to be the best Stage Manager who ever lived. First, there was Bill Young's lighting class and the first words out of his mouth were, "Keep your ears open, your eyes open and your mouth shut." (Truer words....).

Next was Bea's class and she chimed in, "There are no holidays in the theatre." That was pretty close.

She shall be missed greatly by all those she loved and influenced.

Bob Farley '68
Artistic Director

One of the first wonderful memories I have of the Pasadena Playhouse was when I arrived from Kansas as a new student in 1962. The first person I saw was a petite doll of a woman wearing 4" platform sandals. We didn't have such wonderful shoes in KS. I came to know Bea as a lovely person who I greatly respected. I admired her clothes, her shoes and her! We are blessed that she was here for over 100 years.

Jacqueline Palmer (Connelly) Stewart, Ph. D.

Bea Hassel was a terrific teacher and a lovely human being. We all have wonderful memories of her during and after 'school'.

All the best,
Nina Shipman Bremer, '57

Who could forget Bea Hassel? Probably all of 4ft.2", with 8" heels, masses of big strawberry blonde hair and a smile from ear to ear. Never had her as a teacher/director but she was a genuine character. Glad she had 105 years and hope they were happy ones! RIP Bea. :-)

Patti Hufnagel Bloom '54

Bea was a great Director and a very fine teacher....I was lucky to benefit from her vast experience and knowledge.

Aileen Koch Gordien '50

Dear Bea, such a special person in our lives. If we felt joy, she was always there to celebrate. If we had a complaint, she was always there to listen. If we had a pain, she was there to sympathize. She was a dear friend for many years and is missed. Hopefully she is "up there" directing a show!

With much love,
Joe McManus, '56, Frank Palmer, '55,
John Larson, '60, John Towski, and Jim Bradford, '55.

PASADENA PLAYHOUSE ALUMNI & ASSOCIATES DUES NOTICE

DUES: 1/1/2013 - 12/31/2013

NAME _____ YEAR _____

The year you graduated, (attended if you didn't graduate) or worked at the Playhouse.

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____ - _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ CELL _____

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (Mailed newsletter) \$ 45.00 \$ _____

EMAIL MEMBERSHIP (Email newsletter) \$ 35.00 \$ _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$ 125.00 \$ _____

DONATION \$ _____

For a **2011 Directory** add \$3.50 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

____ Check here if you are a **renewing life member** and you would like this to be considered a donation (for tax purposes).

Dues received after April 1st are assessed a late fee of \$5.00

MAIL TO: PPA&A P O Box 291 Pasadena, CA 91102-0291 (10/12)

Check Your Closets

A few months ago I asked you to check out your trunk. We had no response. This time I'm asking you to check your closet! Surely some of you have home movies or videos of past Playhouse days.

Over the last few years we have been fortunate enough to have received from a few of our members treasures that they have found hidden and forgotten in an attic, a chest, a desk or perhaps a cardboard box tucked away in a closet. These items consist of old home movies and 'newer videos' made during your Playhouse days

An example is a home movie made in 1937 and 1938. this film includes movement and fencing classes being held on the Playhouse roof, the commencement class of 1937 that includes Don DeFore and Dr. Fairfax Walkup, a class review of characters created in their make-up class, the parade of graduates parading from the roof to the patio on their 1938 commencement day and a few other treasured moments preserved on film.

Most recently we received several ¾ "video cassettes made in the early 1980s. These consist of interviews with Richard Vath, Dana Andrews, John Carradine and others; plus views

of the Playhouse in the sad condition it was in before refurbishing.

We may include some of these in future online newsletters.

Might you have moments preserved from your Playhouse days? If so, please let us know. If you send us the item, we will have it transferred to DVD and return your original with a DVD or VHS copy.

You can contact us by writing to the PO box or email me at jmcarousel@yahoo.com.

Thanks in advance for looking.

John McElveney

INVOLVEMENT CHECK LIST

- ❖ Have you paid your dues or made a donation?
- ❖ Have you signed up for the Ralphs Community Program?
- ❖ Have you recommended some deserving person for an award?
- ❖ Have you marked Jun 9, 2013 on your calendar to reserve it for the 60th Diamond Jubilee Brunch?

RALPHS COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Thanks to all who have participated in this program. **IT IS NECESSARY TO RE-REGISTER EACH YEAR** to continue in the program.

YOU CAN RE-REGISTER ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2012 OR AFTER. If you have not had the opportunity to register this past year it would be greatly appreciated if you could do so now.

Ralphs is owned by The Kroger Co. which is also the parent company of the following grocery markets:

Kroger	Fred Meyer	King Soopers	City Market	Dillons
Gerbes	Owen's	Fry's	Food 4 Less	QFC

You can participate in our fund raising project by shopping at any of the above listed stores that may be near you.

This is an easy way for our members to contribute to and be an active part of the PPA&A.

All information regarding this program is also listed in the PPA&A website

John McElveney

Print out the next page with the bar code on it and take to your favorite Ralphs or one of the markets listed above and join or re-register for the program – OR sign up online (go to

http://www.ralphs.com/SiteCollectionDocuments/My%20Ralphs/general_faqs.pdf for instructions)

PPA&A will get a percentage of everthing you buy with a few exceptions. This is a yearly program, so even if you signed up last year, you still have to sign up again after the first of every September.

Our 60th Anniversary Brunch!!

When: *Save the date* - Sunday, 9 June 2013

Where: To be announced

We're scouring Pasadena for the best location. We're already at work to secure wonderful Raffle Prizes. We're studying Award candidates. And we're planning some special treats just for you!! We're pulling all the stops out to make this Brunch our **best ever**. It's going to be SRO, so make your reservations early. You won't want to miss this event, so contact your friends and classmates, plan your own little party within the big party. Take a class table or two. We want YOU to be part of the celebration.

Anne C La Rose
Brunch Chair



NPO# 81285
PASADENA PLAYHOUSE ALUMNI & ASSOC
Attention: JOHN MCELVENEY
P. O. BOX 291
PASADENA, CA 91102

PASADENA PLAYHOUSE ALUMNI & ASSOC:

Thank you for your participation in the Ralphs *rewards* Community Contribution Program. We are happy to be a part of your fundraising. This is your organization's SCANBAR letter. This alternative form of registration allows your members without access to a computer to be a part of your fund raising through our Community Contribution Program.

ORGANIZATION COORDINATOR:

- Make copies of this letter and give the copies to members of your organization who wish to enroll with your organization, but do not have access to register online.
- DO NOT remove these instructions from this letter. These instructions are necessary for the cashier in order to process the link between your card and your organization at the register.
- Participants take this letter the next time they go shopping at Ralphs and hand it to the cashier to scan within their order IN ADDITION to either their Ralphs *rewards* card, or phone number (alt ID) that is linked to their *rewards* card.
- Within 72 hours, your participants will then begin giving a percentage of each shopping trip for the duration of the Community Contributions Term to your organization.
- You only have to scan this letter once per cycle to create the link between your card and your organization.
- You must continue scanning your Ralphs *rewards* card/phone number (alt ID) during all purchases to get credit for your organization. We are not able to credit organizations if card is not scanned during any transaction.

RALPHS CASHIER OR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBER

- Please scan the bar code at the bottom of this letter along with customers' *rewards* card or alt ID within their order.
- A purchase is required in order for the link between their card and the organization to work.
- This procedure is successful when you hear the audible beep and see the words LOYALTY DIV on the receipt.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

- 1) Participants using this Scanbar letter method to register, the name of your organization **WILL NOT APPEAR** on your receipt.
- 2) Participants using this Scanbar method AND do not have their information in our Ralphs *rewards* card database will show on your quarterly as INCOMPLETE INFORMATION.
- 3) Any attempt by the organization to reproduce this scan bar (other than copying it) in any other format could result in your organization not receiving credit.



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