



# March 2019 Asides

## **NOTES FROM THE BOARD...**

**In spite of the fact that February was so cold and wet, SLCT was pretty darn hot!**

**We had a wonderful general membership meeting in February. We celebrated the month of LOVE with a musical serenade by two extremely talented members: Jim Nielsen and Marilyn Holt. We heard from our board candidates: Michael Carter, Jack Mitchell and Sandy Pallett. We were treated to Valentine's Day treats. The decorations highlighted the LOVE theme perfectly. Once again, our thanks go out to committee members Diana Nelinson, Pat Wolfe, and Mary Vandergriff, Program Chairman.**

**The ImproVables comedy improv group performed at Sun Lakes Country Club (Phase One) and had a hilarious show that the audience really LOVED. The ImproVables are continuing their performance season with upcoming shows at East Valley Jewish Community Center (March 21), Oakwood (March 27), and Central Arizona College, Maricopa Branch (April 6). Further information on the Oakwood show will be forthcoming.**

**The spring show, "Eat, Drink, and be Murdered!" was a side-splitting take on Family Feud that played to sold-out houses every night! Ticket sales broke all previous records and the show sold out in the first 3 1/2 hours. Kudos go to Sandy Pallett, the director of this fabulous show, and her hardworking cast and crew.**

**Our Children's Theatre continues to honor Dr. Seuss and performs for delighted children in Chandler elementary schools. More kudos go to Sandy Bocynesky and her cast and crew. These folks work so hard to bring joy and laughter to children.**

**Merrie Crawford wrapped up her Beginning Acting classes and stated that her students were terrific. And they all stated that they LOVED the class.**

***Looking ahead:* you must plan on attending the March general membership meeting. It will be held on Thursday, March 7 (one week earlier than usual) and will be in the Saguaro Room this month. This month's meeting includes our elections for new board members. Very exciting! The meeting will also include some fun surprises. Remember: you must be a paid-up member in order to vote.**

**Merrie Crawford will hold auditions for the fall show, "Plaza Suite" on Saturday, March 30 at 2:00 pm in room A-9, Cottonwood. We encourage everyone to audition for this outstanding Neil Simon play. (If you have never auditioned before, now is the time to give it a try!)**

**You will find information about our very special End of the Year Party in this edition of the Asides. Be sure to check it out. You don't want to miss this party. It will be a wonderful way to end our successful season and to say hello to summer.**

**Phyllis Novy  
President**

**NOTE THE DIFFERENT DATE AND LOCATION:**

**The March General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7 in the Saguaro Room, Cottonwood.  
Cocktails are at 6:00 pm and the meeting begins at 6:30 pm, as usual.  
Board elections are this month. You must be a paid-up member in order to vote.**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!  
MARCH 7 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD IN  
THE SAGUARO ROOM AT COTTONWOOD

HAPPY HALF HOUR AT 6PM

MEETING AT 6:30

WE WILL BE HOLDING THE ELECTION FOR OUR THREE BOARD MEMBERS AT THIS MEETING. MAKE SURE YOUR DUES ARE PAID IN ORDER TO CAST YOUR VOTE. PLEASE COME AND VOTE!

WE WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH SOME FUN GAMES, DECORATIONS AND "IRISH" COOKIES! COME HAVE SOME FUN AT THIS IMPORTANT MEETING!



The Program Committee

## Board of Directors Election

We have 3 outstanding nominees for the SLCT Board of Directors to fill our 3 vacancies. Following is a brief bio on each and there is also an absentee ballot should you not be able to attend our meeting. The absentee ballots need to be received by me before March 7. The floor will also be open for additional nominations at the general membership meeting, March 7.

Jim Janowski - Vice President

- Sandy Pallett

I was an organizational development consultant for 21 years for Motorola and Motorola university. After retirement I started my own consulting business. Then I moved to Sun Lakes And had the good fortune of getting involved in the Sun Lakes Community Theater. The rest is history!

Michael Carter

I became a member of SLCT shortly after I moved to Sun Lakes back in 2006. A small article in the "Splash" advertising a six week session on beginning acting attracted my attention and thus I pursued this path and the rest is history. Since then I have been in at least ten productions more or less and in addition became a member of the "Improvables". The theatre exposed me to so many wonderful people and skills I never thought I had. As a board member I would like to see more directors trained and recruited with a variety of productions especially dramas and musicals. In addition, as a board member I envision SLCT seeking its own home possibly starting off with in an unoccupied store in the area. More training for tech people and actors is needed. Fiscal soundness is also a priority. And last but not least finding creative ways to reach out to the communities and beyond.

Jack Mitchell

I have enjoyed working in many aspects of theater. In Michigan I worked in community theater both on and off stage. Besides acting, I also worked in set

design and construction and stage management. During this time, I also worked in set design and construction with several high school theater groups.

At a 55+ community in Tucson, I participated in acting, stage management, set design, set construction and directing.

On the SLCT board, I hope to help the group continue to bring quality entertainment to our community and to local schools.

Ballot for SLCT Board of Directors Election  
March 7, 2019

Vote for no more than 3 candidates

\_\_\_\_\_ Sandy Pallett

\_\_\_\_\_ Jack Mitchell

\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Carter

\_\_\_\_\_ Write In \_\_\_\_\_

**CHANDLER HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA DEPARTMENTS RESPOND TO SLCT'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT!**

**Traditionally, SCLT has given financial support to the drama departments in the various Chandler high schools. Nationwide, the financial crisis in arts education, and specifically, theatre education, has become even more threatened. When public school budgets are cut, drama departments are often first on the chopping block.**

**It has been a mandate of our organization to help support theatre education in Chandler public schools. We do this by performing our remarkable Children's Theatre show for Chandler elementary schools and also by giving yearly gifts in support of the Chandler High Schools' drama departments.**

**Theatre education is vital to a well-rounded overall education. It provides a well-rounded world view for the students. Interest and exposure to the art of theatre creates an emotional tool that helps advance a civilized society.**

**Please read the following responses from several of the high schools drama departments that we help support. These responses delineate some of the uses and/or projected uses of our gifts.**

Hello,

My name is Alyssa Pitner and I am the theatre teacher at Casteel High School. I wanted to reach out to thank you for your extremely generous donation to our program. Our theatre program is still very young and we are in the process of building; we are missing a lot of things that we need. We are going to put your donation towards cyclorama lights for our Performing Arts Center. This will allow our student designers more creative opportunities in their lighting designs, and it will make our productions look more polished. We have had to work really hard this year to secure some of the things we need for our Performing Arts Center, and your donation will go a long way to helping us reach our goal. I am so very grateful.

I would like to have my students write a thank you note to the Sun Lakes Community Theatre board. Is the best address to send our notes 25630 S Brentwood Dr, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248?

Thank you again so much.

Best wishes,

Alyssa Pitner

7/8 Drama, Theatre Arts I-III, Company/Performance Theatre

Casteel Theatre Company Sponsor

ITS Troupe Sponsor

Courage – Character – Commitment

Hello!

Thank you very much for your generous donations every year. We are proud to have you as a sponsor for our program. The monies that you provide are used directly for student performance and experiences. One of our major costs each year is providing the make-up necessary to create casualties for the Air Force Medical Field Day. The cadets are given training in emergency medical aid in a morning class and then are given the opportunity to attempt "real hands-on" aid to "casualties" that we provide. We average approximately 50-60 "injured" every year and create realistic looking wounds including shrapnel, burns, broken limbs,

amputations and serious blood loss injuries. This is a wonderful opportunity for both the technical and performing students to work in an environment beyond the staged productions.

The monies are also used to provide opportunities for students to direct one acts every semester. We have a night of Student-Directed Shorts twice a year and your donation helps fund the cost of the scripts, royalties and required props for these shows. Organizations like yours are extremely important in helping fund theatre education for the students here on campus. Thank you for all you give to every department you sponsor.

Shira Schwartz  
Basha High School Theatre Director  
I.T.S. Advisor #6815  
Ext. 2198  
Benevolence - Honor - Scholarship

Mr. Edmonds asked me to give you a break down of how your generous donation would be spent by our department. At Hamilton, we use that money to pay for students with financial need to attend or participate in our competition and field trips and to assist them with other fees that might be a financial burden to their families. The money scholarships or partially scholarships students that might not be able to attend the trip or event otherwise. For example, this year, students would have the opportunity to attend the following field trips or might be asked to pay the following fees: Acting Class Fee-\$20, Technical Class Fee \$40, Drama Club Fee-\$20, Kiss Me Kate field trip to ASU-\$25, State Competition-\$180, School to Work Internship at Gammage-\$25, Hamilton Theatre Competition-\$10, Central Arizona Acting Festival-\$25, Arizona Renaissance Festival \$30, Chandler Gilbert Community College Performance-\$25, Theatre Honor Society Fees \$35. As you can see, it does begin to add up to quite a sum. Because of your donation, lower income or students with financial need are given the opportunity to participate. We are incredible thankful for what you do for these kids.

Respectfully,

Christina Vail

Hamilton High School

Theatre and Technical Theatre Sponsor/Director

Speech and Debate Sponsor

## WHAT A WEEK IT WAS! IT REALLY WAS!

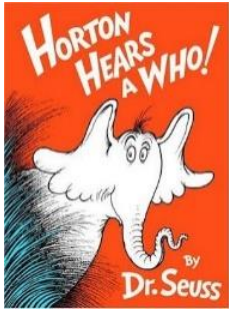
EAT, DRINK AND BE MURDERED WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED. IT WAS FUN FOR THE AUDIENCE AND ALSO, FOR THE CAST AND CREW.

NOT MUCH MORE TO SAY, EXCEPT

### A BIG THANKS TO EVERYONE INVOLVED

I CALL THESE PEOPLE *THE VILLAGE PEOPLE*.....BECAUSE IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO PUT ON A SHOW!

Sandy Pallett, director



Horton is finishing another successful run of shows in the Chandler Unified School District 80. We have been delighting students and staff in attendance with our antics. We have been making friends as we carry on this tradition of performances for children. We have made a difference. As one teacher said to me, “It is so great that our students get to see a live performance instead of a movie”. That makes it all worth the time and energy this wonderful cast and crew puts into it. And the thank you notes continue to come in from students we have performed for. They thank the Sun Lakes Community Theatre for coming to give them a show that they loved! You can’t beat that for words of joy.

Thank you cast and crew!

Sandy B.

## *Plaza Suite* Auditions

Auditions for the fall show, Neil Simon’s *Plaza Suite* will be held Saturday March 30, at 2:00 in Room A-9, in Cottonwood. The cast includes 3 men, 3 women in major roles, as well as 2 men, 1 woman in minor roles. The show dates are October 23-27, and rehearsals will begin September 10. To get a copy of the script for perusal, contact Merrie Crawford (480) 802-7643, or her cell (480)250-4297.

Bill Becker, Publicity



### **Eat, Drink and be Murdered**

Since all tickets were sold out on the first day, September 28<sup>th</sup>, we discontinued further publicity for this show. However, we did post “SOLD OUT” signs on all the road signs to let the public know.

The show on February 17 – 21 was a “smashing success”; kudos to **Director Sandy Pallett, Assistant Director Barbie Bergerson**, and the entire cast and crew:

**Cast** (alphabetically): Cindi Decker, Sally Holberg, Bill Jablonski, Jim Janowski, Kathy Miller, Jim Nielsen, Greg Posniack, and Joyce Recupido.

**Crew:** Bill Becker, MJ Clement, Ron Fohlmeister, Norm Harris, Jack Mitchell, Alex Ross and Rick Whitney.

**Tickets:** Jim Nielsen **Publicity:** Bill Becker & MJ Clement. **Makeup:** Tenni Annen  
**House + Backstage Manager:** Judie Janowski; **Greeters:** Roxi Banta and Pat Wolfe.  
Excellent job, everyone!

### **New fund-raisers**

Please sign up for these two new fund-raisers. These two corporations have programs that allocate a portion of your purchases back to 501c3 organizations like SLCT; the money goes directly into our bank account, managed by our treasurer, Cindy Decker.

1. **AmazonSmile** is the alternate fundraising website for Amazon. To shop simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the **web browser** on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you **select a charitable organization** to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping; **SLCT is on their list of organizations**. They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

If you shop on smile.amazon.com **using an internet browser** on your desktop or laptop computer, your mobile phone, or your tablet, then your purchases of eligible products (marked “eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on the detail pages) will result in donations. **Purchases that are not made using an internet browser** (for instance, using the Amazon Shopping App, Kindle Store, Fire TV, Amazon Dash, or Amazon Echo) are not currently eligible for donations. So, if you use the Smile system using your internet browser, all qualifying Amazon purchases will add to the aggregate from all our SLCT members’ purchases for Amazon’s ongoing donations directly to SLCT.

2. **Fry’s:** First you need a regular Fry’s card, which you obtain at the Customer Service desk at any Fry’s supermarket; then, you go online and register your Fry’s card at <https://www.frysfood.com>, using either our Sun Lake Community Theater name or our official number: **WJ261**. A portion of the total of all your purchases (this includes everything in any Fry’s store, plus gasoline at their gas stations) will be sent to SLCT in the form of a “rewards check” during each payment cycle.

FYI: **Basha’s** has a gift card system in which SLCT would have to purchase a block of gift cards and then resell them to our members; we are not pursuing that program at the present time. Also, **Albertsons/Safeway** has a “community grant” program for which SLCT does not qualify.



Announcing **AUDITIONS** for



# **MUSICAL Dinner Show - Spring, 2020**

**Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 10:00am, Oakwood Ballroom**

**CALLING ALL ACTORS, SINGERS, AND DANCERS!**

SLCT will bring Charles Schulz's beloved comic strip *Peanuts* to life on **March 4-8, 2020** when we perform Clark Gesner's classic musical,

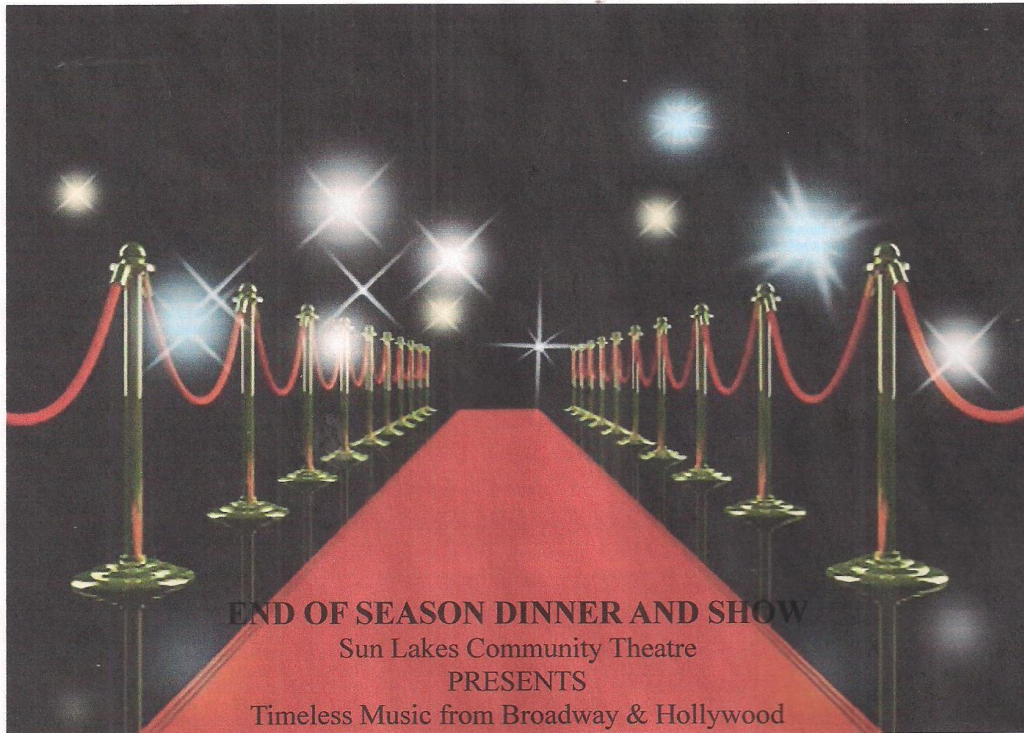
## **"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN"!**

The whole gang will be there! Lead characters include bossy LUCY VAN PELT, piano prodigy SCHROEDER, perfectionist SALLY BROWN, blanket-toting LINUS VAN PELT, SNOOPY, and the "blockhead," himself, CHARLIE BROWN! CHORUS SINGERS and DANCERS will also be cast as specific characters. WOODSTOCK and the LITTLE REDHEAD GIRL will make special appearances.

Brief vignettes that combine joyful innocence and playful humor span the months from Valentine's Day to Beethoven Day, from wild optimism to utter despair. The play features GREAT songs, particularly FUNNY dialogue, and catchy piano orchestrations. Whether you're keen to fly with the Red Baron, enjoy "Suppertime" with Snoopy, or just do your best to find "Happiness," "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" is a crowd-pleasing classic!

Even though the **DINNER SHOW** is not until **March of 2020**, auditions will be held early in order to provide cast members with music CD's to use for practice at their convenience over the summer! All information, including audition scripts and musical scores, will be available at SLCT's General Meeting on **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** or contact **Carol Horowitz, Director, at 480-895-0236**.

**Come to the AUDITION!** **APRIL 13, 2019 at 2:00pm** in the Oakwood Ballroom.



**TUESDAY APRIL 9, 2019**  
Cocktails 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Show 7:00

**Palo Verde Restaurant**

Join the award winning SoSco Duo as they explore the timeless music of Broadway and Hollywood and tell the stories and legends behind some of the most beloved tunes from the stage and screen. Featuring the music of Rogers and Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Webber, James Horner, Howard Shore, John Williams and many more.

**RSVP BY APRIL 2**

Your check will be your reservation. You may give your check to Cindi Decker at the meeting or you may mail your check to: Cindi Decker  
8921 E. Olive Ln, Sun Lakes, Az 85248  
Make your check payable to Sun Lakes Community Theatre

*OUR MENU*

Salad: tossed w/ranch or balsamic

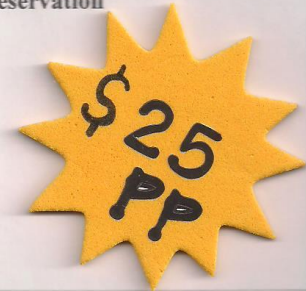
**\*Choice Entrée: Chicken Cordon Bleu OR Roasted Beef Brisket**

Served w/red roasted potatoes  
green beans w/almonds

**Dessert - Iced Tea - Coffee**

**\*Designate Entrée choice on your Reservation cards provided at the March 7 meeting or the memo section of your check.**

**Be sure to bring your checkbook to the meeting for your reservation**





## An Evening of Old Time Radio

Reserve the week of June 16 – 21 when SLCT will be again performing an Evening of Old Time Radio, and which will be directed by Roger Edmonds. The format will be two half hour radio shows, intermission, followed by another 30 minute radio show.

Tryouts will be announced later for April. All parts are read except for the warm up person's whose job it is to get the audience excited before the show actually starts. We will also need non speaking people to help out on the sound table on stage.

As usual we will need all sorts of help with house manager, props, etc.. Sign ups will be at our March 7 meeting.

**WANTED!**

**HELP!**

**GRANTS & DONORS  
COMMITTEE  
Needs YOUR Help!**

**Help Write Grants,  
Research New  
Opportunities,  
& Help Seek Donors!**

**Existing Committee has  
Advisor and Financial  
Information Ready to Help!  
Writing Skills Important!**

**Contact:**

**Carol Horowitz OR Cindi Decker  
480-895-0238 515-770-7974**

**Chairman Needed!**

## **MINUTES OF SLCT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

### **February 7th, 2019**

#### **BUSINESS MEETING:**

- Phyllis Novy, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- Guests and new members were welcomed and introduced.
- The minutes of the January, 2019 General Meeting, as included in the Asides, were approved.
- The January, 2019 Financial Report was also approved.
- Carol Horowitz distributed and explained a survey to those attending the general membership meeting that was designed to assess the alignment of SLCT's activities, events, and performances with our organizational mission statement as is needed for submission of grant applications. Suggestions for future SLCT activities that further support the mission statement were also requested.
- Carol also thanked Bill Becker for volunteering to help the Grants Committee write the Arizona Commission on the Arts grant that is due March 14<sup>th</sup>. The grants committee is still searching for a chairman who, assisted by current committee members, will coordinate the search for new grants, donors, and sponsors.
- Bill and Jeannie Becker presented some exciting new fundraising initiatives that will result in SLCT receiving a percentage of each purchase back when members shop at Fry's Food Market and Amazon Smile! It's as easy as signing up, indicating membership affiliation with SLCT, then shopping as usual! They did an outstanding job of presenting these unique fundraising opportunities and of answering member's questions!
- Sandy Pallett provided information and announced a change of date about the upcoming Advanced Acting Class.
- Phyllis Novy spoke about the success of the Improvables show that was performed at Phase I, describing the hilarious fun that the audience and the performers shared!
- Merrie Crawford announced the upcoming auditions for play, "Plaza Suite", that she will direct in the Fall of 2019. Auditions will be held on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Merrie distributed audition materials to interested members.
- Mary Vandergriff spoke about the wonderful "End of the Year" party, describing the fun, camaraderie, and great entertainment that will be enjoyed by all attending.

#### **PROGRAM ENTERTAINMENT:**

- Mary Vandergriff introduced the evening's entertainment, announcing that Marilyn Holt and Jim Nielsen would perform love songs as a tribute to Valentine's Day. The delighted and captivated audience enthusiastically applauded the solos and duet sung by the very talented duo! Marilyn invited the amazing Francine Alexander to be her piano accompanist. What a terrific evening!
- Sandy Pallett introduced her cast for the mystery dinner show, "Eat, Drink, and Be Murdered, and offered a sneak peek of the show!

- Jim Nielsen discussed ticket sales for the mystery dinner show. ONCE THE TICKETS WENT ON SALE, ALL PERFORMANCES WERE SOLD OUT WITHIN TWO AND A HALF HOURS! There was a computer glitch, however, that resulted in possible double-booking of seats. Jim explained that every effort was being made to identify those ticket holders and to rectify the situation. He also announced that since there were about 65 people on a wait list who were unable to see the show, those people, as well as invited high school drama class students, would be able to attend the dress rehearsal.
- Jim Janowski introduced candidates for SLCT's Board of Directors for 2019-2020 and inquired whether there were any nominations from the floor. Seeing none, speeches were made by the candidates, Sandy Pallett and Michael Carter. Jack Mitchell was unable to attend due to travel and in his absence Rick Whitney spoke on his behalf.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.



As the Sunshine person, I look forward to keeping you informed of different events. If you have any life-cycle information for our fellow Theatre Group members, births, deaths, illness, graduations, please contact me, Barry Berger, at [lumenprobb@yahoo.com](mailto:lumenprobb@yahoo.com) or (480)883-2071.



Just a reminder that the SLCT membership can review the Financial Information on the SLCT Web Site. Type in [www.slctinfo.com/member](http://www.slctinfo.com/member) to view the information.

**Attention All Committee Chairs:**

I will be maintaining the on-line calendar on our website, [www.slctinfo.com](http://www.slctinfo.com) so we can have a central and accurate place to be able check on up-coming events and dates. Please email me, Barry Berger, at [lumenprobb@yahoo.com](mailto:lumenprobb@yahoo.com) with meeting, performance and any other dates you might feel are pertinent.

*Barry Berger*



The SLCT Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, March 5 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Phyllis Novy. Any member in good standing is welcome to attend. Please notify Phyllis if you wish to attend the board meeting.

## *Sun Lakes Community Theatre Calendar*

SLCT Meeting	March 7, 2019	Saguaro Room
Improvables Improv Show	March 27, 2019	Oakwood
Auditions for "Plaza Suite"	Saturday, March 30, 2019, 2:00 p.m.	A-9 (Phoenix Room) Cottonwood
Improvables Improv Show	April 6, 2019	Central Arizona College, Maricopa
Auditions for You're A Good Man Charlie Brown	April 13, 2019, 2:00 p.m.	Oakwood Ballroom
End of Year Party	Tues., Apr. 9, 2019	PaloVerde
Old Time Radio Show	June 2019	San Tan Ballroom
Summer Cool Down	August 28, 2019, 4:00 p.m.	Poolside, Oakwood
Plaza Suite	October 23-27, 2019	San Tan Ballroom
You're A Good Man Charlie Brown	March 2020	
Red Velvet Cake War	July 2020	San Tan Ballroom

## *Sun Lakes Community Theatre Board*

<i>President Phyllis Novy</i>	<i>Vice President Jim Janowski</i>	<i>Publicity Chairman Bill Becker</i>
<i>480-895-5961</i>	<i>480-893-3525</i>	<i>480-296-3796</i>
<i>Technical Chairman Rick Whitney</i>	<i>Secretary Carol Horowitz</i>	<i>Budget Cindi Decker</i>
<i>425-232-6787</i>	<i>480-895-0236</i>	<i>515-770-7974</i>
<i>Program Chairman Mary Vandergriff</i>	<i>Treasurer Cindi Decker (non-voting member)</i>	<i>Past President Sandy Pallett (non-voting member)</i>
<i>812-607-0412</i>	<i>515-770-7974</i>	<i>480-926-6954</i>

## *Other Important Roles*

<i>Hospitality Committee Chairman Diana Nelinson 480-883-1995</i>	<i>Play Reading Chairman Michael Carter 480-895-1026</i>	<i>School Liaison Roger Edmonds 480-261-9957</i>
<i>Archives Barry and Joan Berger</i>	<i>Education Chairman Sandy Pallett 480-926-6954</i>	<i>Children's Theatre Sandy Bocynesky 480-283-1145</i>
<i>Webmaster and Ticket Sales Jim Nielsen 602-717-8830</i>	<i>Asides Sonja White 480-895-1986</i>	<i>Sunshine Barry Berger 480-883-2071</i>

