

# The President's Byline

Ray Hollingshead

A spark is "a vital, animating or activating factor", according to one definition in the American Heritage Dictionary. In a volunteer organization, such as community theater, the presence or absence of such a spark can mean the difference between a successful organization and one that is struggling. Generally, no one person is responsible when an organization succeeds or fails. However, sometimes one or two people can be the spark that ignites and inspires the total organization. At Sapulpa Community Theatre (SCT) this year, two of our board members have been that spark.

Karyn Maio, our volunteer office manager, has been very busy organizing our publicity, grant applications and reservations. Karyn's efforts in publicizing SCT's productions have made great strides in changing our image from "Sapulpa's best kept secret" to "Sapulpa's best entertainment value".

Sherry Whisman, our volunteer production manager, has been busy recruiting directors, helping to select plays, and serving as producer. In addition, she has directed several plays this season, including *Rumors*, *A Tuna Christmas*, and currently *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

And so, our first, unofficial, but highly coveted SPARK awards go to Karyn Maio and Sherry Whisman. Their efforts have been the spark that has made the present and the future look much brighter at Sapulpa Community Theatre.

Ray



## Coming Attractions Calendar

To Kill a Mockingbird  
February 13-15, 20-22  
2009

The Fantasticks  
April 24-26, May 1-3  
2009

[streatre@sbcglobal.net](mailto:streatre@sbcglobal.net)

[www.sapulpacommunitytheatre.com](http://www.sapulpacommunitytheatre.com)

## Our Stars 2008-2009 Season

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Benefactors

**The Bartlett Foundation**

**Saint-Gobain Containers**

**American Heritage Bank**

John & Katherine Johnson      Barbara Berry  
Karyn Lee Maio      Dale & Sherry Whisman

On the Corner  
**Behind the Scenes**  
with Sherry Whisman,  
General Production Manager

What a great Season so far! With sell-out crowds for every performance of "Tuna Christmas", the theatre certainly had a great holiday. Thanks to all of you who came to see Todd and Seth give us such memorable shows. There's a theatre saying that 90% of a director's job is to choose a good cast. I was fortunate to do that for "Tuna Christmas" and now for "To Kill A Mockingbird". Rehearsals are underway and the cast is outstanding.

I also want to thank the volunteers who have come forth to help with sets, costumes, landscaping and mailings. This theatre cannot exist without these great volunteers.

There's something special planned for July that will involve the season Ticket Holders, volunteers, cast and crew of the shows presented this season. Keep looking for further announcements.

Our 2009-2010 season is set and we are currently seeking directors. If you would like to direct, please contact the theatre and leave your name and phone number. I will get back with you as soon as possible.

We are still soliciting submissions of children's plays for our June production. They should be about 10 minutes in length and preferably with a *fairytale* theme. I'm sure that the adults, as well as the kids, will enjoy this one (I've seen "The Incredibles" 4 times!)

So, come to the shows. Remember the Afterglow following opening night show of each production. Wine, cheese, and other nibbles... and you'll have an opportunity to talk to the cast and crew of the show.

Yes, Rick, there will be pinwheels at intermission.

Sherry

The Stage Door

Sapulpa Community Theatre  
124 S. Water Street ~ Sapulpa, OK 74066

Please call or email  
for RESERVATIONS

(918) 227-2169



## Operations

with Karyn Lee Maio  
Office / Theatre Manager

We are well on our way to a fantastic season. You, our audience, have been very favorable in your responses to our productions. Three more to go and we know you'll enjoy them just as much.

Sprucing up of the theatre continues: framed hand-renderings of the building have been hung, the restored original church pews are now in the patron reception area, and a one-of-a-kind set of comedy/tragedy masks by Frankoma has a prominent place in the lobby.

Taking a patron's suggestion, we have reconfigured the theatre with a center aisle. This should allow easier access to shorter seating sections. Our telephone line has been re-installed with more logical access, including being able to take credit cards at the ticket desk.

Our actors and directors will be pleased to once again have full access to the *green room* (waiting room). It will be shared with the office, but highly functional for both.

One of the most important responsibilities SCT has as a grant recipient is reporting on the use of monies received. This is done following the close of each production and we're in the throws of that reporting cycle. We have set our 2009-2010 Season and will be filing our major grant mid-February.

It is our hope that you find the newsletter, postcards, emails, and brochures helpful in knowing what is going on at your theatre. There's so much excitement!

See you soon ...  
Karyn

# SCAT NEEDS

Sapulpa Community Angels for the Theatre

## On Going:

**Paper Towels, toilet tissue, Styrofoam coffee cups, paper cups (6-8 oz and 3-4 oz), liquid hand soap, disinfectant bathroom cleaner, Kirby vacuum cleaner bags, colored letter size copy paper, mailing labels, printer ink cartridges.**

## During Productions:

**Cookies, cake, goodies, sugar & creamer canisters, sweetener, liter**

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## Meet the Board

**Sherry Whisman** has served on the SCT board on and off for over 9 years. Sherry began her career at SCT, first as a Stage Manager and then as an actor and eventually as a director. She has appeared in SCT's productions of *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Picnic*, *On Golden Pond* and many more. Sherry is an award winning film actor with several local independent films to her credit. Acting is her first love, but directing is certainly second. Sherry said she loves to see actors grow in their craft under her directorship.

When she had the chance to come back on the board of directors this past year, she jumped at it. Helping to revitalize SCT, as well as getting the word out of what a great theatre it is, is a personal goal and joy. SCT is evidently one of Sapulpa's best-kept secrets!

The response from our patrons already this season as been overwhelming and Sherry is constantly thinking of ways to offer a little something extra to our Season Ticket Holders and other patrons of SCT.

Sherry and husband Dale own Fireside Talents, a talent agency for actors in northeastern Oklahoma. She also has a full-time job with Southwestern Payroll Service, Inc. – oh, yes, and a craft business with her partner and fellow actor, Karyn Maio. Sherry said that getting Karyn involved in the theater, and SCT in particular, should be considered her greatest claim to fame.

She is currently directing "To Kill A Mockingbird" and has assembled an excellent cast. Maybe next season she will once again "trod the boards" in one of SCT's productions.



***The Mother Road - Dewey east from Main Street***

**The SEASON PASS is still available**

See any combination of 6 shows for \$55.00/adult, \$25.00 student/child. Bring a friend, see a show twice, or send a group. Sure you can see the next 3 shows for \$30.00, but where's the fun in that? And there's going to be special events for our Season Pass holders ~ you don't want to miss out

## Words to LiveBy

We are continually faced with great opportunities which are brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems.

*~ Margaret Mead*

Our imagination is the only limit to what we can hope to have in the future.