



New Kensington Civic Theatre December 2013 Callboard



“Oh, by gosh, by golly, it’s time for mistletoe and holly!” And, it’s time for the General Meeting at the workshop, December 13 at 8PM. Christmas Party following the business meeting! Come join us...you won’t be sorry! ‘Tis the season to be jolly!

Note:

John and Maria and Carla Ann are doing the food for the Dec. 13th meeting. Carla is **not** having her 12th Night Party this year; so, if you want some of her famous Chili, come to the meeting!

From the President’s Desk

Planning Board will be meeting soon and we welcome any suggestions for plays or musicals that you would like to see.

Volunteers are needed to work on the next 2 shows. How about helping to usher, build or paint a set, assist with props or costumes, take photos, bake cookies, or learn to run lights and sound. We need you! We also need to recruit some new members because we’re just not as young as we used to be. If NKCT is to continue, we need everyone to pitch in.

Come and enjoy some Christmas cheer at our next meeting on the 13th.

Notable Notes and Quotes

Auditions for *Boeing Boeing* will take place January 5th and 6th at 7:30 at the workshop. There will be cold readings from the script. We need two men and four women. The play dates are March 13, 14, 15 and 16. *Boeing Boeing* will be directed by Ron Ferrara. “This show is going to be the comedy interruption you need during the cold, gray winter months,”

“Thank you” to. . .

“I would like to thank my Box Office Girls for helping out for *Nun-crackers*: Nora Ann, Carla Ann, Cindy, and Louise, who handled one of the biggest crowds. We had a terrific response of 589 audience members. Thank You to our 50/50 winners: Dom Giordano, Bob Coury, Sharon Sharp Simio, Debbie Schick. Much appreciation to those who donated the money back to NKCT.
Thanks. Maria”

Out and About

Colleen and Denny saw TRUE WEST at the Public. They said it brought back memories of a great show with Bill M. and Jimmy Madeja.



15 Minutes with Carla Ann Guzzo



In the Spring of 1968, while student teaching at Burrell High School, two of the teachers on staff suggest Carla Ann attend an NKCT meeting to see if she would be interested in joining. . . Well, needless to say, the rest is history!

Carla Ann's first assignment was with the props crew for *"Cat On A Hot Tin Roof"* under the leadership of Nora Ann Pastrick. In addition, she took advantage of IUP's Summer Theatre Program to learn more about theatre productions. However, Carla feels she learned more from the mentoring of the NKCT "Theatre Masters" than from any formal training.

Throughout her 45 years with NKCT, she has worked every possible position. Carla particularly enjoyed costuming period shows; sometimes designing and stitching every costume herself. Being a history buff with an extensive library on historical life, dress and manners, theatrical arts, design and management, Carla welcomed the opportunity to work on historical dramas. All of her resources were put to good use.

During the mid-seventies, during the summer, Carla served as the assistant costume/make-up person with the Pittsburgh CLO. She also worked with the drama departments of both Deer Lakes and Valley High Schools.

Through the years, Carla has also acted on stage as well. She enjoys doing parts which require an accent of some sort; such as "Ouiser" in *"Steel Magnolias."* Accents have been of great interest to her since childhood.

Some of Carla's best memories involve the "Traveling Christmas Shows," which were a staple in the 70's. From early November to mid-December, they would be busy carrying the set, props and costumes around the valley for the performances in different venues each week-end. The shows were a great money maker for the NKCT; netting anywhere from several hundreds to a thousand dollars each season. "We're talking 1970 dollars," Carla pointed out!

Lately, most of her work with the theatre has been in the business department. She has been treasurer and worked Box Office for more years than she can remember.

Carla feels the theatre has been a large and positive influence on her life. It gave her a creative outlet in contrast to the technical world of mathematics. It has kept her busy through some rather traumatic moments in her life. Carla feels that it brought her friends and relationships that have enriched her life. Most importantly, she likes the fact that NKCT has made a difference in many lives in the NK area. Often, the NKCT productions are the only exposure to live theatre that many will experience. And, Carla states, "We strive very much to make it a positive experience."

Thank you, Carla, for this most interesting interview and for sharing your life and theatre experiences with us!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all!

Cindy Ansani