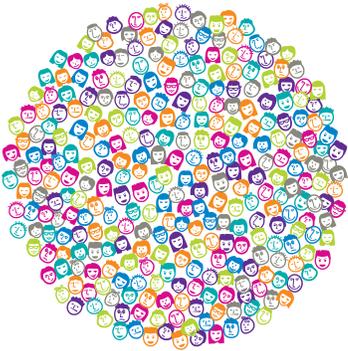




Come join us on Saturday, March 19, 2016 for the

CHICAGOLAND CELEBRATION

World Puppetry Day!



Without a doubt, this version of celebrating the art of puppetry and spreading the word, promises to be the highlight of our entire year of programming. CPG Director of World Puppetry Day, Silvia Kraft-Walker, in partnership with the Matteson Public Library — along with Youth Services librarian Susan Fulcher and a commitment by CPG's professional puppeteers

— have produced a program of events to provide an experience that will be long remembered.

Events will be scheduled from 2 -3:30 PM. We will have a Maker Fair with a variety of activity stations run by CPG members including Dave Herzog Marionettes, the Von Orthal Puppets, the Melikin Puppets, Fred Berchtold, David Quesal, Creventive Studio and Jeannie McQueenie Puppets. We will have a Puppetry Exhibit from 1 -3:30 PM. If anyone would like to exhibit a puppet or two, please bring your own stand and info card about your puppet.

However it will take more than the producers to make it a day to remember. It takes a guild. We are inviting all guild members to make a day of it and join in. Not only as a spectator, but to be there as a greeter with a walk-around puppet. Be there to assist the children with their

make and take project. Be there to assist when needed. Don't wait to "be there" and decide to help. Give Silvia a call at 847-729-7500 or email her at swalker@glenviewpl.org. Let her know in advance that you would like to be a part of the day and how you may be of assistance.



The Matteson Public Library is located at 801 School Avenue, Matteson, Illinois.



Chicagoland Puppetry Guild February Gathering

By Fred Putz

The monthly gathering was held on Sunday, February 21st at the home and Creative Studios of Conner Asher, in Chicago. The thirteen members of the Guild were graciously greeted at the door by Mr. Asher, who is Conner's father and who also acted as the coat checker. We were happy to greet our new member Alejandro Rivera and his mother, Mrs. Rivera. Ale brought along his large mouth puppet, "Socky". We were intrigued as to why Ale named his puppet "Socky". Ale's answer was quite logical: "Because he looks like a sock". Socky has a very keen sense of humor and kept the group entertained prior to the luncheon buffet which was provided by the members. As usual, the meal was sumptuous and contained an entrée for every taste and need. (No one can say that the C.P.G. does not eat well!) During the meal, Mrs. Conner, Asher's mother, arrived and served coffee.

Since there was no business meeting, after the meal we were invited to visit Conner's studio which took up the entire second floor of the house. The brightly decorated upper rooms were tidy and well arranged with a room for each puppet building activity: carpentry, casting and such. On display were several of Conner's puppet creations, most of which were Muppet style mouth puppets. Conner also displayed a work-in-progress, which consisted of several clay models of fantastic and imaginary animals for an upcoming contest. There was only one complaint about the studio, "it was too clean!"

After the studio viewing, Conner set up his hand puppet stage in the living room and we all settled down for some serious puppeteering. Did I say serious? I should have said "impromptu and

seriously funny" entertaining puppet skits by Conner, his assistant, Nick Lopez and the rest of the puppeteers. The gathering closed at about 4:00 PM and we all left with our stomachs full of good food and minds filled with images and sounds of great puppeteering.

Our thanks go to the Ashers for a wonderful afternoon of friendship and sharing.



Impromptu and seriously funny!



Happy people means happy puppets. Members who attended and joined in the fun were, Jill Frederickson, Eric Stiles, David Quesal, Susan Fulcher, Dave Herzog, new member, Alejandro Rivera, Nitasha Lazerus, Fred Berchtold Susan Witek, Silvia Kraft-Walker, Nick Lopez and Fred and Marilyn Putz.



A collection of sculptures



Would you call this a "Gaggle" or a "Giggle" of puppets?



Left: Connor has a lot on his mind.

Right: The CPG logo lives!



In Review

The Glen Town Center Puppet Theater Series

By Fred Putz

The Fabled Mr. Aesop

February 27, 2016, The Book Market at Hanger One
Glenview, Illinois
Mel and Neal Biske, Puppeteers

The Stage

The Melikin Stage, which has space for two puppeteers and their large mouth puppets is a wonderful piece of engineering. It is without the usual proscenium arch and the stage is lit from the 1st pipe that hangs above the stage. The pipe includes the basic three colors plus some special effects colors which more than adequately illuminates the stage and also gives the puppets a three dimensional appearance. The lack of a proscenium arch not only allows for large pieces of scenery, it also provides space for a staging area above the main stage upon which twelve inch rod puppets can be worked.

The Setting

Two white Doric columns flanked the light blue scrim marking the edges of the playing area. This was to establish that the play was to take place in long-ago Greece.

The Play

Prior to the show, the audience was entertained by Sylvia Kraft Walker and Fred Berchtold, who walked around with hand puppets and marionettes. As show time approached, a little bird popped up on stage and exited quickly only to re-appear on the other side of the stage, then disappear only to pop up in the most unusual places. The children delighted in guessing when and where the bird would appear again. Mel entered from behind the stage and talked to the members of the audience about "Good Theater Manners" which included applause at the appropriate time, listening and watching until the play is finished and turning off cell phones. He also gave a short introduction about Aesop and his career and explained the difference between a fable and a story.

Mel returned backstage as the music intro led Aesop on stage wearing a Grecian style white robe with blue trimmings. His face was that of a kindly grandfather with snow-white hair and beard. (After the show, Mel explained that Aesop had been the first of his large hand puppets and that it was made many years ago.)

It should be noted that Mel's puppets are not typical hand puppets. They are much larger (which can be seen from a long



The Audience meet the stars!

distance) with unarticulated arms. The arms are constructed in such a manner that they swing in a natural manner when the puppets move across the stage. Some of the puppets have rods attached to their arms for when special movements are required.



Aesop's first fable was about Patty and her basket of eggs which she accidentally dropped. The moral of the story was, "don't count your chickens until they are hatched". The next fable was about the Mouse who saved the Lion from the hunter's net by chewing the net apart, proving that, "little friends, can someday become great friends".

The next fable concerned the boy who cried "wolf" too often and was almost eaten by the wolf, but was eventually saved by his grandfather. This was followed by "The Country Mouse and The City Mouse", who were unhappy with each others home surroundings.

After visiting each other they discovered that "There's no place like home".

The final fable was, "The Turtle and the Hare" and their marathon foot race, which of course, Ten Speed Turtle won because "slow and steady, wins the race".

The Fabled Mr. Aesop ended the show reminding the youngsters in the audience that if they would like to find out about more of his fables, they should visit their local library. Thus ended a delightful show.



Silvia meets and greets with the audience.



THE GLEN

TOWN CENTER

PUPPET THEATER SERIES

THE MELIKIN PUPPETS *presents...*



THE FABLED MR. AESOP



Saturday, February 27 † 11-11:45 AM

The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd.

Online Registration opens Feb. 12th

www.theglentowncenter.com

FAMILY SHOW

SPACE IS LIMITED!



In Review

The Glen Town Center Puppet Theater Series

By Dave Herzog

Winter Tales

The Jabberwocky Marionettes

December 30, 2015

The Book Market at Hanger One, Glenview, Illinois

It was a Holiday week, weekday show and we had a great turnout! Approximately sixty adults and children were thoroughly entertained by the Jabberwocky puppets. Lolly Extract, founder of the company, and her daughter, Amber March, are both expert puppeteers!

They demonstrated brilliant manipulation on a very innovative stage that allowed for hand puppets, rod puppets, marionettes, shadow puppets and black theater. The playboard played a second purpose in that it could be set on an angle to make an amazing hill! There was a little girl who had a snowman as a playmate, an astronaut who seemingly floated in space and a yellow frog riding a bicycle, making his way through the snowy night. All accompanied by musical pieces to compliment the action. The children were delighted as well as the adults in the audience.

All in all a great finale to the 2015 season of puppetry.



A colorful event poster for the Jabberwocky Marionettes. At the top, it says "THE GLEN TOWN CENTER" with a logo featuring a globe and wings. Below that, a yellow banner reads "PUPPET THEATER SERIES". The main title is "JABBERwocky Marionettes" in a stylized font, followed by "presents... * Winter Tales: * a puppet show *". There is a small photo of two puppets, a snowman and a girl in a red coat. The event details are: "Wednesday, December 30 † 11-11:45 AM", "The Book Market at Hanger One, 2651 Navy Blvd.", "Online Registration opens Dec. 16th", "www.theglentowncenter.com", "FAMILY SHOW SPACE IS LIMITED!". There is a circular logo in the bottom right corner.



The Glen Town Center Puppet Theater Series

The renewed puppet theater series for 2016 moves along into spring! March and April performances bring to the fold CPG members Kipley Wentz and Sandi Sylver. As a return performer, Mr. Kipley will present "Old MacDonald's Funny Farm". Old MacDonald is away on vacation leaving Charlie the Monkey in charge. What could possibly go wrong? EVERYTHING!

Sandi Sylver is a long time CPG member. Truth is we seldom get a chance to see her! Sandi has been on the road touring with her popular vent act through the Central and Eastern States. We are looking forward to her performance and visiting with her once again.



THE GLEN
TOWN CENTER
PUPPET THEATER SERIES



MR. KIPLEY MAGIC & PUPPETS
MAGIC...

OLD MACDONALD'S FARM

A PUPPET SHOW

Wednesday, March 30 † 10:30 -11:15 AM
The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd.

Online Registration opens March 16th
www.theglentowncenter.com

FAMILY SHOW SPACE IS LIMITED!



THE GLEN
TOWN CENTER
PUPPET THEATER SERIES



Sandi Sylver

Storyteller, Ventriloquist,
ongstress

Saturday, April 23 † 10:30-11:30 AM
The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd.

Online Registration opens April 8
www.theglentowncenter.com

FAMILY SHOW SPACE IS LIMITED!



Guess Who!

In the December, 2015 issue of the Patter, sad to say, only a few remembered or knew of one of the guilds founding members, Jay Marshall. He was a Punch Master, Magician, Professional M.C. and Ventriloquist.

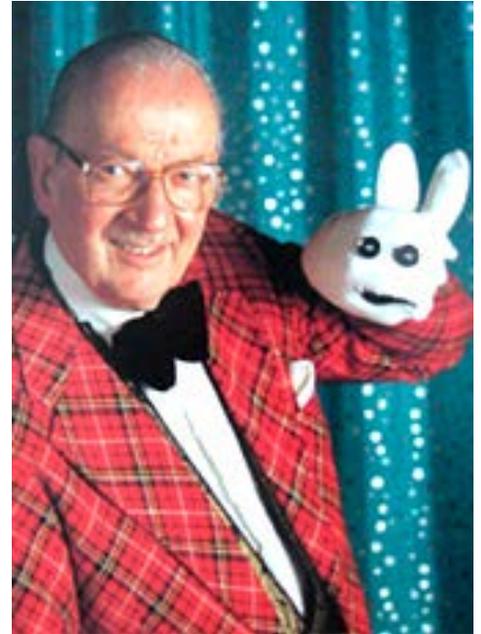
Susan Marcus replied and said: The photo in the Puppet Patter of Jay Marshall and Lefty brought back so many memories. This terrific magician and puppeteer helped me in so many ways. I'd been invited to perform a Punch and Judy show in a number of venues over the winter holidays, but my large proscenium stage took too much time to set up and take down. I described my need for a lightweight but practical stage to Jay. He showed me how to make one from a music stand! It was easy to strike, easy to set up, and worked just fine for my needs. I even found other ways to adapt it to different scripts. What a generous spirit he had.

Jeff Biske remembered Jay, the comic: No matter where Jay was, on stage, at a party, in a convention hall, at Potlatch, at a national festival dining hall, all someone had to do was to ask Jay, "What time is it?" and Jay brought down the house.

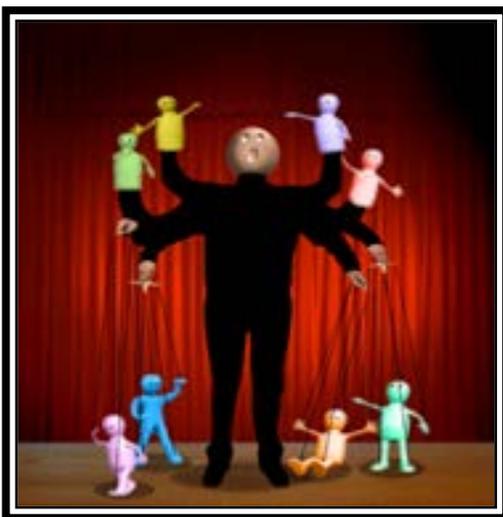
Dave Herzog will always remember his Punch and Judy show: Jay would walk on stage, bow to the audience, walk to his stage and disappear behind it. It was a simple stage about four feet high and three feet wide with a green velvet curtain. There was silence and great anticipation from the audience. Then a bare hand appeared on stage and placed a set of false teeth on the playboard. After the laughter toned down, Jay, from behind the stage, explained to the audience that he could not use a punch reed with teeth in his mouth. Mr. Punch arrived and removed the teeth and the show began.

Mel and LaVerne Biske remembered a more serious side of

Jay: We had come to a point in our puppet experience, after producing some variety shows and two stories, that we were considering leaving our "real" jobs to pursue a career in puppetry. As founding members of the CPG we had known Jay for a number of years. He was well acquainted with our work and had been encouraging us whenever we met. It was Jay and another well known puppeteer, Hans J. Schmidt, who gave us the final "shove" and the Melikin Puppets were on their way!



On a side note: It was a very sad day when Jay passed away. On the other hand, Jay made sure to make his passing a little easier to accept. Ever the comedian, at Jay's wake, which was attended by hundreds of fellow performers and friends, was a hand written sign attached to the foot of his coffin for all to see. It was a "show biz" observation that referred to how his act went and it read, "This is not the first time I died".



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Have You Visited the CPG Website Lately?



Be sure to visit our guild's web site on a regular basis for the latest postings on what's happening in the Chicago area. Posted you will find the current and upcoming performances at the Glen Town Center monthly Puppet Series co-sponsored by the CPG.

Our address is www.chicagopuppetguild.org

Included is a page listing the performing companies within our guild and a link to their web sites.



The Puppet Patter is the Official Quarterly Publication of the Chicagoland Puppetry Guild. It is published on line and available in hard copy version to those CPG members without access to a computer. It will also be posted on the CPG web site. Publication dates are on or about the first of March, June, September and December. All items for publication by CPG members should be submitted no later than fourteen days prior to publication date to:

Mel Biske, Editor
169 Woodlet Lane
Bolingbrook, IL 60490
email at: melikinpuppets@comcast.net

Publisher: Bridget DePriest

CPG Web Master: Jeff Biske

Notices of regular gatherings and/ or special events will be posted on the CPG web site: www.chicagopuppet.org by email or direct USPS mail to hard copy members. Future dates for events, performances, announcements or scheduled gatherings (meetings) will appear in the "Patter" if they apply to the time frame the publication covers.

Elected Officers and Directors for 2015-2016

President: Fred Berchtold
Recording Secretary: Doria Martuzzo
Director of Inter-guild
Relations: LaVerne Biske
(Corresponding Secretary)
Director of Outreach: Jill Frederickson

Vice President: Susan Witek
Treasurer: Harvey Kahler
Director of Puppet Patter-Web Site: Mel Biske
Director of World Puppetry Day: Silvia Kraft-Walker
Director of Relationships with
Other Puppet Organizations: Dave Herzog

By the Way.....

By Ann Onymous

It's the end of an era! Jay Marshall's Magic Shop on Lincoln Avenue is no longer there. What has been a meeting place for professional magicians, novices and fans of magic, takes on a new look. For years the CPG held its monthly meeting in the theater area in the back of the magic store. Gone but certainly not forgotten.

Outreach Change of Director

Due to outside commitments our Outreach Director, Cynthia Von Orthal, was obligated to resign her post. Jill Frederickson, recognized the importance of the outreach program and graciously accepted the position. The committee includes Susan Fulcher and guild Historian, Fred Putz.

Great Plains Regional Festival

Since the Great Lakes Region will not be sponsoring a Regional Festival this year, the Great Plains Region has invited Great Lakes to take part in theirs. The dates of the festival are Thursday, August 4th through Sunday, August 7th 2016. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in St. Louis, Missouri. Kat Pleviak will serve as Workshop Director and Dave Herzog is the consultant on performers for our region. The performances will take place at a university theater. More information to follow when it becomes available.

We would like to welcome two new members, Nancy O'Connell of the Schaumberg Public Library and Alejanaro Rivera. We look forward to meeting you!

CPG Facebook

Our new identity for facebook is called Chicagoland Puppetry Guide. Dave Herzog mentioned it is important to follow appropriate procedures when wishing to post information on facebook. He stressed that announcements should not be made unless they have been presented and agreed upon by the board and posted by the person designated by the board to do so (Dave Herzog).

Mark It on Your Calendar!

The Date of the CPG picnic is Sunday, June 12, 2016. Time and place to be determined.

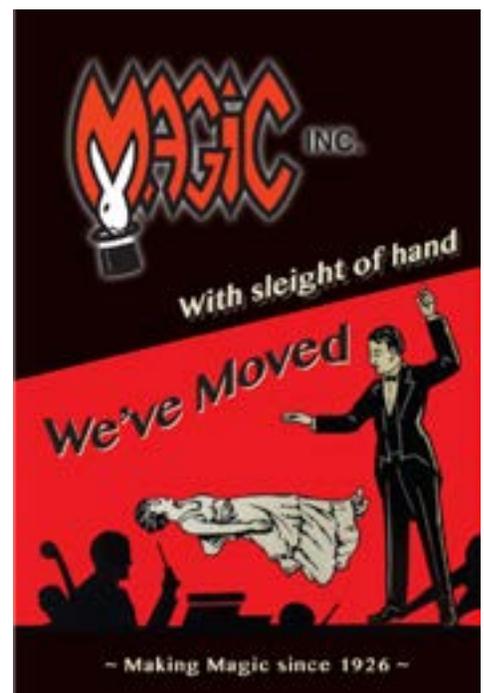


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chicagoland puppetry guild

www.chicagopuppetguild.org • chicagolandpuppetryguild@yahoo.com • facebook.com/cpguild

Mission Statement

The Chicagoland Puppetry Guild is a non-profit organization and is part of a national organization of performers promoting the art of puppetry. Our role is to honor, promote, encourage, and inspire all forms of puppetry arts' and puppeteers in their endeavors and to provide a fellowship of cooperation and inspiration to puppeteers everywhere.

Chicagoland Puppetry Guild Membership Application for September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016

Send this application with check payable to: **Chicagoland Puppetry Guild** to: LaVerne Biske • 169 Woodlet Lane • Bolingbrook, Illinois 60490

Please Print All Information Neatly

Membership..... Yearly Votes

- Couple/Family.....\$30.....2
- Adult\$20.....1
- Company\$30.....2
- Senior (62+)\$15.....1
- Student\$15.....1
- Junior (15-).....\$15.....1
- Associate\$15.....0

Application Date _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Name _____ Birth date _____
mo/day/year

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Email _____ Preferred contact Home phone Cell phone Email

Additional names associated with this membership:

Name _____ Birth date _____
mo/day/year

A membership directory is published and distributed among the membership in November. Would you and/or your company like to be listed in this directory? (please check all that apply)

- YES** - Please list me in this directory
- YES** - Please list my company in this directory
- NO** - I do not wish to be listed in this directory

Please list any additional information you would like to add. CPG will make every effort to include this additional information in the directory.

The Chicagoland Puppetry Guild is interested in you. Please tell us about your interest in puppetry: what you are doing and your status as a puppeteer. (please check all that apply)

I perform	I am interested in		I perform	I am interested in	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marionettes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Puppet Builder
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hand Puppets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Librarian
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shadow Puppets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teacher
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ventriloquist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Puppet Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rod Puppets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Puppet Enthusiast
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Film/Video	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Semi-Professional (part time puppeteer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Costume Maker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional (make my living in puppetry)

Other: _____

Occasionally the Guild is asked for sources for puppet shows, workshops, and more. If you are interested in our referral, please indicate what services you or your company can provide and what your limitations are. Please include your website if applicable.

Are you a member of any other puppetry related organizations? (please check all that apply)

- Puppeteers of America UNIMA USA Storytelling Guild or network Other (please specify)

For more information about the Chicagoland Puppetry Guild contact CPG President - Fred Berchtold at 847-529-1725

..... **FOLD HERE**

Check must be made payable to: Chicagoland Puppetry Guild



Please make sure address appears in window

LaVerne Biske
 Chicagoland Puppetry Guild
 169 Woodlet Lane
 Bolingbrook, IL 60490

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Date Recieved	_____
Recorded by	_____