


LOOK!  COME to our PGUNY Meeting!

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month 1:30 – 5:00**

**August 21<sup>st</sup> Red Riding Hood by Puppets with Pizazz Show starts at 2:00**

**September 18<sup>th</sup> Punch and Judy Puppets with Pizazz**

**October 16<sup>th</sup> Glove and Rod manipulation / construction tips pamniver**

**November 20<sup>th</sup> open**

**December 18<sup>th</sup> holiday party / planning for day of puppetry in March  
Two potential tracks: Adult (teachers, librarians, puppeteers) OR Kids (performances and make-n-takes)**



**Guess what Nancy Sander found! Almost in her front yard! A new home for PGUNY!**

**Oneida Lake Arts and Heritage Center  
1201 Main St. Sylvan Beach, NY 13157**

It was grand to meet the director, Linda Williams and her husband, Vincent Doty! They are both passionate and fun. When talking to Linda, it's obvious that starting this art center comes right from her heart. They chose Sylvan Beach because it is located in the corner of four counties with lots of school districts. **It's easy for many to get to with a Thruway exit in Canastota.**



[www.OneidaLakeArtsandHeritageCenter.org](http://www.OneidaLakeArtsandHeritageCenter.org) [info@olahcenter.org](mailto:info@olahcenter.org) 315-761-4971.

We saw a modern facility, two large rooms, modern wall displays, store potential, commercial kitchen, art room, practice rooms, future recording studio... The center is a CNY Arts grant recipient, and participated in a high school ambassador program, which matches students with local businesses. A relatively new venture, Linda is casting a wide net, specializing in music and art, and is eager for creative events. **Thanks to Linda and Vincent** for their warm welcome and exciting possibilities!



### **Nancy Sander Returns!**

Nancy not only returned to Sylvan Beach for the summer but she is once again an active puppeteer, ending her recent retirement. This winter she spent some time in Italy where she happily viewed work by a favorite artist, Caravaggio.

Nancy brought a new acquisition from England for show and tell for our meeting at the Oneida Lake Arts and Heritage Center in July. "Mr. Teeth" is an amazing rod puppet with real teeth from a Merry Mack Marionette and Magic show which performed in 1934.

Nancy is working on some new puppets and stage for her Punch and Judy show. Here's the Judge sculpted in clay.



### **PGUNY Rekindled**

Nancy Sander's passion for puppets is undeniable! She brought her enthusiasm and ideas for rekindling our guild to our July meeting. Past history with other guilds shows the importance of setting a consistent place for meetings as well as a consistent day of the month for them. The current suggestion is that it be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. The proposal with the OLAH Center is regularly scheduled meetings for which PGUNY will pay a \$25 fee, subject to their board's approval.

**Nancy Sander shared some thoughts about meetings:** As far as meetings go, building lasting friendships is the most important part of the Guild to me. A place to talk about your passion for puppets and not watch the listener's eyes glaze over. Two parts of each PGNO meeting cement the bond: 1) Show-and-tell. This is a big part of the meeting and we already do that. 2) After the meeting, we at PGNO go out to a local restaurant to share a meal. That seems logical for us because of the distances we have to travel. Or it could be as simple as a brown bag lunch. (PGNO is Nancy's guild in Ohio.) She also talked about 4 types of meetings: performance/critiquing, demonstrations, planning sessions, workshops.

**PGUNY's Mission:** to light fires for youth and next generation puppeteers, make passion for puppetry accessible, open to adults and children alike as well as the merely curious to professionals.

**Michelle Smith-Carrigan**, Artistic Director of The Puppet People, thinks the biggest thing for her would be increased communication within the group on a site where people are encouraged to share what they are doing or ask questions etc. Zoom meetings, if not in-person meetings, to see people and hear first-hand what they are working on, struggling with, succeeding with, or just to connect with like-minded peeps! [We agree!](#)

PGUNY.org  
to connect with others  
about puppetry



**Good News!** Chuck Burke has created PGUNY.org to start the kind of interaction that Michelle and many others are looking for!

PGUNY t-shirts, mugs, bags etc. are available on the site.

[Thanks Chuck, for your work on the site and for the photos from our meeting too!](#)

**Thanks to these people for sharing!**



**Nancy Hardy** shared her new horse marionette and a child's puppet stage, perfect for budding puppeteers!

### **Robert Rogers**

I'm finishing up a version of a traditional Greek shadow puppet show called, "Karaghiozis the Baker." The puppets are usually made of leather. I'm using thin plexiglass. Here are the two main characters: Karaghiozis, the troublemaker, and his faithful friend, Hatziavatis. These are popular characters who have appeared on stage for hundreds of years. I decided to create this kind of show because I had some success in recreating a traditional Sicilian marionette show called "The Adventures of Orlando Furioso," and I find it very interesting.



## John Koethen

The Heldeberg Marionettes are a collection of puppets that began years ago in my classes at the Heldeberg Workshop. Attached are some photos of the Heldeberg Marionettes performing on the Street, in local libraries and on stage at the Workshop. Some of the puppets are the work of the children in my puppet class. The challenge for them was to create the ugliest Troll possible.



The Heldebergs are the mountains outside Albany New York. "Heldeberg" is the 17 century Beverwyck dutch word for "bright mountains." The Workshop, located under an escarpment of those mountains is a tract of land set aside as an adventure in learning for children. The Workshop, open in the summer, provides outdoor classes in the science, art, and adventure of nature.



## Lily Gershon (Director of Lilypad Puppet Theatre)

Our next show for an adult audience is our annual Crankie Cabaret Oct 21-23 at The Cherry (102 Cherry Street) in Ithaca NY. This is a variety show of crankies, with live music and absurd theatrics. We bring together artists, puppeteers, storytellers & musicians for a weekend of crankiness. **You can see videos and more info [HERE](#).**

**For the younger audience**, we will be continuing our family series at The Cherry starting in September. With guests like Honey Goodenough from Boston, and Liz Joyce from Long Island, as well as our own local shows, the series highlights all different styles of puppets! Marionettes, hand puppets, shadows and crankies will all be part of the variety. **Check it out [HERE](#) (There are also shows/events listed at the site for Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> at the Aurora Free Library and Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> at the Freeville Farmer's Market)**

We are working on something we've never done before for April of 2023 - it's called Puppet Runway. It's a fashion show inspired by the art of puppetry, and a puppet show inspired by fashion.

**We are still in the planning stages and if anyone is interested in making a piece of fashion for this show, they should get in touch! [www.lilypadpuppettheatre.org](http://www.lilypadpuppettheatre.org) [www.lilysilly.com](http://www.lilysilly.com)**

At our request, Lily also sent photos of her latest creation. The 2<sup>nd</sup> photo is Matt, baby Gigi, Lily and guest puppeteer, Brad Shur, who came to do a show for them in June.



**We (pamela and Iver) are excited to be doing the newsletter again!** When we did it back in the 80s it was one of the most creative times in our lives; getting to know some amazing people, seeing so many shows from all over the world, experimenting with different materials, and just being amazed with the world of puppetry. Our first puppetry festival was the 1980 World Festival in Washington D.C. It blew our minds and cemented our love of puppetry forever.

**We are embracing PGUNY Rekindled.** Iver's image of this is "holding the torch up tall and charging forward." (You would be laughing if you saw his face as he acted that out.) We are willing to put in a lot of time making connections, investigating possibilities for meetings and the newsletter and finding out what PGUNY can do for you. It is so much fun following up ideas and helping them come to fruition!

**It will be easier with your help.** We want your ideas! Send us anything that comes to mind that others might be interested in. It can be a sentence or more... every bit helps! [pamandiver@juno.com](mailto:pamandiver@juno.com)

- **Send us a schedule** if you are doing shows or workshops, now if possible, so we can share it before the event.
- **Let us know of other shows you hear about** and, if time is limited, we'll send out an email.
- **Bring something for show and tell!** In the past, people have shared one, a few, or many things. It's about whatever you want to share.
- **Send us ideas** for demonstrations, performances, workshops etc. for future meetings... what would you like to do? What do you wish someone else would share? How about an idea that would be useful for other puppeteers?

**Anything you are interested in may be an inspiration to someone else!**

**More Exciting News from Nancy Sander** "I have designed a **Girl Scout badge on puppetry** for the little gals in the areas. "Had I had the opportunity to experience puppetry as a child I wouldn't have had to wait until my late twenties before discovering my true passion.

Funny thing, tho. In my class of 13 kids both I and another girl became professional puppeteers later in life. We didn't keep contact until I met her at a festival in Indianapolis. Where I sat next to her in a show! Small world... In any case, I contacted the Girl Scouts and they are interested!" **Woo hoo for Nancy!**