A black rectangular sign with red letters

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**Mar 2025 The Playbill Issue 3-7**

A theater stage with red curtains and masks

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**President’s Message:**

By Greg Engstrom

The two most notable items from February’s Board meeting were: (1) the Board officially installed Aviva Fluhr as our club’s new House Manager and (2) approval of a motion to cancel the May general meeting. Avivah comes to Sun City Players with over ten (10) years of house management experience, having worked for the Mesa Arts Center and the Tempe Center for the Arts.

We are very fortunate to have her in our membership. If you happen to be ushering at any of the March play performances, please introduce yourself to Avivah and make her feel welcome.

For reasons unknown, the RCSC clubs’ office decided to place another club at Mountain View in May, which necessitated our monthly meeting being moved to Lakeview Recreation Center. The Lakeview venue would have made it difficult at best for us to be able to produce our planned stage play. Since the May meeting usually has been sparsely attended in the past, the Board decided to cancel the meeting altogether and conduct the scheduled Readers Theater play skit in April instead.

The annual Sun City Owners’ membership meeting is coming up on March 11, 2025, at 6:00 pm at Sun Dial Recreation Center. It is imperative that we have a large contingent of club members there to support and stress the importance of both the performing arts and a performing arts center (PAC). Rumor has it that there will be a group of owners, led by a former RCSC board member, pushing a motion to freeze all future projects. Of course, this would mean another continued delay of the Mountain View renovation and performing arts center.(PAC)

As I announced at our February Monday Night meeting, one of our just newly elected Board members has resigned her position. As directed by our club R&Rs, the Board is now seeking nominations from the membership to fulfill the two year and nine months remaining on this term.

If you are interested in becoming a Board member, please contact any one of the Board members (listed on the page near the end of this newsletter) before 6:00 pm March 3, 2025. The Board will vote to accept the nominees at our March 4th executive meeting and then submit the name(s) to a vote of the membership at the March Monday Night meeting on March 17, 2025.

A shout out to Nancy Dearborn for a well-received and attended Valentines Day party at the February meeting, at which TA Burrows and some lively “Tip Top Dancers” entertained us. Great music, lots of fun!

If you haven’t already done so, please mark your calendar to attend our upcoming Sun City Sings! Mixed Chorus concert, which will take place at 7:00 pm on Friday, April 11, 2025, at the American Lutheran Church located at 107th Ave and Del Webb Blvd. The program is titled “A Song of Spring”. Admission is free ($10.00 donation suggested).

We look forward to an exciting March and April since all three of our performing arts divisions will be showing off their skills. It is so rewarding to know that our club has talented members with skills to be able to perform in all three.

**News and Views:**

**Membership:**

If you have not renewed your 2025 membership, you can do so online at <https://www.suncityplayers.org/plans-pricing> by credit card or at the March Monday Night meeting. If you do not renew by the March meeting, you will have to sign up as a visitor. Visitors are allowed to attend two meetings free of charge but then must become a member after that to continue coming to events.

**Performing Arts Collaboration:**

**Theater - Music - Dance**

We all have something in common; we exist to share our talent with others. Despite the lack of progress toward a new PAC, we haven’t lost our compassion for creating and entertaining.

Recently, Sun City Players collaborated with the Tip Top Dancers in their annual musical dance show. Cast members from ***The 1940’s Radio Hour*** were a hit when they sang “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy”.

A group of women wearing matching outfits

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Pictured from L-R are Andrea Dixon, Cathy Corbin Mannino, Patty Mason, Celeste Hyland(Asst Director) and Linda Shirck(Music Director/Accompanist)

***The 1940’s Radio Hour*** dance band will feature Rick Lamb, who will be cast as Biff Baker, the trombone player. For the first time in many years, our musical will include dancing (tap, soft shoe, jitterbug, rhumba, and waltz), thanks to Tip Top choreographer Debbie Kruep, who also plays a lead role as “cute little” Connie Miller. She has added so much to our production. We look forward to our continuing collaboration with the dance clubs for future musicals.

Sun City Players is also working together with Sun City Sings! Mixed Chorus. The 40-member group includes several singers who have been actively involved in stage acting. Elizabeth Reaves, a professional dancer, actor, and singer with more than 20 years of experience, recently appeared in ***Cemetery Club.*** Carol Rupprecht has performed in musicals from a young age and has brought her talent to various productions, including a One-Act skit at a Players Monday Night Entertainment this past January. James Borgman appeared with Carol in that same show and has also acted in ***Broadway on 107th Street*** and ***Don’t Talk to the Actors.*** He is working very hard in learning to sing in four-part harmony in the Mixed Chorus (bass). All three are very involved with Readers Theater Ensemble.

***A group of people posing for a picture

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***

Pictured L-R are Elizabeth Reaves, James Borgman, Carol Rupprecht

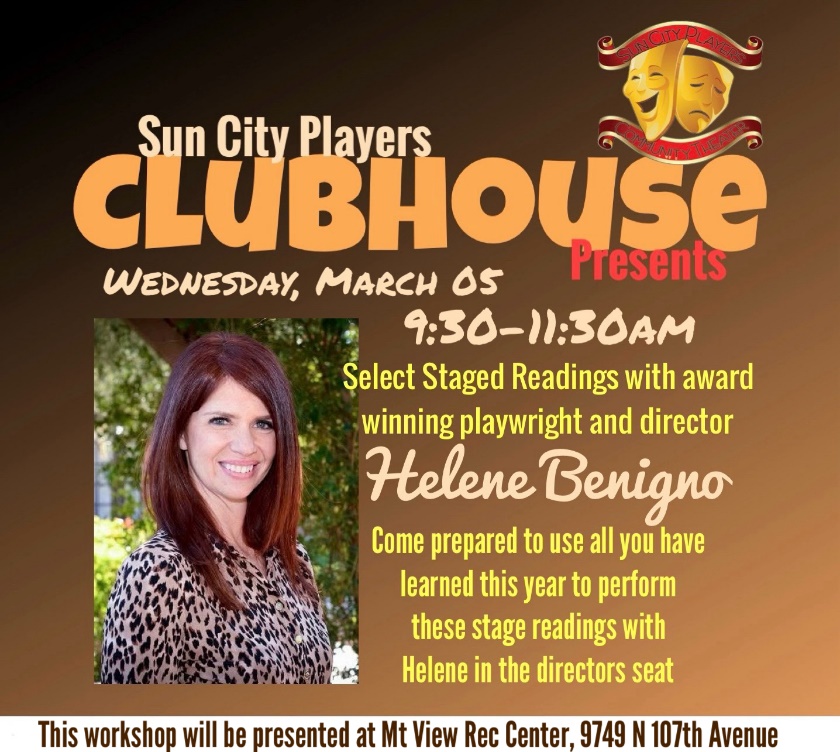
American Lutheran Church has graciously offered their acoustically rich space for rehearsals and performances due to the lack of adequate performing venues with RCSC. The spring program of secular songs will include tunes from ***Sound of Music, State Fair and The Tender Land***, in addition to other songs that celebrate the power of music.

“A Song of Spring” will be held on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm at American Lutheran Church, 17200 Del Webb Blvd, Sun City, AZ. The concert is free; $10 donation is greatly appreciated. **Don’t miss out on this uplifting celebration of spring through the universal language of music!**

By: Linda Shirck, Accompanist and Chorus Coordinator

**Clubhouse:**

The last meeting of the spring semester will take place on March 5, 2025, 9:30-11:30 am, at Mountain View Recreation Center. The workshop will be a Staged Reading by Helene Benigno.

Helene Benigno is an award-winning playwright and director here in the Valley of the Sun. Our Clubhouse workshops are always interactive and are not lectures. They involve your obtaining the tools you need to perform a skill and then utilizing the tools to practice them right then and there. So, come ready to participate in an actual “staged reading” with a successful playwright and director. **Coffee and** **cookies will** **be served during the break**!

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**Main Stage Production:**

***The 1940’s Radio Hour*** musical by Walton Jones A poster of a person singing into a microphone

Description automatically generated **Musical Theater Is Back at Sun City Players Community Theater!**

Sun City Players is presenting a musical at Mountain View Auditorium this month, ***The1940s Radio Hour***. Stage Director: Herb Hyland, Music Director: Linda Shirck. Tickets are available online for $15 and at the door for $20.

        Matinee: 2 PM

            Sat/Sun March 15, 16, 23, 2025

        Evening: 7 PM

            Fri/Sat March 14, 21, 22, 2025

**Volunteers:**

**Ushers are still needed for performances on March 15, 16, 21 and 22, 2025.** Not only will you have a fun time at the theater, but you will also enjoy the play for free. Please call Karen Pigg at 559-799-1842 or email her at [ckpigg@gmail.com](mailto:ckpigg@gmail.com) with your willingness to usher. You’ll be glad you did!

**Special Invitation:**

Amber Ryan and Actors Playground Theater are now offering Sun City Players 50% off tickets for their production of ***12 Angry Jurors*** during the weekend performances on March 21-23, 2025. Please see the poster below for details.

A advertisement for a movie theater

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**Obituary:** A person wearing glasses and a purple shirt

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Sun City Players lost a member/actor in late January. Dean Mackay joined in 2022 and was actively involved until he moved to Ohio in 2024. He appeared in ***Old Hams*** in Spring 2023. We will miss him!

**Readers Theater Ensemble:**

Readers Theater Ensemble is diligently preparing for its next production, ***Dear Family, Dear Friend: Letters from the Heart***, which is set to premiere at the Monday Night Meeting on April 21, 2025. Inspired by the style of A.R. Gurney’s ***Love Letters***, this heartfelt performance unfolds through a series of handwritten letters, beautifully read and thoughtfully responded to by family members and friends, and which capture the deep connections and emotions that bind us together.

The cast includes Jeff Brick, Carla Balk, Carol Bowman, Mindy Comitor, Nancy Dearborn, Mike Graham, Debra Kruep, Michelle Menella, Elizabeth Reaves, JP Reaves, Carol Rupprecht, Ray Schiel, Michelle Serries, Tom Swenson and Anna Thompson.

Due to class rehearsals during March and April, those interested in attending Readers Theater Ensemble Saturday sessions can do so beginning May 3, 2025.

**Monday Night Meetings:**

**March 17, 2025**: **“Song and Story Night #2”:**

The first “Song and Story Night” last September was such a hit that Director Bobby Havens is doing it again! Come support your fellow Players members as they tell heartfelt stories and/or sing from the heart. We will also be celebrating St Patrick’s Day, so wear green, if that is your choice. No table seating, as the chairs in the auditorium will be set up for the main stage production. Refreshments will be provided. See attached flyer on the next page for announcement of our fantastic cast.

A poster for a concert

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**April 21, 2025:** **Readers Theater Presents:**

“**Dear Family, Dear Friend: Letters from the Heart”**

Table seating. Please plan to arrive early to share beverages/appetizers with old and new friends (doors open at 6:15 pm). This will be the last Monday Night meeting until September. Spring and summer birthdays will be recognized with a special cake.

**Calendar:**

**Mar 4: 9:00-11:00 am** – Exec Board Meeting – Fairway Rec Center, Rm 133

**Mar 5: 9:30-11:30 am** – Clubhouse (A Page to the Stage) – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 5: 9:00-11:00 am** – Sun City Sings! Rehearsal – Amer Lutheran Church

**Mar 10 – 13: 10:00 am-noon** – In person ticket sales at Fairway Rec Center

**Mar 12: 9:00-11:00 am** – Sun City Sings! Rehearsal – Amer Lutheran Church

**Mar 14: 7:00 pm** – Opening Night for ***1940’s Radio Hour*** – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 15: 2:00 pm** - Matinee performance of ***1940’s Radio Hour*** – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 16: 2:00 pm** - Matinee performance of ***1940’s Radio Hour*** – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 17: 7:00 pm** – Monday Night Meeting with entertainment of “Song and Story”- Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 17 – 20: 10:00 am-noon** – In person ticket sales at Fairway Rec Center

**Mar 19: 9:00-11:00 am** – Sun City Sings! Rehearsal – Amer Lutheran Church

**Mar 21: 7:00 pm** – ***1940’s Radio Hour*** – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 22: 7:00 pm** – ***1940’s Radio Hour*** – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 23: 2:00 pm** - Final performance of ***1940’s Radio Hour*** – Mountain View Rec Center

**Mar 26: 9:00-11:00 am** – Sun City Sings! Rehearsal – Amer Lutheran Church

There will be no regular Saturday classes in March or April of **Readers Theater** **Ensemble**, as the cast will be holding rehearsals for the ***Dear Family, Dear Friend: Letters from the Heart*** show to be presented at the April 21, 2025, Monday Night Meeting at Mountainview Rec Center.

**Pics of TA Burrows Monday Night Entertainment:**

A person standing on a stage holding a microphone

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Thanks to Nancy Dearborn, her committee and Tip Top Dancers for making this a fun night for all

A group of people dancing in a room

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A red and silver text with a heart

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**Executive Board:**

President: Greg Engstrom (920) 988-7339

[gregengstrom0@gmail.com](mailto:gregengstrom0@gmail.com)

Vice President: Bill Cherry (585) 278-5209

[wcherry5731@gmail.com](mailto:wcherry5731@gmail.com)

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At Large: Janet Murphy (602) 799-2227

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At Large: Vacant at this time

**Club Information:**

**Theater Location:**

Mountain View Recreation Center

9749 N. 107th Ave Sun City, AZ 85351

**Box Office:**

Jim Beaudin: 623-233-4611

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