



Society for the Arts
Active Singles 50+
Newsletter

March, 2016

Volume 30, Number 3

Celebrating 29 years of Supporting the Arts

Check out our website: www.societyforthearts.org

Officers

President Joanne Handlong
justjo34@gmail.com

Vice President To be appointed

Secretary Ellen DuBiel
ellndub@aol.com

Treasurer Rosemarie McGowan
vukey1@yahoo.com

Board Members/Chairs

**Denotes non-Board members

Book Club

**Irene Rubens, irene.g@cox.net

Culinary Lunch

Andria Mori, amori@cox.net

Financials, Data Base

**Bob Hurni, bhurni@aol.com

Membership

Carol Hasher, carolinphx2000@gmail.com

Membership Asst., Special Projects

Linda Dorethy, lindorethyl@gmail.com

Foreign Films/Movies & Dinner

**Bill Plank, bill.408@hotmail.com

Newsletter, Website, SFA Express

Doris Green, dorisgreen@cox.net

Past President Cheryl Slobodnik

c_slobodnik@msn.com

Socials/Happy Hours

Howard Calvert, hwcalvert@me.com

Theatre, Calendar Coordinator

Joanne Handlong, justjo34@gmail.com

Special Assignments

Ron Webster, no email address

President's Message

Dear SFA Members,

Baseball fans are descending on the Valley of the Sun! School kids are looking forward to Spring Break! Temperatures are pleasant and mild. It's March, and we've planned opportunities for SFA members and guests to enjoy some outdoor events. Be sure to check them out in this newsletter, note them on your calendar, and most importantly, attend! It won't be long before the summer heat chases us indoors again.

As I write this, February is half over and I have enjoyed socializing with some of you at various events; including a social hour at Remington's, a raucous Phoenix Theatre production of "Calendar Girls", a Super Bowl gathering, and a very pleasant Valentine's Day Brunch at Olive & Ivy. My appreciation goes to all the hosts for these events and a very special thanks to Board member, Ron Webster, who brought long-stemmed red roses for all the ladies at the brunch. What a delightful surprise!

Behind all the fun social events, the Board of Directors and committee chairs are hard at work planning ways to meet the goals that I told you about in the January newsletter. To reiterate, those goals are: 1) increase membership; 2) increase fundraising; 3) increase member participation in planning and attending events; and 4) plan a summer trip.

The first three goals are very inter-related and the Board has already taken some steps towards their achievement. Guests will now be asked to complete a Guest Registration form at hosted events so that we can send them a complimentary newsletter for a few months and invite them to join in accordance with our guest policy. We're planning a membership drive with incentives and Carol Hasher, our membership chair, will be holding periodic social/orientation events for new members. We've also added some new events to the calendar to entice you and your guests. On March 3, we've

combined the Social with an Art Walk in downtown Scottsdale and a special event at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Phoenix is planned for March 19.

We're looking into some fundraising events including a casino night (with fun money) or similar event, and a Vino and Canvas (wine and painting event). **Do any of you have a large house or access to a clubhouse that we could use for such events? Please contact me if you can help us in this way.**

As another more immediate way to increase our funds, the Board approved an increase in membership dues from \$65.00 annually to \$75.00 annually at the February 9th meeting. This increase will be effective April 1, 2016. As many of you know, our dues had been \$85.00 for many years but were lowered to \$65.00 in 2014 as a way to encourage more memberships. Although the intention was good, the result did not materialize. Membership did not increase and the treasury balance decreased to the point where the Board did not feel comfortable making donations to the arts in 2015. We want to change that this year by combining this small increase in annual dues with fundraising events. Our mission of supporting the arts is what sets us apart from other singles groups! I hope that all of you feel a sense of pride that we give back to the community in this way.

We're looking into a summer trip to the Aspen, Colorado Music Festival in July, probably with Road Scholar. More information will be sent out when plans solidify.

Our Treasurer, Rosemarie McGowan, is in the process of setting up a Budget Committee that will present a proposed budget to the Board in April or May. My thanks to Rosemarie for taking on this task, along with the myriad duties of being our Treasurer. She is doing an excellent job at handling our accounts, and she is also a very good baker! She treated each of us to a home-baked cupcake at the Valentine's Day brunch! Thanks, Rosemarie!

Lastly, I want to say that you are each an essential part of SFA. I encourage you to participate, get involved, and enjoy what our unique organization has to offer.

Joanne Handlong, President

Welcome To New Members

We'd like to welcome these new members to SFA since January 1, 2016.

	<u>Date Joined</u>
Jacqueline (Jackie) Hogan	1/10/16
Susan O'Neal	2/01/16
Caren Edelstein	2/12/16

Please seek them out at events and chat with them. They'll appreciate your taking the time to get to know them and to make them feel welcome and you may make a new friend!



CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

CLOSE ENCOUNTER S WITH THE ARTS

March 2, Wednesday 7-9 pm

Phoenix Art Museum, 1625 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix - We will meet at 6:00 PM at the Art Museum. The AZ Storytellers Project will take over the Cummings Great Hall with the Valley's most stylish citizens. This night is in partnership with the Arizona Costume Institute Nouveau Chapter. We will hear stories from fashionistas, models and retailers as fashion, beauty and self-expression are celebrated. Purchase your own ticket at <https://tickets.azcentral.com/> for \$10 (plus \$2 service fee) and then email Carole Sobel at cesobel@gmail.com to make an SFA reservation. Tickets include appetizers. There will be complimentary gourmet brownies from [Fairytale Brownies](#) at check-in.

COMBINED HAPPY HOUR AND ARTWALK IN OLD TOWN SCOTTSDALE

**Hosted by: Howard Calvert and Joanne Handlong
March 3, Thursday, 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm**

SOCIAL 4:00 PM -6:30 PM

OLD TOWN TORTILLA FACTORY, 6910 E. Main St. Scottsdale, AZ (480) 945-4567 Southwest, freestanding Margarita lounge, house-made tortillas, salsas and specialties. Possibly, the most popular restaurant in Old Town. Please remember to tip our friendly wait staff. Contact Information: Howard Calvert (520) 975-2802.

**ARTWALK 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
GOLDEN PALETTE ARTWALK**

This new event combines the Native and Western ArtWalks. It's a unique event that takes on the spectrum of Western and Native arts and will celebrate Scottsdale's new Museum of the West and the City's native cultural heritage. Native American and Western entertainers will perform along the ArtWalk line along with performances and Western storytelling at the Museum of the West theatre. Partners for the event include the Museum of the West, Heard Museum and City of Scottsdale.

Contact Information: Joanne Handlong, justjo34@gmail.com, (480) 491-3326. <http://scottsdalegalleries.com/>

THEATRE EVENT

March 5, Saturday, 7:30 pm

Evita

Presented by Phoenix Theatre, 100 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix. Book and Lyrics by Tim Rice; Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber - The bravery, beauty and passion that made Eva Peron an inspiration throughout Argentina combines with the genius of musical theatre giants, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, resulting in a sublime blockbuster certain to sweep you away. Filled with soaring ballads, seductive paso dobles and elegant melodies, this Tony® Award Winner for Best Musical will draw you into a tale of a woman driven by ambition, love and power while masking a fragility few ever saw. Prepare to have your breath taken away when this iconic and unforgettable story fills the theatre floor to ceiling, front to back. The SFA reservation deadline for this event has passed. **Tickets: \$39.00** (Group rate). **Pre-**



show Dinner at 5:00 pm at Fez, 105 W. Portland St., Phoenix, (602) 287-8700. **Contact** Bill Plank, (602) 942-3151, bill.408@hotmail.com, for information. www.phoenixtheatre.com; www.fezoncentral.com

**FOREIGN/DOCUMENTARY/
INDEPENDENT FILMS**

March 6, Sunday

SFA members are invited to see a Foreign/ Documentary/Independent Film with this group. Dinner will follow at a nearby restaurant. The time, location and title will be emailed by Carole Sobel on March 4. Contact Carole Sobel cesobel@gmail.com if you wish to receive information about this activity.

BOARD MEETING

March 8, Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Mimi's Cafe, 8980 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale.

All members welcome at the SFA Board of Directors' meeting. We meet in a private room. Come to share thoughts, ideas and concerns. We welcome your participation. Come at 5:30 pm to order your own food and drink. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Contact Joanne Handlong, President, justjo34@gmail.com, (480) 491-3326, for information.

CULINARY LUNCH

March 11, Friday, 1:00 p.m.

Hash Kitchen, 8775 N. Scottsdale Rd.

RSVP BY 3/9.

We are meeting at Hash Kitchen, 8775 N. Scottsdale Rd., to enjoy SFA company, and, dine on innovative egg dishes or tasty salads, sandwiches. Contact amori@cox.net, or, call (602) 667-8170.

LUNCH AND GAMES

March 13, Sunday, 12:30–4:00 pm

The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th Street, Phoenix

RSVP BY 3/10

The response to this event was so good we will do it on a monthly basis. We will meet for a special brunch at 12:30 pm in The Terraces dining room. There will be an omelet stand, meat carving, a fish dish, plus bagels, lox and several sides and lots of different desserts.

Wine and other beverages are included in the \$17 price (tax and tip included). Games and socializing will follow in a private room. Water, ice, napkins and plastic cups will be provided. Bring your favorite game. Contact Carole Sobel, cesobel@gmail.com, if you want to attend. Walk-in's **cannot** be accommodated.

Directions: When you reach 16 St. and Morton St. (traffic light) turn west. Go to the third driveway on the left, pull into the parking lot and walk straight ahead to the lobby. Ask at the front desk for the Bordeaux Room.

SOCIAL

March 17, Thursday 4-7

O.H.S.O EATERY + NANO BREWERY, 4900 E Indian School, Phoenix

602-955-0358, Tables located right along the Arizona Canal. Industrial-chic taproom offering beer brewed on-site, plus cocktails, global foods at value Happy Hour prices. Please remember to tip our friendly wait staff. Contact Information: Howard Calvert 520-975-2802

THEATRE EVENT

March 18, Friday, 8:00 pm

RSVP BY 3/6

Stupid Fking Bird** - Presented by Stray Cat Theatre at the Helen K. Mason Center for the Performing Arts, 1333 E. Washington St., Phoenix.* Here's the *LA Weekly*'s take on this play, as appears on Stray Cat Theatre's website: "You've never seen Chekhov like this. Irreverent, contemporary, smart, inventive, and very, very funny, Aaron Posner's bold and cheeky sort-of update of Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull* thrusts us into a country house where unrequited desire is drowned in equal parts alcohol and sarcasm. In true Chekhovian fashion, actresses, playwrights, doctors, and novelists bare their souls as they search desperately for the truth of love and art." The play "...skillfully remixes the renowned "subtext" of the classic play into exuberant and hysterical scenes and songs. How does one have Chekhov speak to 21st-century America? See this production..." **Tickets: \$25.00** (Senior Rate). **Pre-show Dinner** at 5:30 pm at China Chili's Restaurant, 302 E. Flower Street, Phoenix. **Contact** Carole

Sobel, cesobel@gmail.com, (602) 595-4400, for tickets and dinner reservations by 3/16/16. <http://www.straycattheatre.org/> <http://www.chinachilirestaurant.com/>

- *This is a temporary venue for Stray Cat Theatre while they transition to their new home at the Tempe Center for the Arts.*

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

March 19, Saturday, 5:30 - 9.30 pm

RSVP BY 3/16

1125 N. 3rd Ave, Phoenix

The Garden is having its largest event of the Spring, "Haru in the Garden", a festival welcoming Spring. It is colorful, cultural, artistic and inspiring. There will be entertainment, candles, luminaries, music, art, Ikebana, telescopes, a kimono display, Tea Ceremony (\$5 extra), a variety of Asian food, sake, beer and a wine bar. SFA's Linda Dorethy will host this event. **Tickets are:** Adults-\$25 in advance; \$30 at the door (No Senior price). You have **several options** for buying your ticket: 1) Purchase your own ticket in advance on line at <http://www.japanesefriendshipgarden.org/>; 2) Mail your check for \$25.00 to Linda and she will buy you a ticket. Your check **must** reach her **before** March 16th; or 3) purchase your ticket at the door for \$30.00. RSVP to Linda Dorethy, lindorethy1@gmail.com, (480) 773-0988, **by 3/16/16** to let her know which ticket option you have chosen, to make arrangements to meet at the event, and to carpool if interested.

MOVIES & DINNER

March 20, Sunday

Join Bill Plank and other SFA members and guests for a movie, followed by dinner at a nearby restaurant. Contact Bill at [\(602\) 942-3151](tel:6029423151) for the movie title, location and time.

BOOK CLUB

March 21, Monday, 7:15 pm

The Wildflower Bread Company, 7001 N Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale (Indian Bend and Scottsdale Roads) -

We will be discussing *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. A private room is reserved. Arrive at 6:30 pm to order a bite to eat and socialize before the meeting which starts at 7:15 pm. All members and guests who have read the book are welcome. The book selection for April is "Vanessa and Her Sister" by Priya Parmar. For further information contact Irene Rubens at irene.g@cox.net

DINNER WITH FRIENDS

March 29, Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Beaver Choice Restaurant, 745 W. Baseline Rd., Mesa (SE corner of Extension and Baseline Roads), (480) 921-3137.

This unique restaurant bills itself as “Scandinavian, Polish, and Canadian” and serves an eclectic mix of American classics alongside typical eats from Quebec, Poland, Germany & Scandinavia--lots of delicious Scandinavian dishes. Don't be fooled by the unusual name or the beaver mascot--the food here is delicious and the atmosphere has an urban feel. Your host--Joanne Handlong. Advance notice that you will attend will be appreciated or just show up at 6:30 pm. Contact Joanne at justjo34@gmail.com, h - (480) 491-3326 or c - (480) 296-8512. Check out the menu at www.beaverchoice.com



SOCIAL

March 31, Thursday 4-7 pm

DONOVAN'S STEAK AND CHOP HOUSE

3101 E. Camelback Rd. Phoenix, AZ
(602) 955-3666 World-class, unobtrusive service, 100% prime beef 100% of the time!

Probably the best free appetizers in the city. Please remember to tip our friendly wait staff. Contact Information: Howard Calvert (520) 975-2802

EARLY APRIL ACTIVITIES

THEATRE EVENT

April 2, Saturday, 7:30 pm

This Ain't Your Momma's Macbeth

RSVP BY 3/16

Presented by Class 6 Theatre at the Mesa Arts Center, Farnsworth Studio Theater, 1 E. Main Street, Mesa. Fast, furious, and surprisingly funny, this is Shakespeare's great freight train of a tale, set in a lunatic asylum. It's absolutely not “traditional” Shakespeare, no, but it's fun, clever, and one heck of an entertaining horror story. From one angle, it's the story of Macbeth; from another, it's life in an asylum. Which one's real? We keep you guessing till the end. **Tickets: \$21.00. Pre-show Dinner** at 5:00 pm, Il Vinaio Restaurant and Wine Bar, 270 W. Main Street, Mesa. **Contact** Howard Shapiro, howard-mesa2@gmail.com, (480) 962-9321, for tickets and dinner reservations by 3/16/16.

Mail your event payments to:



**SFA Treasurer
P.O. Box 5566
Scottsdale, AZ 85261**

Make checks payable to “Society for the Arts” and write the name of the event in the memo section.

Or Use Paypal

Go to www.societyforthearts.org and click on the paypal link. You can use your credit card here.

Society for the Arts
P. O. Box 5566
Scottsdale, AZ 85261
Information Line: (480) 432-6900
www.societyforthearts.org

March 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Close Encounters	3 Social & Art Walk	4	5 Theatre
6 Foreign Film	7	8 Board Meeting	9	10	11 Culinary Lunch	12
13 Lunch & Games	14	15	16	17 Social	18 Theatre	19 Japanese Garden
20 Movie	21 Book Club	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Dinner w/friends	30	31 Social		

The mission of the Society for the Arts is to raise money through social events and fundraising to benefit the arts in the greater Phoenix area. Founded in 1986, Society for the Arts is a 501c(3) organization.

SFA Guest Policy

We welcome guests to attend up to three SFA events but after the 3rd visit, they must join before attending any more events. This includes theater, culinary lunches, happy hours and all other events except those which are open to the public.

SFA Membership Fee

\$65.00 per year*
Contact SFA Membership Chair:
Carol Hasher, carolinphx2000@gmail.com
The Membership Application can be downloaded and printed from our website
*Dues increase to \$75 per year on April 1, 2016
www.societyforthearts.org