



Mask & Mirror Monthly Membership Newsletter

December 2020

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Greetings, Friends of Mask & Mirror Community Theatre!

We'd like to thank all of you who joined us for our first ever "radio theatre" play, "War of the Worlds", in late October. We had such a good response (and we had so much fun doing it!) that we have another one ready to release this week: "A Christmas Carol"

Our Gift to You: "A Christmas Carol"

When: Dec 18-24 2020

Where: Streaming online (audio only)

Show link: <https://www.maskandmirror.com/a-christmas-carol.html>

Mask & Mirror is pleased to announce our next COVID-era, online, audio-only production, "A Christmas Carol," a radio theater adaptation of Charles Dickens' holiday classic, written and

directed by Daniel Hobbs. This one-hour original adaptation tells the familiar story of irascible, cynical Ebenezer Scrooge's journey to a new vision of life, combining dialogue and narration from Dickens' novel and original material by Hobbs.

The play will be available online at the Mask & Mirror web site from December 18-24 2020. The auditions were so popular that two casts were formed! A total of 19 actors rehearsed and each cast recorded a final show. You can find the shows at the link listed above.

This play is Mask & Mirror's gift to you, our loyal family, friends and patrons. With live theatre all but closed nationwide, theatre

troupes have turned to online productions to stay engaged and afloat. (If you are able, we would appreciate it if you could make a freewill donation on the web page above to help defray the show's costs. *Thank you!*)



MIGS Spotlight: Gary Romans

Member In Good Standing refers to an individual that has paid the annual membership dues of \$20 to become an official member (tax deductible) and supporter of Mask & Mirror Community Theatre. This grants the individual voting rights at the annual meeting and free coffee or tea at performances. [Click here to become a MIGS!](#)

The MIGS spotlight recognizes one of our members and to express thanks for supporting our theatre.

Gary Romans

Gary is a native of Chicago, Illinois and lived close to Wrigley Field. He retired in 2006 from a career in hi-tech marketing, including 10 years with Sony and 25 years in computer graphics. Gary has been married to wife Pat for 51 years. They have 2 children, Zach (Beaverton) and Anna (Tualatin) and 2 grandkids, Talieson & Asher.



Gary started theater and the arts in high school. He was part of big band jazz playing tenor sax and realized that a career in the arts was iffy at best. Ironically also in the band, right behind him, was James Pankow on trombone who gained fame as part of the band Chicago.

Gary's career which included a lot of travel made it hard to do much theater until while in Detroit, MI with Chrysler he was in a position that kept him home. Now, with regular hours, he and Pat saw an advertisement for a new community theater in Troy. They joined and in the next 4 years, Gary was part of 13 shows as an actor, director and crew member. This experience as founding members was key to their future with Mask & Mirror.



Gary had frequent business travel to Oregon and quickly fell in love with the area - he called Pat and told her there was a better place to raise a family. Eventually he was able to convince Tektronix to hire him to relocate. He was involved briefly with Lumiere Theater in Tualatin prior to it closing its doors. But in February of 2011, Gary and Pat held a play reading by a local playwright at their home and invited theatre friends over for it. After the reading, the question was raised on who would like to start a new community theater. In addition to Gary & Pat, 6 others raised their hands and Mask & Mirror Community Theatre was formed!

The first season began with three shows by local authors that agreed to allow the theater to do the shows with no royalty fees. Over the years Gary has been President of the board, a board member, a Trustee, in charge of marketing, public relations, the M&M newsletter as well as grant writing. Gary has acted in six plays with Mask & Mirror and directed nine, two of which were in our Unmasked series. His favorite three plays as a director were, Two Rooms, String of Pearls & his final directorial effort The Boys Next Door. His favorite role was Dr. Lyman in Bus Stop, which he portrayed for Troy Players & Gresham. He enjoyed this play so much that he even directed the show in Sherwood.

For Gary the phrase "too hot to handle", could not ever be applied to his food. Being a hot sauce aficionado, he laughs when people try to warn him something might be too spicy.



As with most good things, they come to an end. Gary has decided to step back from his work with Mask & Mirror and have it be another retirement. His contributions are very much appreciated by all who have worked with him!

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