

NEWSLETTER, JUNE 2009

**THEATRE.....** “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum” will open June 26 and play through July 25. The music and lyrics to this funny play are by Stephen Sondheim with book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart. Inspired by the famed Roman farces, a slave labors for his freedom by helping his master win the heart of a courtesan. Winner of several Tony awards, this is a bawdy, wild comedy that features plans gone awry. Directed by Tracey Williams, produced by Lenny Klaif, with costumes by Edmund Arredondo. Performances are Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Call 640-8797 for reservations or log on to: [www.ojaiACT.com](http://www.ojaiACT.com)

Next up is Neil Simon’s **Broadway Bound**, August 14 to September 12, directed by Steve Grumette. **AUDITIONS** are Saturday June 6 and Sunday June 7, 1-3 p.m., and Tuesday, June 9, 7 p.m. The roles call for 4 men, ages early 20’s to mid 70’s, and 2 women, ages late 30’s to mid 50’s. The plot picks up where Brighton Beach Memoirs and Biloxi Blues end, in part three of Neil Simon’s acclaimed autobiographical trilogy. For further info, e-mail “sgrumette@roadrunner.com” or call 649-4000.

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**ART & PHOTOGRAPHY....** June is the month for our annual Photography Branch exhibit. This year’s show is titled “**Visions of Change**” and will feature people and things in the process of change. A selection of photographs using the theme have been carefully chosen and will grace the gallery walls throughout the month.

Along those same lines.... On Friday, June 19 the Photo Branch will host “**FOTOVINO**”. This is an opportunity to connect with other photographers, socially without e-mail or facebook, showing and seeing new work in the form of portfolios and prints and bound books instead of websites. Come see some photographs, drink some vino, eat some pizza and talk about photography. Bring photos to share. Bring a bottle of wine, or baked goods, we’ll order pizza for \$5. 6 p.m. in the gallery.

**Glen Morgan** will bring his clever and creative birdhouses to the front showcase during the month.

Reception for all artists is Sunday, June 7, 1-3 p.m.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS. GET READY FOR OUR SUMMER EXHIBIT, “HOT SUMMER DAYS, HOT SUMMER NIGHTS”. Scheduled for July and August, this annual show invites artists to paint in any medium using the theme. Take-in will be Saturday, July 11, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Get going on your masterpiece.

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**LITERARY....** On Monday, June 8 at 7 p.m., in the Gallery, the *Ojai Shakespeare Salon* joins with our Literary Branch to present **Lisa Wolpe**, renowned actress, director, teacher and artistic director and founder of the Los Angeles Women’s Shakespeare Company. Her topic will be *Why Shakespeare? What He’s Done for Me Lately*. The event is sponsored by the Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation. Refreshments will be provided. \$5 suggested donation.

For the first time, we will host the **Ojai Valley Poetry Fest**, June 6 in our courtyard. This is a full day of poetic possibilities, locavore-style. The day starts at noon with poetry, workshops, performers and music and it’s FREE. After a short break, the doors will reopen with the Evening Program at 7 p.m. Featured poets are Marsha de la O, Jackson Wheeler, Frank T. Rios and Wanda Coleman. There will be beer and wine for sale and, of course, books of poetry. The Evening Program cost \$10 and begins at 8 p.m.. Tickets at Bart’s Books, Ojai Creates , Ojai House, Ojai Coffee Roasting Co. and at the door. (cash only, please). Log on to :OjaiPoets@gmail.com.

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**MUSIC.....** Rounding out the month is a special one-night appearance by **Work o’ the Weavers**. Please join us on Tuesday, June 30 at 7:30 for an evening celebrating the music of The Weavers, one of America’s consummate Folk groups whose original members were *Pete Seeger, Lee Hays, Fred Hellerman and Ronnie Gilbert*. The Weavers sang traditional folk songs from around the world, blues, gospel, labor songs, and American ballads, selling millions of records. The contemporary group carries on the traditions and arrangements of the Weavers in a two-hour-plus musical performance of more than 40 songs, interlaced with the story of who the Weavers were and why their music captivated the country. There will also be signed items donated by Peter Seeger on view for a silent auction before the

show and at intermission. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. For reservations call 640-8797 or for more info call 649-4000.