



To Contact HOH: 28401 Mound Rd., #946, Warren, MI 48090 hohplayers.org

President's Corner

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SAVE THE DATE Heart-of the-Hills Players will be hosting an Annual General Membership Meeting on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at The Big Red Barn (DAV Hall) at 47326 Dequindre north of Auburn Road in Shelby Twp.. Time to be determined. Everyone is invited.
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Help Wanted

New Member Referral Program – Refer a friend or family member to join HoH. Once Lorrie Garrison gets their paid membership, you will receive **TWO FREE TICKETS** to an upcoming HoH show.

If you have not done so yet, please send in your 2022 Membership Applications with your Membership dues.

HOH Newsletter Contributors – The HOH Newsletter is looking for input and feedback from our membership. As you will notice in this issue, we are looking for contributions for our "**Did You Know That...?**" Section. If you have an interesting anecdote, fact or ability that you would like to share, please contact Lorrie Garrison at HoHPlayers@gmail.com or text/call (248) 404-8700.

FEB. BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

- 2 Al Bartlett
2 Leonard Lukomski
2 Sally Noveras
3 Ralph Reseigh
4 Sharon Heltsley
9 Martha Bock
13 Leigh Whitmeyer
14 Denise Matthews
14 Valerie Mould
26 Sandi Krupa

MAR. BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

- 2 Rich Boykins
6 Carole Coonan
7 Audrey Cieslinski
12 Margaret 'M.G.' Langoni
15 Mary Roxburgh
16 James Ballard
16 Kim Flaig
28 Harry Miriani
30 Ron Koester

The Pajama Game - DATES

Central United Methodist Church in Waterford:

May 20 & 27 7:30 PM May 21 & 28 2:00PM

Warren Community Center

June 3 & 5 2:00 PM June 4 7:30 PM

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Peggy Bogart Graham has a **FREE treadmill** for the first person who wants it and calls her at 248-438-6842.



Joseph Tocco joined HoH in 2006. He was born on April 11, 1926 to Sicilian immigrants, Phillip & Catherine Tocco, and was their 5th child. At 18, Joe was drafted into World War II, and after Boot Camp,

went to Richmond, VA for training in diesel engines. He was sent to Okinawa as a Sea Bee for the duration of the war; then received an honorable discharge. The G.I. Bill offered a free education to veterans. Since Joe had a fondness for drawing, he chose an Art School in Detroit. He later attended Drafting class at Chrysler, and three years later he switched to the GM Tech Center. HoH has benefited greatly from Joe's creative talents. He created outstanding props such as a bird cage in which an actor could perform, a large, often-used Juke Box, a Gramophone, several sewing machines and multiple typewriters, to only name a few. While working at GM, he still found time to join a stage play in Wyandotte and the *Lincoln Park Choraleers*. During this time he met Barbara Campbell on a blind date and married her on November 20, 1954. They had 3 daughters. Barbara was a wonderful mother and wife. She supported his love for the arts and was involved backstage plus as an Usher. Joe performed with *String of Pearls* and was a regular in our mini-shows. Two of Joe's favorite roles were Andrew Carne in *Oklahoma* and Joe Boyd in *Damn Yankees*. Another favorite act was his song, "A Portrait of My Love". It contained his artwork, singing ... and humor. He was a complete package! Joe had a beautiful tenor voice (Andy Williams had nothing on him!). He loved to sing and dance and spent many hours performing and entertaining at various establishments. He especially loved singing at his family's weddings! He was a talented artist as well. His portraits of family and friends will attest to that. Joe passed away on January 15, 2022, 95 years young. He will be sorely missed.

Getting To Know You....

HoH is pleased to welcome two new members to our group: Cece Lesner and Eleanor Santiago.

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Cece Lesner. Cece has been involved in theatre in the Metro Detroit Area since 1993. She has performed in local community playhouses, dinner theatres and numerous Broadway Onstage productions. Her favorite roles were in *The Queen of Bingo*, *Cemetery Club* and *Barefoot in the Park*. Currently, she works part time for the City of Sterling Heights and enjoys free time with her family and friends. She is excited to be a member of the Heart of the Hills and is looking forward to working on future productions. Cece hopes we can get rid of COVID and **“GET ON WITH THE SHOWS!”**

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Eleanor Santiago. I’m a homemaker and resident of Macomb Twp. for over 40 years. My father is Filipino, my mother is Native American. I was born in Rhode Island, but grew up in Detroit. I graduated from Cass Technical High School in 1957. During my high school years, I played clarinet in the concert band and marching band. I also sang with a female group called *Harp & Vocal*. We performed for the school and community. We were invited to sing at a National Music Convention in Atlantic City, N. J. I also sang in church choirs and a community choir. I worked for Michigan Bell (AT & T) for many years. While attending the University of Detroit, I met my husband, Rudy, a graduate student from the Philippines. We married and have two sons: Eric, a tax accountant, and Chris, a project manager. Rudy and I were married 48 years. In my spare time, I like to make crafts, do drawings in pencil and dabble in acrylics. I like to exercise and read books on health. I watch a lot of cooking videos on the internet. My favorite singers are Barbara Streisand and Celine Dion. I also love *Phantom of the Opera* with Sarah Brightman.

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Did You Know That...?

Lorrie Garrison bantered with **Tommy Smothers** (of the Smothers Brothers fame) on an elevator ride. He was a funny, interesting guy...



Sharon Heltsley went to college at Central Michigan University with **Jeff Daniels**.

Tony Merlo, when he was twelve years old, met **Yogi Berra** and got his autograph in a hotel in Boston



Alison Boggs used to drive a **dirt bike** in rural Pennsylvania.



Steve Krupa is often asked to blow **giant bubbles** for various events like a Church Rallye Day, a birthday party or during an outdoor theatre group picnic. He can even put guests inside the bubble!

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February 2022 Holidays

- **Tuesday, February 1st - Chinese New Year**, also known as **Lunar New Year** or Spring Festival, is China’s most important festival. Celebrations often last over two weeks in China, and the festivities are marked by Chinese people and others from East Asia all across the globe. 2022 is a Year of the Tiger. The zodiac sign Tiger is a symbol of strength, exorcising evils, and braveness.
- **Tuesday, February 1st - National Freedom Day** commemorates the date – February 1, 1865 – when Abraham Lincoln, who was the nation's president at the time, signed a joint resolution that proposed the 13th amendment to the United States Constitution. The amendment abolished slavery and was ratified on December 18, 1865.
- **Wednesday, Feb 2nd - Groundhog Day** is when we ask are we in for six more weeks of Winter? Only a groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil knows for sure
- **Saturday, February 12th - Lincoln’s Birthday** is a legal, public holiday in some U.S. states, observed on the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth on February 12, 1809 in Hodgenville (Hodgensville, Hodgens Mill), Kentucky.
- **Friday, February 14th - Valentine’s Day** People exchange cards, candy, or other gifts with their special “valentine”. St. Valentine’s Day is named for the Christian martyr and dates back to the 5th century, but has origins in the Roman holiday Lupercalia.
- **Monday, February 21st - President’s Day, officially Washington's Birthday**, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February to honor all persons who served in the office of president of the United States.



Quiz Questions about Valentine's Day

Round 1: Easy Valentine's Day Trivia questions

1. When is Valentine's day?
2. In which Italian city is Romeo and Juliet set?
3. What does "xoxo" stand for?
4. If you openly show your feelings, where do you wear your heart?
5. "The One with the Candy Hearts" is an episode of which TV show?
6. How do you say "love" in French?
7. Which 2010 movie stars Jennifer Garner, Julia Roberts, Ashton Kutcher and Jessica Biel?
8. Which city is the city of love?
9. Which color of roses means love?
10. Which Roman god is always represented with a bow and an arrow?

Round 2: Valentine's Day Multiple Choice questions

1. Which TV show has an episode called 'Galentine's Day'?
 - a. New Girl
 - b. Parks and Rec
 - c. Brooklyn 99
 - d. The Big Bang Theory
2. Which Roman Emperor ordered St. Valentine's execution?
 - a. Emperor Claudius II
 - b. Emperor Vespasian
 - c. Emperor Titus
 - d. Emperor Nero
3. To which bridge do lovers go in Paris to put a padlock symbolizing their love?
 - a. Pont Neuf
 - b. Pont Alexandre III
 - c. Pont des Arts
 - d. Pont de la Concorde
4. How long was the longest marriage recorded?
 - a. 80 years
 - b. 85 years
 - c. 90 years
 - d. 95 years
5. What wouldn't you send / get on Valentine's day?
 - a. Chocolate
 - b. A card
 - c. Roses
 - d. A pudding

6. How many Valentine's Day cards are sent each year in the USA?
 - a. 45 million
 - b. 145 million
 - c. 245 million
 - d. 345 million
7. Who sang "Crazy Little Thing Called Love"?
 - a. The Beatles
 - b. The Rolling Stones
 - c. Oasis
 - d. Queen
8. What was St. Valentine not the patron of?
 - a. Lovers
 - b. Epileptics
 - c. Beekeepers
 - d. Travelers
9. In which city can you find the "I love you wall"?
 - a. Sydney
 - b. Venice
 - c. Barcelona
 - d. Paris
10. Which one of the following celebrities did not get married on Valentine's day?
 - a. Benedict Cumberbatch
 - b. Julia Roberts
 - c. Elton John
 - d. Meg Ryan

Round 3: Valentine's Day Quiz – True or False

1. Swans are monogamous.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. There is a medical condition called Broken Heart Syndrome.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. In Friends, Chandler is Rachel's lobster.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. Ti amo is I love you in Portuguese.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. Valentine's Day was first declared an official holiday by a pope.
 - a. True
 - b. False



Round 4: Hard Valentine's Day Quiz Questions

1. What is a cheeky postcard decorated with a caricature and insulting poem called?
2. Who was the Greek god of love?
3. In Japan, women give men chocolate on Valentine's day.
4. Which famous inventor applied for a patent for the telephone on February 14, 1876?
5. Which UK company manufactures the sweets Love Hearts?
6. Which profession receive more Valentine's cards than anyone else?
7. In which US city did Al Capone's Saint Valentine's Day Massacre take place in 1929?
8. In Medieval England, what did women used to place around their pillows on Valentine's day eve?
9. Who sang "La La Love You"?
10. What's a 'love apple'?
11. Which famous artist said "'Love is something eternal; the aspect may change, but not the essence.'"
12. Which hormone is released when cuddling?
13. Which actress played Allie Hamilton in 'The Notebook'?
14. In Grey's Anatomy, who does Meredith Grey marry?
15. In which European city is St. Valentine buried?
16. In How I Met Your Mother, according to Barney, when is Desperation Day?
17. "Oh, why you look so sad? Tears are in your eyes, Come on and come to me now, Don't be ashamed to cry, Let me see you through" are lyrics from which love song?
18. Where was Charles, Duke of Orleans, imprisoned when he wrote a Valentine poem to his wife?
19. If you are born on Valentine's day, which star sign are you?
20. In which country is Saint Dwynwen the saint patron of lovers?

Quiz Questions & Answers about Valentine's Day

Round 1: Easy

1. 14th of February; 2. Verona; 3. Hugs and kisses; 4. On your sleeve; 5. Friends; 6. Amour; 7. Valentine's Day; 8. Paris; 9. Red; 10. Cupid

Round 2: Multiple Choice

1. Parks and Rec; 2. Emperor Claudius II; 3. Pont des Arts; 4. 90 years; 5. A pudding; 6. 145 million; 7. Queen; 8. Travelers; 9. Paris; 10. Julia Roberts

Round 3: True or False – Answers

1. True; 2. True; 3. False, it's Ross; 4. False, it's in Italian; 5. True

Round 4: Hard Quiz Questions and Answers

1. Vinegar Valentine; 2. Eros; 3. True; 4. Alexander Graham Bell; 5. Swizzels Matlow; 6. Teachers; 7. Chicago; 8. Five bay leaves wetted in rosewater; 9. Pixies; 10. A tomato; 11. Vincent Van Gogh; 12. Oxytocin; 13. Rachel McAdams; 14. Derek Shepherd; 15. Dublin, Ireland; 16. 13th of February; 17. *I'll stand by you* by the Pretenders; 18. Tower of London; 19. Aquarius; 20. Wales