

Pentangle Arts Celebrates 45 years!

In 1974 I was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Woodstock Union High Middle School! I listened to music by Jethro Tull, Supertramp and David Bowie just to name a few! I clearly remember my mother forbidding me to see the Exorcist next door at the Town Hall Theatre.

Also, in 1974 two members of the Vermont Arts Council, Director Peter Falk Smith, and Polly Billings (the Governor's appointee to the VAC) called a meeting in Polly's living room to discuss the merits of an arts organization in the town of Woodstock. Enough interest was generated in subsequent meetings to form Pentangle Council on the Arts! Other founding members at the initial meeting included Bo Gibbs, Patsy Niles and Gennie Caruso, all of whom I happily connect with from time to time. Gennie proposed Pentangle for the Council's name based on the five artistic disciplines the founders hoped to offer and to the five Upper Valley communities the council intended to serve.

Founding member, Patsy Niles was quoted in 1980 saying, "We were told when we started that if we could survive five years, we had made it." And here we are 45 years later still chugging along, remaining true to Patsy's pledge that, "We [Pentangle] will cut across all lines and exist for the enjoyment of all."

In the early years the organization was staffed by volunteers dedicated to strengthening arts education in the schools and fostering community and creativity through the presentation of accessible, multi-generational arts experiences. I am proud and humbled to carrying on their work with the same energy, dedication and focus to ensure that we continue to serve our community and enhance the quality of life for all those who call this area home for years to come.

In the months ahead we will celebrate our past and continue short- and long-term planning to ensure our future.

To kick off our anniversary celebration we invite area residents to join us for an evening of fun, drinks, and dancing to the Tricksters at the Barnard Inn Barn. The evening will feature delicious appetizers prepared by Chef Will Dodson, and a fabulous selection of beer, wine & bubbly, all served in the rustic chic barn adjacent to this historic inn. Tickets are \$49 per person and can be purchased online at <https://pentanglearts.org/45th-party/#content>.

In other Pentangle news we look forward to hosting the Prosper Valley School's Spring Production. The entire school – K-6 will participate in the May 8<sup>th</sup> performance at 6:00 pm. We also look forward to Zack's Place Production of the Jungle Book on May 15<sup>th</sup>!

#### **On the Free Screen:**

At the end of May we have the pleasure of showcasing the work of two local film makers.

On May 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm we will screen local resident Michael Leonard's film **One Town At Time**. The film is a documentary that explores Vermont's diverse communities through the 251 Club of Vermont - a unique club dedicated to visiting all 251 towns and cities in Vermont. First suggested by Dr. Arthur Peach in an issue of Vermont Life as a means of getting to know the state better, the 251 club has grown to boast a membership of over 6,000. The club is a loose collection of Vermontophiles with no real membership requirements or rules – only to have a passion about exploring Vermont. There will be a pre-show meet and greet with Michael and a talk back after the screening.

On May 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 we host a community screening of **Major Arcana**, directed by Josh Melrod. This film follows a long-troubled itinerant carpenter (featuring Barnard resident Jon Tokarski) who returns home to small town Vermont and attempts to build a log cabin by hand, hoping to free himself from a cycle of poverty and addiction. But when he reconnects with Sierra, a woman with whom he shares a complicated past, he becomes locked in a desperate struggle between the person he was and the person he hopes to become. There will be a talk-back with Josh following the screening.

Both screenings are free of charge with a \$5 donation suggested.

**On the Big Screen:**

Shazam! (PG-13)

We all have a superhero inside us, it just takes a bit of magic to bring it out. In Billy Batson's case, by shouting out one word--SHAZAM!--this streetwise 14-year-old foster kid can turn into the adult Super Hero Shazam, courtesy of an ancient wizard. Still a kid at heart--inside a ripped, godlike body--Shazam revels in this adult version of himself by doing what any teen would do with superpowers: have fun with them! Can he fly? Does he have X-ray vision? Can he shoot lightning out of his hands? Can he skip his social studies test? Shazam sets out to test the limits of his abilities with the joyful recklessness of a child. But he'll need to master these powers quickly in order to fight the deadly forces of evil controlled by Dr. Thaddeus Sivana.

Showtimes:

Friday, May 3, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7:30 pm