

September 19 Tony Rose & Barbara Kauffman – Panel Discussion of Lincoln’s Assassination

Gashes on the Face of Heaven is a Work-in-Progress Historical piece. The Project is historically accurate and strives to “pull the curtain back” on the untold stories and lives of many of the people ignored or forgotten about during the lead up to the assassination of Lincoln and the aftermath of his death. Our goal is not to focus on Abraham Lincoln—his story has been told hundreds of times--but instead, on all the secondary characters who wittingly or unwittingly played a role in that tragedy. Who were they as people? What inspired them? What were they fearful of? What motivated them to make fateful decision after fateful decision leading up to the murder of the US President? This historical drama will tell THEIR stories in a powerful and moving narrative sure to both educate and entertain, and make the world realize that maybe the “good guys” weren’t necessarily all good, and maybe the “bad guys” weren’t necessarily all bad. Not unlike the political and societal climate facing the world today, parallel themes such as political unrest, the struggle and suffrage of women, and an overall redefining of culture occurred during the mid to late 1800s, as well.

Lives collide and are forever changed with a single bullet in the back of the head of a President. Right and wrong. Innocent and guilty. Victim and villain. God, time and history continue to judge them all.



About our Speakers:

Tony Rose grew up in Enola, Pennsylvania and later graduated from both Indiana University of PA with a BS in Elementary Education and East Stroudsburg University with a Master’s in Education. He has been a resident of Lebanon County since 2003 when he and his wife, Erin, moved from the Poconos to Palmyra.

Tony was a Fifth Grade Teacher for 15 years before he switched career paths and decided to work as the Lay Mobilizer and Community Outreach Coordinator for Gravel Hill UMC in Palmyra. In 2020, due in large part to the restrictions placed on Community gatherings because of the pandemic, Tony switched careers once again and joined PHEAA as a Buyer, a full-time role that he currently enjoys. He has always had an interest in Real Estate, and recently he received his PA Salesperson License with a desire to work Part-Time for Bering Real Estate.

He is also the author of a self-published middle-grade book, “The Chinese Buffet” and is currently working with Barb Kauffman on a Historical Fiction Piece surrounding the Lincoln Assassination.

Tony lives just north of Palmyra with his wife of nearly 30 years, Erin, and two of their four children. Tony is an avid Green Bay Packer fan, and he truly believes the G on their helmet indicates that they are God’s Team. In his spare time, he enjoys writing, playing the drums as if he was an 80s Rock drummer, reading, and spending time with his wife and kids.

### Barbara Swartz Kauffman

Barbara began her career in television and later at a major advertising agency, learning the business from the ground up after her graduation from the Indiana University of PA. In 1985, Barbara knew it was time to strike out on her own; she opened Kauffman Creative Services and never looked back; determined to create a company that combined the savvy of the mega public relations firms with the warm personal service of a home town corner shop. This proved to be a winning formula; today Kauffman Creative Services represents a diverse client base from a struggling local actress to major banking institutions to power generation companies.

Expert at Crisis Communications, Barbara holds a certificate from the MIT Public Disputes Program and has been called upon to outline crisis communication preparedness for companies. She is well known on the Speaker circuit and as a guest in the many classrooms from college and universities and high schools across the mid-Atlantic area. Today she speaks on many topics from Crisis Communication to Social and Traditional Media and Marketing.

Active in her community and understands the needs to return to the community her many gifts, she has been active in many boards of directors and volunteers at non-profit fund-raising events. The recipient of many awards, she was honored as one of Pennsylvania’s Best 50 Women in Business and the Top 25 Women of Influence by the Governor, the DCED and six state business publications for her contribution to economic development, to women in business and to her community. She was honored by the Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce with the Entrepreneurial Spirit Award and is the Athena Award.