



Curtain Call

SCHUYLERVILLE COMMUNITY THEATER NEWSLETTER

FALL 2011

SCT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP MONIES

Since 1983 The Schuylerville Community Theater has awarded over \$35,000 in scholarships to deserving local high school seniors who wish to enter an accredited college to pursue a career in music, dance, drama or theater arts. The following SCT Scholarship awards for 2011 are:

The \$500 SCT Scholarship was awarded to Jilian Reilly, daughter of Thomas and Michele Reilly of Gansevoort. Having graduated from Schuylerville High School, Jilian is majoring in Vocal Music at St Rose in pursuit of a degree in Music Education.

Charles Cornell was awarded the \$500 Katherine R. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship. Charles, who graduated from Hartford Central High School, is the son of Jeff and Lisa Cornell of Fort Ann. Charles is pursuing a degree in Music Performance with a concentration on Jazz Studies at Purchase College Conservatory.

The Sharon R. Festo Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500 was awarded to Walter Thiem, son of Albert and Susan Thiem of Ballston Spa. Walter is attending the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam seeking a degree in Music Education, following his graduation from Ballston Spa High School.

The \$500 Edward "Ted" Shuster Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Anna McKenzie, daughter of Jeff and Lisa McKenzie of Mechanicville. Upon graduating from Stillwater High School, Anna is attending Pace University, majoring in Commercial Dance.

The SCT Scholarship Committee and

Board of Directors applaud the achievements and talents of these representatives of the Class of 2011 and wish them much success in their future endeavors.

There were Stories to Tell and Stories were Heard!

On July 8th 2011, eleven young performers, under the direction of Marianne Stark, offered a brilliant performance of "Anasi and the Moss Covered Rock." The music was fun and lively thanks to Musical Director, Debbie Freedman. The five to seven year-olds helped to create the set along with the staff and volunteers with overall coordination by Producer, Cady Kilpeck. Generous donations of materials and time by the wonderful friends and parents made the show and entire program complete.

One week later two shows came to life on the Schuylerville High School stage. With help from our "sound and light guys", Chris and Bill, more stories were shared with family and friends.

"A Hairy Tale" was constant action!! Kris Clements and her fabulous team directed 25 eight to eleven year-olds



in a world where the evil were scheming, the wolf was ritualizing and couples were falling in love in Wychwood-under-Ooze. The musical talents of Christopher Tucker allowed the story to break into song at

a moment's notice. Our young actors and actresses were laboring like peasants in the field (but not as hard as they did in the old days) to help set designer, Pam Barker, and producer, Adrienne Morris, build a cottage, tower and palace. Much praise must be bestowed upon our talented cast for wonderful acting, singing and dancing. Their cooperation and good manners, like Assistant Director, Kim Duncan, "are more valuable than mud."

Patrick Doyle directed the eldest group of nineteen aspiring actors to a new level of entertainment with "Once On This Island, Jr." The harmonies and solo numbers achieved with Musical Director, Sabrina LaPointe, were superb. Assisting Patrick, Kate Motsiff led the cast to create the detailed set and costumes. Cady Kilpeck even jumped on board in hopes of getting to the Island. This year's group was filled with returning performers to the SCT stage and it showed! Their talent and high energy was infectious which was enjoyed by the entire audience.

Very special thanks go out to a few past participants who volunteered their time to make each show shine a little brighter. Your guidance and example were priceless to the program. Kudos to all for creating the atmosphere for the children to begin and continue their acting careers! Please share any photographs from the program with the Executive Producer, Donna Hillebrandt at donna.hillebrandt@gmail.com so they can be posted on the SCT website. Many thanks to the SCT members who came out in support of our Children's Theater Program.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

SCT mourns the loss of founding and long-time member Vicki Wolfe with her untimely and sudden death on May 19th, 2011. Born in Kentucky in 1951, Vicki was the daughter of the late Edward Ray and Wilma (Hacker) Wolfe, sister of Lynda Wolfe and Edward R. Wolfe Jr., aunt to a number of nieces and nephews including Kimber Smith, Kirsten Ferrigan, Courtney Turay and Eric Wolfe, as well as a friend to many. She graduated from Cumberland College with a degree in theater arts and shared those skills and her love and passion for theater with many.

To say that Vicki Wolfe was an active member of SCT since it's inception, would indeed be an understatement. Her extensive technical training in theater is a vital part of who she was. Both on stage and off, she was an invaluable member and advisor. From actor to director to stage manager and technical director, Vicki did them all. Whether it be a musical, a comedy or drama, her commitment to SCT and great theater experiences was greatly evident.

On September 10th at the Presbyterian Church in Saratoga Springs, family and friends gathered to celebrate the life of Vicki Wolfe. Her nephew Rev. James Smith led the celebration as those who shared her zest for the theater gathered together to tell stories, relive memories and honor her. In addition to using some of Vicki's incredible poetry, "Rachael's Song" written by Vicki with musical arrangement by Elizabeth Woodbury-Kasius, was sung by SCT members Donna Hillebrandt and Elizabeth Ruland. A DVD was also played of her reading "The Night Before Christmas" to her great nieces and nephews. Family and friends shared favorite stories about Vicki. She leaves a legacy of a passion for quality theater, an uncanny love of Christmas, an incredible talent to make things happen, a generosity of herself, a love for family and the example of true friendship.

The family has requested donations to the SCT Scholarship Program in memory of Vicki.



A Strong Woman

Is one who feels deeply and loves fiercely.

Her tears flow just as abundantly

As her laughter.

She is..

Both soft and powerful

Practical and Spiritual

Her Essence..

Is a gift to the World. . .

Officers Elected 2011-2012

At the first board meeting of the new season, the first order of business was to select two persons to fill the vacated board seats for the remainder of the 2011-12 Season. One board seat was vacated due to the resignation of Terry Mumby to pursue a business venture in Greenwich. The second vacancy was due to the untimely death of board member, Vicki Wolfe (see related article). Bonnie Thomas and Michael Dunn, both expressed an interest and were unanimously approved by the board.

The board then elected the Officers to administer the operations of the board. Elected to the office of president was Lorraine Thompson, with the position of Vice-President being filled by Anna Welfley. Bonnie Thomas will assume the role of secretary and Donna Hillebrandt was re-elected as treasurer. Also re-elected was Patrick Doyle as Membership Secretary.

All members (and soon to be members) are reminded that the board meetings are open to the public and all are invited to attend. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 at the Town Hall. Please feel free to stop by any month of the year!!

The Feast of St. Nicholas

Once again, SCT will participate in the Feast of St. Nicholas on Saturday, December 3rd sponsored by the Schuylerville Chamber of Commerce. St. Nicholas will arrive on his white horse for his annual visit to the Village of Schuylerville and parade down Broadway to the village park for the lighting of the village Christmas Tree and the Story of St. Nicholas. SCT will be singing Christmas Carols in the parade and all are encouraged to join the chorus. Visit SCT at the Festival of Trees and stay in town for the parade and festivities.

Directors Needed SCT an established company for over 30 years, is looking for directors to stage musicals and comedies. All degrees of experience will be considered. Interested directors should submit a resume to: Director and Play Selection Committee, Schuylerville Community Theater, P.O. Box 143, Schuylerville, NY 12871 or e-mail scctheater@scctheater.org. For information, call 587-6289.

Annual Meeting

SCT held its Annual Meeting on June 6, 2011 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Saratoga Springs to end the 2010-2011 season and officially open 2011-2012. Board Members were announced with incumbents Michele Peters, Anna Welfley and Lorraine Thompson returning for another 3 years. Vicki Wolfe was elected to a 3-year term and Bev McKim was elected to fill a 1-year term vacated by a resignation.

Following the meeting, the members enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner prepared by Chef Bill of the K of C. Outstanding entertainment was provided by two of the 2011 Scholarship winners, Charles Cornell and Jilian Reilly. The annual twig awards, hosted by Dale and Bev McKim, honored (and roasted) SCT members for the talent and skills they shared during the past season. The evening ended with the SCT Budding Twig Award which was presented to Jillian Reilly and the prestigious Branch Award which went to Patrick Doyle.

Open call -Tree Decorators

SCT is looking for volunteers to decorate artificial lighted Christmas trees with decorations of your choice to be displayed at the Festival of Trees on December 3rd at the Saratoga Town Hall. Trees for decorating are available from SCT or can be purchased and donated by the volunteers. Trees will be received between 6 PM Thursday evening until Friday at 3 PM at the Town Hall in preparation for the Festival. All trees will be available for purchase with proceeds to benefit the SCT Production Fund. If interested in participating in the Festival of Trees by decorating a tree, please contact Michele Peters at 695-5332 or Lorraine Thompson at 695-3349.

Festival of Trees



"Haul out the holly..." Mark your calendars for a reprise of our fantastic Festival of Trees and Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 3rd from 10:00 to 4:00 in the Schuyler Room at the Town of Saratoga Building in Schuylerville. Open your holiday season with a visit to the Festival to enjoy many beautifully decorated trees, craft tables, raffle prizes and entertainment. Start your holiday shopping early surrounded by stunning and festive trees. All trees will be available for purchase on the day of the Festival with the proceeds to benefit the SCT Production Fund. At 3:00, there will be storytelling for the children by local librarian, Julie Martin followed by a craft activity. Admission is free and all are invited. Following the close of the festival, the Schuylerville Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the Feast of St. Nicholas.

Memory Trees

Last year, SCT sponsored the village Memory Trees, decorated trees in honor of loved ones and displayed on the lawn of the town hall. They were very well received by the community and visitors to the village. For the 2011 holiday season, there will be a total of 18 trees available for purchase. Trees are available for \$40 each and will be in place on the lawn and ready for decorating during the Thanksgiving Weekend. A tree lighting ceremony will take place on Friday evening, Dec. 2nd at 6:00 pm on the front lawn of the Town Hall memorializing the loved ones honored by the trees. They will remain lit every evening during the month of December until the weekend of January 7th. A reception will follow the tree lighting ceremony in the Schuyler Room of the Town Hall and guests will be invited to an early pre-

view of the Festival of Trees and Craft Fair. Anyone interested in purchasing a memory tree for 2011 should contact Anna Welfley at 695-4732 or annawelfley@yahoo.com to reserve a tree.

SCT Membership Drive

Applause! Applause! to all of you who have already jumped on board and became a member of SCT for the 2011-12 Season. There is still time to renew your membership for this season. SCT's Membership Secretary, is ready to accept your membership form available on the website at scttheater@sctteater.org. All levels of membership benefits include the privilege to vote (with the exception of student) in the Spring of each year; all have the opportunity to perform or to work on a production crew in SCT sponsored productions, and receive the quarterly newsletter, "The Curtain Call." All membership fees help to offset the administrative costs of the organization including insurance, rental payments, postage, general supplies, etc. Patron Membership provides the member with two tickets to two performances each season. Distinguished Patron Membership not only provides the member with the tickets but also supports the funding of the SCT Scholarship Program and capital expenditures. Other donations throughout the year are also used to supplement the overall budget needs. Revenue from the various performances supports future productions. Your support of the organization is greatly appreciated. It is because of this support that we are able to provide quality Theater to the community and surrounding area and to offer an opportunity for those interested to participate in the exciting world of theater.

It is never too late to initiate or renew a membership. If you are not sure of your own membership level, check your status on the SCT Website, scttheater.org.

Curtain Call is a newsletter of the Schuylerville Community Theater, P.O. Box 143, Schuylerville, NY, 12871. SCT is a non-profit community volunteer musical and theater arts organization. SCT is governed by an elected Board of Directors.

Editorial Staff:

Donna Hillebrandt - donna.hillebrandt@gmail.com

Michele Peters - mpeters@localnet.com

Nelson Snowden - nelsonsnow@earthlink.net

Sally Snowden - sallyhsnow@earthlink.net

LorraineThompson - lorthomp@aol.com

SCT Board 2011-2012

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MICHELE PETERS, ELINOR STEIN,
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Attorney - William Thomas, Esq.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

**Memory Trees
December 2nd**

**Festival of Trees and Craft Fair
December 3rd
Saratoga Town Hall**

Check the Web: SCTTHEATER.org



Schuylerville Community Theater
P.O. Box 143
Schuylerville, N.Y. 12871

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