



Curtain Call

SCHUYLERVILLE COMMUNITY THEATER NEWSLETTER

Fall 2012

WSCT ON THE AIR IN OCTOBER

On Halloween weekend, SCT ventured out on a different theater experience with a presentation of a staged reading of an adaptation of "The War of the Worlds". The play was written by award-winning local writer Darren Johnson and was set right here in town. Based on the 1898 HG Wells novel, Johnson's version of "The War of the Worlds" was, like the famed 1938 Orson Wells adaptation, timed to coincide with Halloween. Johnson wrote it as a radio play and it premiered in his hometown of Riverhead on Long Island in 2002 where it was very well received. "My play is very different," Johnson said. "No one today would believe in a hoax Martian invasion, so I went back to the 1898 HG Wells book and tried to capture that more campy, innocent tone."

This updated version of "The War of the Worlds" took place in the village of Schuylerville and the Saratoga area after a strange meteorite crashed near the Home Depot Mall. Adjunct community college professor and astronomy buff Doug Oglivy (Christopher Tucker) was dispatched to the scene on cell-phone remote as an on-air personality. Psychic Simone (Kim Dauphinais) managed harried and off-point calls that came into radio station WSCT. The audience was entertained with tension and suspense as the humor increased and the characters portrayed the realization that what crashed wasn't a meteorite but a spaceship. Mayhem follows at the mall as a Martian emerges. Soon, the US Army is called, but it takes something even mightier to stop the Martians. Announcer, Joe Peck (photo above) captured the audience's attention with his News Blasts and "back to you Cindy..." (played by local librarian Julie Martin). Ralph Dimeglio was himself as the announcer who morphed into multiple vocal sounds as the crowd outside the WSCT studio became more vocal. Other male and female voices were portrayed by Kathy Smith, Angela Dauphinais, James Sullivan and Anthony Ceceri.



The audience had a good time with their "audience participation and ears close to the radio listening to the devastating news of the "invasion." SCT extends a hand of thanks to author, Darren Johnson, for providing us with this personal experience; to Tom Wood, Town of Saratoga Supervisor for the use of the Town Hall; to all the SCT members on and off the stage who all helped make this possible.

MEMORY TREES LIGHT UP THE STREET CORNER

Last season, eighteen Memory Trees were displayed on the lawn of the town hall, decorated in memory of loved ones, the trees will remain lit throughout the holiday season for all to enjoy. SCT will be offering Memory Trees again this year for \$40 each and can be reserved by contacting Anna Welfley at 695-4732. Interested persons are encouraged to contact Anna as early as possible since the trees go quickly.

Trees 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, November 30th at 6:00 pm on the front lawn of the Town Hall memorializing the loved ones honored by the trees. They will be lit every evening during the month of December until the weekend of January 5th. A reception will follow the tree lighting ceremony in the Schuyler Room of the Town Hall and guests will be invited to an early preview of the SCT Festival of Trees. Those persons interested in purchasing a Memory Tree for 2012 may contact Anna Welfley at 695-4732 or at annawelfley@yahoo.com to reserve a tree.

SCT ALUMNI ON STAGE IN THE BIG APPLE

SCT is proud to announce that two alumni of our stage, **Andrea Lynn Green and Anthony Festa**, performed this summer in New York. Andrea and Anthony are former recipients of the Ted Shuster Memorial Scholarship.

Andrea was in the off-broadway comedy "Harrison, TX", a trilogy about fictional events in rural Texas, at Primary Stages, 59 E59th Street, NYC. The comedy was written by Pulitzer Prize winning author Horton Foote ("A Trip to Bountiful"). Andrea, now an equity actor living in Queens, appeared in several SCT productions including *Oliver*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Once On This Island*.

Andrea went on to study theatre at SUNY New Paltz and graduated with a degree in Theatre Arts and a minor in Russian Studies. She is thrilled to have had the opportunity to be in this off-broadway comedy, and remembers fondly her days at SCT and especially the opportunity to work with Ted Shuster.

Anthony Festa, was cast in the New York Musical Festival's "How Deep Is The Ocean", at The Theatre at St. Clement's, 423 W. 46th Street, NYC during the month of July. Anthony, a 2010 graduate of SUNY Cortland, spent a year performing with Royal Caribbean International Cruises before hitting the bricks of the city and landing a role in this entertaining musical. Tony Danza was a member of the cast and Anthony enjoyed working with him. Anthony reports that Danza is an amazing tap dancer.

As children, Andrea and Anthony graced our stage, and now, nearly fifteen years later, they are in the Big Apple making their dreams come true. We are so proud of our "graduates" and no one would be prouder than Ted.



FESTIVAL OF TREES



Once again, SCT will be sponsoring the Festival of Trees in conjunction with the Schuylerville Chamber of Commerce and their Feast of St. Nicholaas on December 1st and 2nd. This event has become a favorite in the community and is a wonderful way to open the holiday season. Beautifully decorated trees will be on display in the first floor of the Saratoga Town Hall in addition to craft tables, raffle prizes and entertainment. All of the trees will be available for purchase on the days of the festival with the proceeds to benefit the SCT Production Fund. There will be storytelling for the children at 3:00 on Saturday afternoon with a related craft activity following by a parade down Broadway with the arrival of St. Nicholaas on his white horse. The Festival of Trees will continue into Sunday from 10:00 AM to 2 PM followed by an Ecumenical Vocal Concert at the Old Saratoga Dutch Reformed Church at 3:00. Admission to the Festival of Trees is free and all are invited.

HELP WANTED

Calling all Directors who are looking for an opportunity to make quality theater happen on the SCT stage. The board of directors is interested in hearing about all ideas that will provide our audience with good entertainment and give both experienced and novice performers the opportunity to act, sing and dance!! If interested please contact any board member, send an email to scttheater@sctheater.org or call 695-5480 and leave a message.

OPEN CALL FOR TREE DECORATORS

SCT is looking for volunteers to decorate artificial lighted Christmas trees with decorations of your choice and displayed at the Festival of Trees on December 1st and 2nd at the Saratoga Town Hall. Trees for decorating are available from SCT at no cost to the volunteer decorators or can be purchased and donated by the volunteers if desired. Decorated 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 by the public 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.

SCT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP MONIES TO DESERVING SENIORS



Since 1983 The Schuylerville Community Theater has awarded nearly \$40,000 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 SCT Scholarship awards for 2012 are:

The \$500 SCT Vickie K. Wolfe Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to Rebecca Rogers, daughter of Thomas and Cynthia Rogers of Salem. Upon graduation from Salem High School, Rebecca will major in Voice at Potsdam in pursuit of a degree in Vocal Music Performance.

The Sharon R. Festo Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500 has been awarded to Cassandra Deveau, also of Salem, daughter of David Deveau and Susan Greene. Cassie has chosen to attend SUNY Purchase seeking a degree in Design Technology with a focus on Costume Design.

Matthew Niedbalski has been awarded the \$500 Katherine R. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship. Matt, who will be graduating from Schuylerville Central High School, is the son of Dave and Mary Beth Niedbalski of Gansevoort. Matt plans to pursue a degree in Music Performance with a concentration on Percussion Jazz Studies at Boston's Berklee College of Music.

The \$500 Edward "Ted" Shuster Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to Stacia Burns, daughter of Troy and Janet Burns of Queensbury. Upon graduating from Queensbury High School, Stacia, a well-known area bagpiper, will first attend St. Rose College and ultimately pursue a degree in Music Production/Sound Engineering from Berklee College of Music.

The SCT Scholarship Committee and Board of Directors applaud the achievements and diverse talents of these representatives of the Class of 2012 and wish them much success in their future endeavors.

SCT CLUB 200

*SCT is offering the opportunity to have some fun with a raffle and at the same time help to raise some funds for the SCT Scholarship Program. Beginning October 1st, 200 raffle tickets at \$10 each will be available to purchase from any board member with the opportunity to win \$25/week for 10 weeks. In addition, each of the 200 tickets will be eligible for a chance at winning the Grand Prize of \$500 at the end of the 10 weeks on March 10th, 2013. Each ticket will be numbered and the winning number will be posted on the SCT website each week.

One of the best parts of this Club 200 raffle is that weekly winners will be returned to the drawing to be eligible again for the next drawing.

ONLY 200 TICKETS will be sold giving each purchaser, 1 in 20 chances of winning!!! And at the same time, you are helping to support a very worthy program. For tickets, please contact any board member or contact SCT at scttheater@scttheater.org. This will make a perfect gift or a great stocking stuffer!

ST. NICOLAAS FESTIVAL

Once again, SCT will participate in the St. Nicolaas Festival on Saturday, December 1st sponsored by the Schuylerville Chamber of Commerce. St. Nicolaas 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. Nicolaas. SCT will be singing Christmas Carols in the parade and all are invited to join the chorus. Visit us at the Festival of Trees and stay in town for the festivities.

AUF WIEDERSEHEN TO DALE AND BEV

Following retirement, long time SCT members Dale and Bev McKim have bid farewell to the Saratoga area and relocated back to Bev's hometown, near Buffalo, NY where they will join their son, daughter-in-law and two grandsons. Both McKims have graced the SCT stage over the years, most recently in the revival of "The Sound of Music". An audience favorite, Dale played a number of great characters for SCT, Glens Falls Community Theater and Home Made Theater. Bev has served on the SCT Board bringing her many skills and expertise to the table. As we say Adieu, we wish them the best of luck in their new home and community. Local theater groups in the Buffalo region have no idea how lucky they are!!

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.

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SCT Board 2012-2013

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Michael Dunn, Donna Hillebrandt,
Michele Peters, Elinor Stein,
James Sullivan, Lorraine Thompson,
Bonnie Thomas, Chris Tucker,
Anna Welfley, Vacancy
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COMING ATTRACTIONS

**LIGHTING CEREMONY OF THE MEMORY TREES
NOV 30 6:00PM**

**FESTIVAL OF TREES DEC 1 10:00-4:00,
DEC 2 10:00-2:00 SARATOGA TOWN HALL**

**ST. NICOLAAS FESTIVAL PARADE
LIGHTING OF VILLAGE TREE
DEC 1 4:00 BROADWAY**

Check the Web: SCTTHEATER.org



Schuylerville Community Theater
P.O. Box 143
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