

Curtain Call

SCHUYLERVILLE COMMUNITY THEATER NEWSLETTER

Winter 2014

Agatha Christie Spoof Presented by Schuylerville Community Theater

Move over – or roll over – Agatha Christie! The Schuylerville Community Theater is about to unveil a murder mystery dessert theater show that spoofs old-fashioned whodunits, the medical profession, “female problems,” and theater folks!

Penned by Tony Schwartz and Marylou Ambrose, the show is a “play within a play.” When half of the cast of “Murder on the Oriental Rug” bails out, the remaining performers are stuck playing all the roles. During the first act, you’ll meet a Shakespearean actor with a drinking and gambling problem, a washed-up former child star, a bimbo with a short memory, and a hapless stage hand who find herself on stage playing a man.

During this “play within a play,” you will visit the exclusive clinic of Dr. Charles Ovary, renowned hot flash specialist who’s treating a famous actress trying desperately to regain her youth. You will get to know the doctor’s clueless wife, his infatuated assistant, the actress’s hunky husband, a flighty French maid, a shifty handyman, and a Polish inspector. Before the evening is over, someone will be ruthlessly murdered on the Oriental rug, and it is up to the audience to solve the crime. A prize will be awarded to one of the audience members who correctly guesses the murderer and motive. Schuylerville Community Theater is excited to welcome newcomers John Hinchliffe, Lisa Meade and Annette Preston to their stage. This event also marks the return of veterans Debbie Bailey, Andrew Greenwald and Donna Hillebrandt. This ensemble group has been having way too much fun together and it is sure to be contagious to our audiences. The show is directed by Bonnie Thomas who is thrilled to be returning to SCT after a 15 year hiatus.

The dessert theater starts at 7:30 PM on February 14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd and at 2:00 PM on February 16th and 23rd. All performances will be at the Saratoga Town Office Building on the corner of routes 29 and 4 in Schuylerville, NY. Fun starts the minute you enter the door. You’ll enjoy delicious desserts and beverage while the zany cast mingles among the audience. The tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students. For information and reservations, call 695-5480.



This year's Festival of the Trees brought us so many truly festive and talented entertainment groups! We were so impressed with the Schuylerville Elementary School's Fifth Grade Festival Band (directed by Victoria Young), who performed holiday selections that captured the spirit of the season. Christopher Tucker assembled a "Festive Four" saxophone ensemble that brought the Grinch music plus several other holiday pieces to life. I know I caught myself bopping along throughout his set. Schuylerville's Middle School Festive Band also joined in the fun with even more Christmas tunes, directed once again by Victoria Young. Did you notice that some of the students not only wore Santa hats, but they also decorated their instruments with bows, lights, or garland?

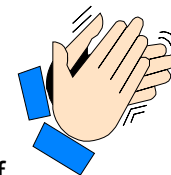


Performing for the first time in Schuylerville was a new and exciting acapella group: South Glens Fall High School's "Vocal Point" directed by Betsy Stambach-Fuller. They wowed us with a full gamut of vocal pieces. We will not be surprised at all to hear of their success in competition. Each member carried his/her own vocal weight and perfectly blended with the others. Amazing!

SCT's very own Suzanne Cohen charmed us all with her singing and guitar playing. She waltzed us through various holiday selections that included Chanukah songs – what a treat! It was her first time performing for us, but certainly not her last.

Another first was the performance given by Theresa Hughes' "Wild Irish Acres" Irish Dance Step Troupe. From beginner to advanced, we were simply mesmerized by the intricate and graceful patterns brought to dance through music. How enchanting to see the traditional dances being taught to multiple generations. And to see our own lovely Allison Hillebrandt on the stage – priceless! I've never been so proud to be Irish in all my life.

Once again Lydia Martin rounded out the day with her soulful renditions of trending pop music. Lydia has always been so eager and willing to delight us with her beautiful voice. After a day of lively and colorful merrymaking, it was welcomed to have a mellow guitar and a soothing voice.



We wish to thank each performer who touched our event with holiday joy, and we sincerely hope to have the pleasure of watching you again in the future. It was an honor to have you at our festival! Plans for next year's entertainment are already underway. If you're interested in contributing, let me know!

submitted by SCT member, Julie Martin at libraryfun4u@yahoo.com.

Save the Date

It is not too early to mark your calendars with the date of the SCT Annual Meeting/Dinner scheduled for Sunday, June 1st, 2014. The meeting will include the election of board members, followed by Dinner, entertainment, the infamous TWIG awards and the coveted SCT Branch and Budding Twig Award. Stay tuned for Details – check the website scttheater@scttheater.org or Facebook



FRANCES D. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

SCT will be awarding a one-time monetary scholarship in memory of Frances D. Williams, a recently departed friend who loved the arts. An exuberant devotee of quality theater, Fran served SCT and other area theater organizations as a member and director of many varied styles of performance. Always willing to share her expertise and time to help develop new talent, Fran is sorely missed by many area performers and theatergoers alike.

This scholarship will be awarded to a student in the graduating class of 2014 who will be pursuing a degree in Music, Dance, Drama or Theater Arts.

Scholarship applications are available on the SCT Website (www://scttheater.org).

Donations may be made to the Frances D. Williams Memorial Scholarship in her memory and mailed to Schuylerville Community Theater – P.O. Box 143 – Schuylerville, NY 12871 – Attention Frances D. Williams Memorial Scholarship.



SCT FESTIVAL OF TREES

For the fourth year, SCT officially opened the Holiday Season in the Village of Schuylerville and the surrounding area with the Festival of Trees. In collaboration with the Area Chamber of Commerce, the first weekend in December was filled with festivities for families including the display of beautifully decorated trees, craft vendors, musical numbers (see related article) throughout the day, the St. Nicolaas Parade down Broadway, followed by the lighting of the Village Christmas Tree and a story about Nicolaas. Plans are already in the works for next year – come out and join us!!



Memory Trees

Once again, the Schuylerville Community Theater sponsored the lighting of twenty-two Memory Trees that adorned the lawn of the Town of Saratoga on the corner of Routes 4 and 29 for the Holiday Season. The trees were purchased by community members and decorated in memory of loved ones. The official lighting was held on Friday evening, December 6th. Following the invocation by Rev Jason Proctor, Supervisor Tom Wood “pulled the switch!” Anna Welfley and Lorraine Thompson read the names memorialized and a poem was read by Bonnie Thomas. The ceremony was enhanced by the beautiful voice of Emma Trimmings singing “Thankful,” by Josh Groban and the community ended the ceremony with “Silent Night.” The guests were treated to a reception in the Town Hall and a preview of the Festival of Trees.

Quilt Donation

Community Member Sherry Doubleday donated a beautifully hand-made Rainbow Quilt to the Schuylerville Community Theater.

The quilt was raffled off at the Festival of Trees and the lucky winner was Logan Charland of Schuylerville. Thank you Sherry for the generous gift of your time and talent and congratulations to Logan!!

SCT Goes Green

SCT is joining forces in the 21st century to help the environment by offering the membership the opportunity to read the SCT “Curtain Call” newsletter via email to save paper (and postage as well!) If you are interested and willing to receive an email for each of the editions, please send your email address to Donna Hillebrandt at donna.hillebrandt@gmail.com. Be assured your email address will not be shared with any other organization or group. Help SCT **GO GREEN!**

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 - michele.peters@outlook.com

Nelson Snowden - nelsonsnow@earthlink.net

Sally Snowden - sallyhsnow@earthlink.net

Lorraine Thompson - lorthomp@aol.com

SCT BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2013-2014

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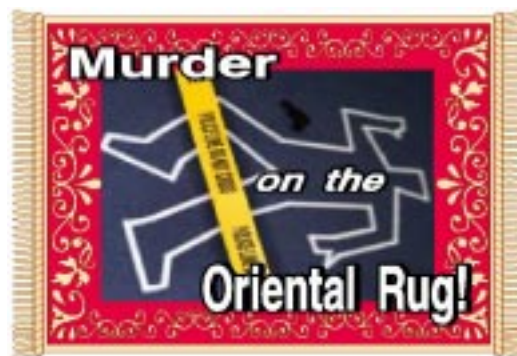
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Check the Web: SCTTHEATER.org



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