

the PROMPTER

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE PRINT

The Village Players



or...

The Undermining of Sarah Sweetflowers

By R. Eugene Jackson

...the ANNUAL
FIRST NIGHT show...

... by Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler

It seems as though we were just greeting 2006, but the Village Players crew is preparing for another First Night production. We welcome 2007 with the melodrama "A Golden Fleecing", by R. Eugene Jackson. The public can't seem to get enough of this annual celebration of painful puns and dastardly deeds, so this year there will be three curtain times: 6PM, 8PM and 10PM. Admission is by First Night button only – no tickets for sale and no additional shows to be performed. Buttons are \$5 before Dec .25th at various locations throughout town. They are \$10 thereafter.

The show takes place in California in the run down town of Elbow's Bend. Sly Scavenger (Jeff Cleveland) and his assistant, Miss Twinkle Toes (Lisa Hoover), heard rumors of a hidden

gold mine beneath the saloon in town, and want to keep it for themselves. Their plan is complicated when Sarah Sweetflower (Emma Wilson), niece to Cactus Bob (the previous owner of the saloon), comes to revive the town and create a sarsaparilla saloon and bridal shoppe. Sly then asks the assistance of Big Bad Granny (Eileen Sloan) to help get rid of Sarah and her fiancé, the bumbling Stanley Stoutheart (Josh Beckwith). The show also features Tim Brown as Tumbleweed and Athena Ellis as Crazy Clara, whose role in the play unfolds as the play progresses.

The production is led by director Greg Parker and assisted by Matt Comeau. There are still plenty of opportunities for willing crew members, so contact Greg: gumpus@mail.com if you're interested in being part of the magic. Buy your First Night Button and enjoy a hearty laugh (and a guaranteed happy ending) as you kiss 2006 goodbye!



"FORUM" photos by Willie Mork ...see more next page >

THINK YOU MIGHT LIKE TO DIRECT?

..by Carol Bense

The Village Players needs more directors. Greg Parker has joined the ranks and will be directing our First Night production once again, but he will soon be off to college. If you think you might like to try your hand, please send email to cwbense@adelphia.net, or call 569-1396 and leave your name, number and a short message. We will be organizing another series of directing workshops in 2007 and hope that we can get at least one or two new directors into the mix. We will be attempting to get some directors from other groups to be part of these workshops so we can learn from them as well. Directing is certainly a challenge, but it is also very rewarding to help amateur actors grow and reach their potential.

DECEMBER 2006

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SPONSORS
NEEDED FOR
SHOWS IN 2007...
call Jeannette at
569-0078

Did you know?

You can purchase tickets on-line from the Village Players website for any of our upcoming shows.

Go to:

www.village-players.com

Click on the link:


Buy Tickets for this event
Online @ TicketLeap.com

ANCIENT ROME RECEDES INTO THE PAST

..by Carol Bense

Our fall musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", is now over and the cast and crew leave the "Forum Family" to move on to future productions. Everyone seemed to have a great time with this very funny show (including our audiences) and we will all miss being together to work on it.

After striking the beautiful set that Jay and Hunter and their helpers made, and putting away all the wonderful costumes that Diane and Dee and their helpers made, we all enjoyed a pot-luck dinner and cast party on Sunday evening.

We are all puzzled by the small size of our audiences for this show. In years past, while the first night or two might not sell out, all other performances did. For this show our largest audience was 152 and our smallest 64. The people who came seemed very impressed and seemed to have a great time, and yet the crowds did not come.

There were other shows going on, but there are always other shows going on and that doesn't usually affect our attendance. We are hoping this is not a trend.

Overall, 638 people saw the show and, while the total figures are not in yet, we should be able to pay the bills.



THE SECOND STAGE ...fundraising campaign

...by Carol Bense

After kicking off "The Second Stage" campaign with a special evening of entertainment and fun, the fund raising committee got together again to do a mail campaign. We sent out over 1100 letters with brochures and requests for donations.

At this point we have received \$74,204.00 in donations and pledges from 103 people. Our goal is \$400,000.00 which we need to complete the renovations to the building according to the plans created by our volunteer architect, Dick Cary. He has worked hard to create plans for the entire building so that, once this work is done, we should not have to do any more work on the building for many, many years other than regular maintenance of course.

Even though we are very pleased with the amount received to date, it's obvious that we need quite a bit more money to get the job done. If you can help, please send your contribution now to The Village Players, PO Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894. Make a note that this contribution is to be applied to "The Second Stage." If you would like to be a part of the Fund-Raising committee, please contact James Cross at sir1@worldpath.net . We can use your help

To The Public marketing VP in a nutshell

...by Jeannette D'Onofrio

We have appeared in all the SalmonPress papers, on WOKQ, WASR, local cable WCTV, posters, flyers on our website and even in your mailbox.....did you see us?

The Marketing team has been busy getting us involved in community events - hosting the Friends of Music and the Great Waters musical presentations in our theater as well as the Gov. Wentworth Arts Council painting workshop. We have presented a NEW comedy series this past summer - to sell out crowds! We have produced a straight year of comedy plays and given the stage to the Perform It! group again for another season of shows. We will be placing a VP tree in the Festival of Trees at the Wright Museum display and play host to the Chamber After Hours in January... - phew!

As the group grows, so does the ideas and the awareness in the community to support theater arts - the goal - a strong viable Village Players Theater, and you helped to get us there. - **THANK YOU!**



CONTACT US...
snail-mail
P.O. Box 770
Wolfeboro, NH 03894

voice-mail
603.569.9656

web site
www.village-players.com

2006 Village Players Board (President)

Jay Sydow
875-6792

(Vice President)

Russ Ellis
569-9218

(Secretary)

Kathy Whitehead
539-4973

(Treasurer)

Diane Ducret-Mork
569-5726

(Members-At-Large)

Diane Sullivan
539-4425

Megan Brady
767-7207

Wayne Gehman
569-4153

Marge Wilson
569-6533

Patti Pardy
859-0007

Newsletter Committee

Carol Bense
Dick Cary

Phoebe Van-Scoy Giessler
Willie Mork

(Art production)

Jeannette D'Onofrio
virgodesign@verizon.net

Board meetings are scheduled for the first Monday evening each month. All dues-paying members are also welcome to attend. If you have a topic to present to the Board, please contact a member listed above.

Be sure your membership is current to receive your newsletter. Contact Marge Wilson 569-6533 if you have changes to your mailing address.

!!! ANNUAL Village Players Meeting & Elections !!!

If you are current dues-paying member (must have paid for 2006 dues) don't miss this important meeting...

Sunday - Dec. 3rd at 4:00pm

We will also be sharing a pot-luck dinner immediately following, so bring something yummy to add to the table for a crowd.

On the agenda will be an update from the President on all the shows, events and happenings this past year. We may also get a quick review of the shows coming for 2007. As well as a short (yes, I said short) committee report on the activities from this year. New committee members are always welcome to join, please see the committee chairs at the meeting for info. on their next meeting date.

One of the most important activities is the voting of new officers for the 2007-08 year. Please note the list of folks below and be sure to attend to make your vote count. (NOTE: blank lines are for write-in names at the meeting)

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE (vote for 2)

- Dick Cary
- GayAnn Cooney
- Laura Cooper
- James Cross
- Russ Ellis
- Jo-el Gavel
- Millie Gawlicki
- Kathleen Hill
- Kathleen Whitehead
- Joyce Wood

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT (vote for 1)

- Russ Ellis

VICE PRESIDENT (vote for 1)

- Mandy Ferriman
- Jerome Holden

SECRETARY (vote for 1)

- Kathleen Whitehead

TREASURER (vote for 1)

- Diane Mork

CALL FOR AUDITIONS

Spring production...



...from Jay Sydow

As of now the Village Players' spring show will be "House Guest" written by Francis Durbridge. It is a thriller that will keep the audience guessing until the very end. The show will be directed by Jay Sydow and auditions are scheduled for **Jan 7 and 8, 2007 (Sunday and Monday)** evening at **7:00pm** at the Village Players Theater. The show dates are 4/6, 4/7 4/13, 4/14, 4/15.

I don't want to say too much about the show because I don't want to give anything away just yet. I will tell you that there is a kidnapping and then there is ?????????? I will need to find 8 actors to fill the roles (4 men and 4 women). There are no roles for children, but the ages range from mid-twenties to infinity.

I need support staff ASAP. Producer, Assist. Director, Set, Lights, Costume, Make-Up etc. If any of this interests you please email me - Jay....sancho@worldpath.net

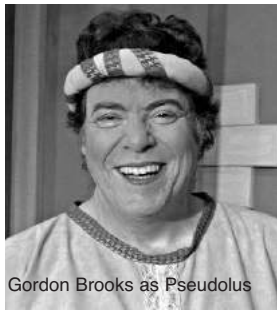
HAIL CAESAR!



The Village Players entry to the Annual Scarecrow Festival won **second place** in the non-profit organization category.

The "CAESAR"-crow was created by Michael Wilfert and helped draw attention to the banner/sign for the fall production of 'FORUM'.

- BRAVO! Michael!



Gordon Brooks Joins Village Players

...by Willie Mork

Those of you who saw "Forum" this fall have met one of our newest players (new to us and new to acting). Gordon Brooks's first time acting on stage ever was this summer as Geoffrey Reagent in "That Darn Plot." He had seen our productions of "Pirates of Penzance" and

"Dearly Departed," and thought it looked like fun.

He also played Roy Hubley in "Plaza Suite" at our fund raising kickoff. At around the same time he was cast as Pseudolus in "Forum." For a few weeks he was rehearsing two plays at once, four nights a week. Whew! Talk about jumping in with both feet! "The Village Players is the perfect place to start in theater," Gordon says. "Everybody is very supportive and understanding." Gordon even managed to drag his wife Karen into the fold when she painted the cityscape backdrop for "Plaza Suite."

Gordon and Karen moved to New Durham from California, where Karen was an animation artist at Disney Studios, working on such feature films as "The Little Mermaid," "Beauty and the Beast," and "The Lion King." Gordon directed animation for interactive video, and he did get in a few acting licks, demonstrating to his animators just what he was trying to have his characters do.

Gordon is a man of many talents. In 1977 he won a trophy and cash on "The Gong Show," singing and playing guitar. We all know he's a natural born actor. In his spare time he writes and produces movies. He is currently working on a feature length film. Beside his artistic abilities, Gordon and Karen are renovating their house. They tried to re-open the old Colonial Movie Theater in Laconia, but things didn't work out as they had hoped. Now Gordon brings home the bacon working at the National Passport Center in Portsmouth.

The Brooks Bunch includes three lively sons, Thomas 16, William 6, and Daniel 4. We hope to see a lot more of this talented family.



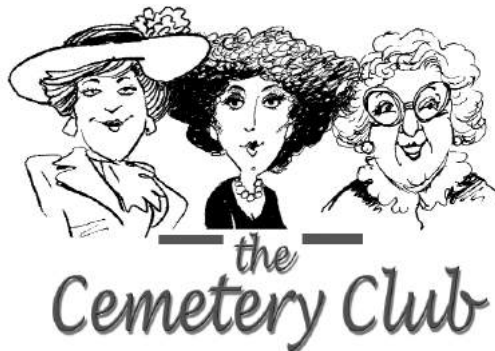
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Sneak Peak at the coming 2007 season of plays:



Scarey Drama
April 6 & 7 / 13, 14, 15



Riotous Comedy
July 27 & 28 / Aug. 3, 4, 5



Musical Comedy
Nov. 9, 10, 11 / 16, 17, 18

Check our website each season to purchase your tickets on-line: www.village-players.com