

## PLEASE JOIN US

Did you see THE KING AND I in November? Have you ever been involved in one of our plays? Have you been an Active or a Supporting member of The Village players? Now is the time to show you like what we do and want to help us keep doing it by becoming a member if you haven't already done so.

If your membership card is enclosed in this newsletter you have paid your dues for 2003. A red dot on your address label means we haven't yet heard from you. Your membership card entitles you to receive a \$1.00 discount on your theater ticket when presented at the box office at any of our plays this year. In addition, you'll continue to receive The Prompter so you can keep up with our goings-on. A single membership is \$10. per year or \$18. for a family. Send dues to:

The Village Players  
PO Box 770  
Wolfeboro, NH 03894

## Your Board of Directors....

President	Carol Bense	569-1396
Vice President	Corky Mork	569-5726
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## Village Players resources...

Web site: [www.village-players.com](http://www.village-players.com)

Hotline: LOW-YOKO (569-9656)



# The Prompter

March 2003

All The News That Fits, We Print

## SPRING PRODUCTION "THE DRUNKARD" IN REHEARSAL

That fabulous old-time musical melodrama, "The Drunkard" is scheduled for production on April 4, 5, 11, and 12 at 8pm and on April 13 at 2pm. The current plan is for the production to take place at Carpenter School. Seats will be limited and we expect this to be a very popular show so don't wait too long to get your tickets. They will be on sale at Black's Paper Store by March 21.

Village Players produced this show 16 years ago and we had so much fun doing it that many people talked about reviving it. We decided to do it once more because we know it can be done at Carpenter School without too much difficulty. It seems to be a show that is as much fun for the people on stage as it is for the audience, with lots of great old songs and plenty of villainous deeds for the audience to scorn as well as a good and noble hero, and don't forget our lovely heroine. If you saw it before, you remember what fun you had, and we plan to be even better this time. If you haven't seen it, you have a real treat in store.

The Village Player's production will star Wayne Gehman as the wicked villain, Cribbs, who is bent on getting the property (and maybe more) from our lovely and innocent heroine, Mary, played by Phoebe Van Scoy. Mary's long-suffering (and she will be sure to tell you about it) mother is played by Willie Mork. Corky Mork takes on the role of the (albeit not so bright, but totally good and brave) hero, William. Russell Ellis plays Mary's husband, Edward, who has a penchant for the bubbly that threatens to be the end of him. Mary and Edward have a charming little daughter, Julia, who is played by Alison Bogannon.



William's sister, Agnes, who has suffered a bit of a mental breakdown, is played by Barbara Wilson. Carrie Nation, played by Alana Harrold, tries her bombastic best to save Edward, but is rebuffed. Another good-doer is the Salvation Army leader, played by Bill Fluhr - Do You Wanna Be Saved? But the bartender played by Matt Johnson, is doing his best to keep Edward among his customers.

Clark Cowan plays the preacher who marries Mary and Edward and, all unwittingly, starts him on the road to perdition. Megan Brady, Tim Brown, Toni Dingley, Athena Ellis, Mariel Fluhr, Jean Kemp, Michelle Rohrbacher, Zach Shea, Michael Wilfert, and Emma Wilson fill out the cast and chorus, taking on roles such as bar girls, bar patrons, wedding guests, and Salvation Army workers.

The show is being directed by Carol Bense with Jay Sydow as Assistant Director and Nadine San Antonio as Assistant Producer. Accompanying the show will



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be our old friend, Cathy Marker, who also accompanied the original production 16 years ago. Lots of other members of our organization are helping to get everything else ready that needs to be done for a musical production.

This is one you won't want to miss. So come laugh, boo, hiss, cheer and even sing along if you are moved to do so. April 4,5,11,12 and 13.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMUNITY THEATER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DRAMA FESTIVAL

Once again the NHCTA will sponsor a drama festival for community theater on March 14-16, 2203 in Concord, NH.

The annual drama festival is a wonderful opportunity both to see theater performed by other groups and to learn from what they do. Each show is adjudicated in front of the audience and the judges tell you what worked well in each show and what might be improved. There are usually two or three judges so you get quite a bit of information that you can take back with you for improving your own abilities.

Production for the drama festival will be:  
Community Players of Concord ~ "Baby"  
J & W Productions (Derry)~"Once On This Island"  
Music and Drama Company (Londonderry)~" How I Learned to Drive"  
Nashua Theatre Guild ~ "The Guys"

The NHCTA is also hoping to sponsor workshops given by the adjudicators, which present another opportunity for learning and increasing your theater skills.

I'm sure there will be a group of us attending, so if you want to go too, please let Carol Bense know. Send email to [carol.bense@unh.edu](mailto:carol.bense@unh.edu) or call her at 569-1396. Leave your name and number.

## WORKSHOPS

The Eastern Mass Community Theatre Association is sponsoring a series of workshops including THE CARE AND FEEDING OF A MUSICAL, April 5, 2003 This exciting half day Saturday workshop,

held at Bedford High School, 9 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. features Boston area professionals as our guest presenters. Sessions will include topics such as: selecting a musical, producing, holding auditions, design, stage direction, musical direction, scheduling, choreography, and stage management. Learn and/or polish skills in presenting a musical. There will be something for everyone, so register early. Space is limited to 100 participants. Cost is \$25 for individual EACT members, \$35 for non-members. Get your reservations in as soon as possible to [bjweaw@aol.com](mailto:bjweaw@aol.com) or 781-646-8538, and send checks made out to EACT to: B.J. Williams , 74 Old Mystic St. , Arlington, MA 02474.

## WHY NOT GET INVOLVED?

Your board works hard to make sure our building is secure and is being renovated as well as to make sure that we continue to offer productions that our members can participate in or enjoy as audience members. But the board can't do it all. The organization needs lots of help and we now have several committees which could use volunteers.

No one committee requires a huge commitment, but if you volunteer for just one that interests you, you would be providing a great service to Village Players. We need folks who can write for the Newsletter Committee; folks who are interested in talking to people and organizing membership activities on the Membership Committee; folks who like to make sure things are running smoothly and there are guidelines in place to help on the Policies and Procedures Committee; folks who like to organize on the Costume Committee to keep our costumes available; and folks who want to get the word out to the public about what a great organization we have in The Village Players on the Marketing Committee.

We could also use a librarian to catalog all the scripts we have and take care of lending them to members as well as to other groups. Interested?

If any of these committees hold any interest for you, please contact Carol Bense at 569-1396 or send email to [carol.bense@unh.edu](mailto:carol.bense@unh.edu)

## Do you want to propose...

...and not to a significant other? The Village Players are currently seeking proposals for upcoming performances. Traditionally our Fall shows are high profile musicals, First Night is a musical Melodrama, and Summer shows vary anywhere from comedies and farces, to murder-mysteries and dramas, with lots of room in-between.

If you have never written a proposal before, they are not hard at all. A typical proposal will have on it: Director(s), producer(s), days to be run on, small summary of the play, number of actors needed (broken down by men & women), scenes, possible technical and costuming challenges, and an approximate budget. Typically a proposal doesn't have to be more than a page in length.

You can submit a proposal to the board in one of two ways: In person at one of our regular board meetings (Just contact a member for details), or by mail.

## Drunkard Trivia

Four members of the current *Drunkard* cast were in the 1987 production: Wayne Gehman, Corky Mork, Willie Mork, and Tim Brown. Only Corky plays the same part as he did 16 years ago.

Carol Bense directed and Cathy Marker was accompanist in 1987.

During the second performance, Cribbs (Dan Charlton) got stuck when he was supposed to be lowered on a rope. He managed to free himself, but came down with a crash.

On the second weekend of performance, Julia (Erin Heppe) discovered that the bread she was

supposed to eat was moldy. She managed to nibble around the worst parts.

On the final performance, the bread which Julia was beating Cribbs with broke off and almost hit accompanist Cathy Marker.

## AUDITIONS FOR SUMMER PRODUCTION COMING UP

Auditions for our summer production will be held at the theater at 4:00pm on Sunday, March 23 and at 7:30pm on Monday, March 24. Production dates are July 25 and 26, and August 1 and 2, with the possibility of a matinee performance on one of the week-ends.

Nadine San Antonio will be directing a very funny comedy by Larry Shue entitled "The Foreigner." Larry also wrote "The Nerd," but many people find that "The Foreigner" is much funnier.

This show has some great roles for men and women who can look anywhere from 20 to 45. Notice - we say that you need to be able to appear to be within the age range, that doesn't mean your chronological age must be within the given parameters. We all look younger than we really are, don't we?

The director is also looking for support staff to help with this production, so if anyone is interested in any aspect of production, please come to auditions.

If you are unable to make either audition date, but are interested in being in the show or working on the show, please call Nadine at 539-6767 or Jay Sydow at 875-6792.