



BEHIND THE SCENES

A Quarterly Publication for Mud Creek Players Members

April 2008

Drama

Stephanie Richardson has accepted the chairmanship of the Drama Committee with Bob Williams as co-chair. The first order of business is to set the season for 2008-2009. The season, so far, is: September – “Me, Too” directed by Gary Cohen; November – open; February – “The Girls of 509” directed by Judy Chroniak; May – “Steel Magnolias” directed by Mark Bulmahn. If anyone has an idea or a director for the November slot, please contact Stephanie as soon as possible.

Avanti

Avanti Opens April 25. Director Bill Perkins has a great cast for “Avanti”, our May show. Marianne Bergamo plays Diana Claiborne; Mark Bulmahn plays Sandy Claiborne; Jerry Burton is John Wesley; Paul Sommer is the waiter, and Linda Eberharter is the Assistant Hotel Manager. Baldassare Pantaleone is played by Matt Socey; Allison Ames is played by Melissa Deavers, and the cast is completed by Paul Haskin as Vittorio Spina. Set in Rome, the story centers around an American businessman and an English actress, each of whom has lost a parent in a car accident. Italian red tape frustrates and stymies them as they try to claim the bodies. Baldassare Pantelone (Baldo) appears on the scene and begins to “fix” things. Soon, lots of other things need fixing. Be sure to make reservations for one of the following dates: April 25, 26, May 2,3,4,9, & 10. Our reservations line is: 290-5343.

Member News

Please welcome new members: Paul and Arlene Haskin

Both have extensive theater backgrounds – that’s how they met. Arlene is chairing set decoration for “Avanti” and Paul can be seen in the show.

Also in the cast of Avanti is new member Marianne Bergamo who joins with her husband Dean Alger and their son Max Alger, New member Linda Eberharter is also in the cast. Linda and Marianne work in Marketing for the American Legion and are making their theater debuts on the Mud Creek stage.

M.J. Nickel had surgery recently and is not recovering as well as she had hoped. She would appreciate calls. Cards and visits are appreciated.

Reminder: If you haven’t paid your dues yet, please be sure to get your check to Treasurer Jim Van Tassel no later than April 24. Beyond that date, your name will not appear in the 2008-2009 Mud Creek Directory. Directories will be available at the May Breakfast.

Buildings & Grounds

Dial One Heating and Air Conditioning is doing some much needed work for us backstage at a great price. If you need work done, please call them 317-348-4300 and tell them you are a member of the Mud Creek Players. Pass the word to your friends and families.

Board

The Annual Dinner was almost standing room only with pasta and breadsticks from Fazoli's, salad, and luscious desserts. Kudos to the committee who also ran the April pitch-in. Sue Ann Crick served as chair. The Muddies were featured once again. If anyone would like to know more about the Muddies, contact Bill or Kathy Meyer for a script.

The 2008-2009 Board of Directors was presented to the membership at the Annual Dinner. Members are: Cece Burton, Carol Ganz, Ann Ellerbrook, Judy McGroarty, Kathy Meyer, Bill Perkins, Rick Perry, Dottie Pierdos, Stephanie Richardson, Rob Rudicel, Susan Seet, Mindy Sommer, Dave Sutton, Jim Van Tassel, and Bob Williams. Officers for 2008 -2009 are: Dave Sutton, President; Rick Perry, Vice-president; Jim Van Tassel, Treasurer; Cece Burton, Recording Secretary; and Ann Ellerbrook, Corresponding Secretary.

Barn Rats Is Coming

Our summer theater camp series begins on June 9. Things you may not know about Barn Rats: Teenagers are recruited as counselors each year and use their experiences to build college portfolios and earn community service credit for organizations like the National Honor Society. Each year five scholarships are available for deserving students, but in the past, we have not had enough applicants. If you know a deserving elementary or middle school student with an interest in theater who would be a good potential camper or a teenager who would like the counselor experience, pass the name on to Melissa Frame. The children and grandchildren of Barn members can attend Barn RATS at the reduced rate of \$150.00. Applications are available on the Barn website or at the Barn.

Dates to Remember

Avanti Opens – April 25 and continues at 8 p.m. April 26, May 2,3, 9 & 10. Matinee is 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 4.

Board Meeting – Monday, May 5, 7:00 p.m. at the Barn

Communications Committee Meeting – Monday, May 12, 6 p.m. at the Barn

Drama Meeting – Thursday, May 15, 7:00 p.m. at the Barn

Memorial Day Breakfast – Monday, May 26, 9 – 11 a.m. at the Barn

Watch for the new Barn Directory – don't forget to check your committee assignment.

Communications

Kathy Meyer is the chair of the Communications Committee which is combining both Publicity and Membership into one meeting, the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Barn. Currently, the committee is exploring a membership packet to be given to each new family who joins the Barn. Plans are to put a mailing list application and information about membership in each program. In addition, Ann Ellerbrook has formed a "Friends of Mud Creek" mailing list for patrons who would like to receive play notices via e-mail. She is sending a copy of the Mud Creek postcard out to all members in the hopes that you will all send it out to your friends and relatives. Other things in the works are a packet for potential members, new letterhead, and a Mud Creek brochure. All members are welcome to attend the meetings and contribute their ideas. Many thanks to those who have committed to being part of the core committee: Marianne Bergamo, Mark Bulmahn, Linda Eberharter, Ann Ellerbrook, Melissa Frame, Kris Harper, Judy McGroarty, Bill Meyer, M.J. Nickel, Bill Perkins, Dottie Pierdos, Mindy Sommer, Faye Whalen, and Bob Williams.