

CAST & CREW

"The Source For Theater Happenings"

THE STAGE MANAGER'S LIFE AND WORK

by Muriel Kenderdine

The stage manager, especially in professional productions, is the unsung hero of the theater world – literally! When did you last see the stage manager mentioned in a review? Never? Unless it was the name of a character, as in *OUR TOWN*. Just think of it. The stage manager has to keep a notebook with the production script in it, where he/she has noted all the blocking as well as special instructions to the actors, lighting cues, set and prop strikes, etc. From this book the professional stage manager will "call" the cues during the performance. Plus, after the show opens and the guest director has left, it's up to the stage manager to see that the actors stay on their toes, keep their energy up, and keep the cues and action tight. He/she has the authority to call brush-up rehearsals if necessary, and it's the SM's responsibility to maintain the artistic vision and see that the show grows appropriately in a run of, say, four weeks or more as the actors continue to discover nuances for fine tuning in their roles.

So what draws someone to this kind of life? Is it a family background in theater or something else? And how did you get to Portland, Maine? I posed these questions to the two Actors' Equity Association stage managers who alternate on productions at **Portland Stage Company**, Marjorie Gallant and Myles C. Hatch.

Marjorie, a native of Georgia, said, "My parents did community theater so I went along with them and auditioned, but I didn't seem to get cast in anything. Then I thought maybe I could try a different tack. I stage managed my first show when I was 14, but it was a couple of years afterwards when we went to see a production of *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR*, and after the show we went out to dinner. Some of the cast and crew from the show were at the same place where we were eating, and they all had their *SUPERSTAR* jackets on. That's when it really struck me that that's what they do for a living and that it was possible for me to do that as a career.

"My parents have been very supportive and that has been really great. So when I went to college at Georgia College & State University (in Milledgeville, GA) I studied stage management because I knew that's what I wanted to do. My degree is a BA in theater with technical emphasis because they didn't have one in stage management specifically. But while I was there I got an internship at **Berkshire Theatre Festival** (in Stockbridge, Mass.) and worked there for a couple of summer seasons. While I was there the summer after my graduation, someone put a note in my BTF mailbox saying there was an opening for an intern at Portland Stage Company, and that's how I ended up here. At the end of my internship there was an opening for a stage manager. I applied and have worked as one of the stage managers each season since. I've been very lucky – always in the right place at the right time!"

During that year of internship, 2000-2001, Marjorie met Ted Gallant, PSC Technical Director, and a couple of years later they married. Many summers Marjorie has returned to BTF to work a couple of the shows there. "This past summer was my 8th in 9 years at Berkshire, but it's hard," she said, "because Ted works here and can't get away, so it eats up our summer really fast!"



Marjorie Gallant and Myles C. Hatch

Myles was born in Connecticut but grew up in Maryland from the age of two; however, his grandfather had a place in Maine on the coast near Thomaston, so he spent many summers here. As to his family background, he said, "My grandfather was a vaudeville actor, and my great grandmother was a ballerina. Everybody in the family has some kind of artistic bent – for instance, my father is a weaver; in me it just came out in theater. When I was a sophomore in high school, that was the first time we got to choose an elective course. I said, 'Okay, what do I have to choose from? PE – I've had enough physical ed; Band – I don't know how to play an instrument; Drama – what's that? I'll take that.' So I fell into the drama department. By the time I was a senior I was teaching classes because the head of the program wanted to go play golf, and I'd already had the courses. So I got to teach beginning acting classes as a senior, and I was an aide to the drama department, which kept me very busy since I was also in all the shows!

"Then I went to the University of Maryland at College Park, which is the flagship of the University of Maryland System and is its own city, right outside of Washington, D.C. The theater

department when I was there – I graduated in 1990 – was very small. Many of the departments there, such as engineering, were massive with thousands of students, whereas the theater department had maybe 135 majors for four years at a time. So it was very intimate, very hands-on – you were one-on-one with your faculty on a first name basis. In my freshman and sophomore years I got all my courses such as math, science, Spanish, and so on, out of the way so that I spent the last 2-1/2 years focused just on theater. I was in the arts building 24/7. My apartment, which was part of the school housing, was one block away, so I would wake up, roll out of bed, go to the theater and be there all day – that was my life! I was an administrative aide to three professors. My senior year I got an ‘award’ for having more offices and office hours than any faculty member! I was all over the place, assisting in the directing and acting programs, and I was directing shows, designing shows, stage managing shows, and very, very busy!

“Deciding to be a stage manager all came together because I had experiences in so many different factors. Between my junior and senior years I thought, ‘What am I going to do for the summer?’ I landed an internship at Yale and did a summer cabaret program in which all the plays, and we did one a week, had been written by grad students or were other new works, but everyone involved was among the third year grad students; and then they had an intern company, about 10 of us. I was assistant to the production stage manager for that summer, and it was a wonderful experience. They called it *guerrilla theater* because you’re rehearsing non-stop for a week, then you get it up in the open, and it’s also a dinner theater – people ate dinner and then saw the show – so it was literally a show a week for a month and a half! It was incredible experience, and I was one of those people who were working to bring it all together, make it all become a cohesive whole; so you had to learn a lot, take it in very quickly, and just go with it, which helped me, I think, to decide in the end.”

Good training for working with a repertory company like **The Theater at Monmouth**? That’s where I first knew Myles, my first time in a play at Monmouth, which happened to be the last of three summers he spent there. I called him *Myles C. Hatch, Stage Manager Extraordinaire* because to me it was mind boggling to know he was juggling four different plays at the same time, with a different prompt book for each play (and his job also included letting the actors know when they were scheduled for rehearsals, costume fittings, etc. -- we had a special telephone number to call late in the evening for the latest schedule!). “Yes,” he said, “each book is a written record of everything that happens, when the lights and sound go, what shifts are happening on stage, the actors are moving where, any notes the director has given about it – it’s the bible. It tells you everything so that if you wanted to recreate the show a couple of months later, it would be there in the book.”

Meanwhile, when he finished at Maryland, he went to **Westport Country Playhouse** in Connecticut, where he was assistant to the production stage manager. “The first show I did there,” he remembers, “was **THE COCKTAIL HOUR**, and it starred veteran actors Fritz Weaver and Elizabeth Wilson. As ASM I got on the train to New York every morning, went to 42nd Street to the John Houseman Rehearsal Studios, rehearsed the actors all afternoon, then came back and reported to the production stage manager how it went that day. It was a real eye opener for

me – New York and how things were run. I had a wonderful time. It was a great crew, and the productions were fabulous. Westport has a very strong reputation and following.

“When I left there, I went to the **Asolo Theatre** in Sarasota, Florida, and trained for the full season as assistant to Marian Wallace, who liked to say she had been stage managing since the earth was cooling! She was just incredible, a wonderful, very centered, strong presence, very comfortable in what she was doing, and it was great to be able to learn from her for an entire season.

“While I was there, knowing I was set for the season, still I was looking ahead, as theater artists do, wondering what I was going to do for the next season. As it happened, I had made a connection without really knowing it. A woman who was in the graduate program at Maryland was the artistic director of the **Washington Jewish Theater** and had also been trained by Marian Wallace as a stage manager many years before me, and I had been in a play with her at Maryland, so she knew me and she was looking for a stage manager. She knew Marian Wallace had trained me, and she called me up and offered me my Equity card. The show was **CABARET**, and that was my first Equity contract. I felt as if I were being thrown into the fire being stage manager for a musical as my first professional show, but it was, again, a wonderful experience. I had a great time, and it just snowballed from there because stage management is one of those jobs you can always find work in as long as you’re doing your job. It never stops. People are always looking for someone!

“From there I started working for various local theaters in Washington, D. C. So that’s how I got my start. I count myself fortunate to have been in an environment where there was so much opportunity, so many different venues, so many different styles of theater that would allow me to continue to grow and find new avenues constantly. I took jobs in Mississippi, Kentucky, wherever I could find them. One of the things that’s fascinating about it was that wherever you accept a stage management job, you’re usually there for a couple of months, which gives you a great opportunity to learn about that part of the country and the people. I really enjoyed that attribute of it. Also, in theater when you’re working on a show, from performance to performance it’s never the same way twice. Every audience gets their own unique show. So it’s live, it’s new, it’s different. Every time I work on a new production I have different actors, for the most part, different designers, directors, the whole ball of wax. It changes, which for me is great. It’s invigorating to have that. It’s not like you’re working in a grommet factory!

“Then in 2000, I had been at a theater in Philadelphia, and I actually wasn’t too crazy about the city. I finished what I was doing and happened to see that Portland Stage had advertised in *ArtSearch* for a stage manager. I was going to come up here to visit my parents, so I called the theater and asked for an interview when I was passing through, and faxed my resume. So I came here and sat in the theater with Anita for an hour, and she hired me. This is my 8th season.

“I first got to Monmouth in the summer because of Sally Wood. She was in the first show I did here, which was **GASLIGHT**, and she and I were sitting on the edge of the stage. She knew Monmouth was looking for a stage manager and she said, ‘Have

you ever thought of stage managing here for a theater in the summer?' I said, 'What?' Then we started talking about it. And I went over and talked with David Greenham. I had a great time, but after the third season I decided it was time to move on because I needed a new challenge!

"One summer I signed on at **Maine State Music Theatre** as assistant stage manager because I thought I would like to learn more about working on musicals, but at the end of the season I realized I had gotten everything I wanted and so moved on from there. Possibly at some time if they need a production stage manager, I would go back, but for now they tend to get the heavy hitters from New York, who do a lot of musicals all the time."

[For those who may wonder, Equity stage managers are paid weekly through the rehearsal and performance period. Although Marjorie's and Myles's schedules frequently overlap – one may be in rehearsal while the other is in performance – sometimes they do have some idle time between shows. Then Myles works part time in the box office, and Marjorie works in a yarn shop in Freeport.]

What about acting – do you miss it, want to do it?

Myles said, "I understand it, I've done it. I've actually done Shakespeare from the Yale stage while I was there. I just don't see it in my future right now. It's not something I clamor for; I think it's a different passion. You really have to have the drive for it, but I don't discount it as a possibility later."

From Marjorie's view, "Even in rehearsal I'm not a big fan of performing myself! I did take acting classes because I think it's important for a stage manager to try everything, but I cried every day before class – it was so hard for me. It gave me a perspective on what actors are doing, but it's not for me! Luckily now I have assistants who can step in for an absent actor in rehearsals."

Neither Marjorie nor Myles has ever had to go on with the book during a performance, only sometimes in a rehearsal.

What about special circumstances, such as a set with no possible entrances from the wings? "Oh, yes," responded Myles, "we just had that situation. I call all the light cues from the booth and can also see what's happening on stage, of course. **THE PIANO LESSON** had a fully enclosed set so an actor couldn't see onto the stage from the wings, so when there was no word or action that an actor offstage could hear or see to tell him/her, 'Okay, it's time for my entrance,' they depended on me to turn on a backstage cue light to stand by, and then, 'Okay, now, it's time to knock on the door because she has poured the water into the bucket.' "

And how do you handle backstage noise like compulsive talkers (although this may be more prevalent among community theater groups when many performers are there mostly for fun and social contact)?

"It's always harder with large groups, of course," smiled Marjorie. "I've worked **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** every year since 2001 until this year when Myles is doing it, but I've found that when you respect people and you let them know that you respect what they're doing, they are more apt to listen to you when you ask for quiet."

And what are the rewards of being a production stage manager?

Marjorie: "I really do like being part of the hub of communication. I always say I'm a great vice president but not a president. I know I could not be the director but being the hub of facilitating the creative juices is very satisfying to me. Knowing what's going on in scenic land, in lighting land, in the actor world, and then bringing it all together and having everybody's personalities stay calm and make it a pleasant experience for everybody – keeping everybody happy – that's what I enjoy. But along with that, I also take very seriously my responsibility for the safety of the actors and crew – it's part of the job. It's easy to forget that, especially in a professional setting where time is money, and it's hurry, hurry, hurry; but it's very important!"

Myles: "The rewards of my job include the finished product, what we present to the audience. It's one of those situations where if I've done my job well, you don't even notice me! I'm very much aware of my ability to affect the audience because I'm usually in a box above and behind the audience. I can see them although they can't see me. I find satisfaction in the finished product being as beautiful as it can be, as tight as it can be, that everyone working on the show has had a good experience, that they've gotten the most they can out of it, and therefore the product that we present is as powerful as it can be. Getting the message out, taking something from Day One just reading it off the paper, getting it to the stage and presenting it to an audience, having the message relayed and taken home, that's very powerful, and I find that very rewarding. You can help empower the world that way, change people's perspectives, the way they think about things, inform and educate them. For me those are the rewards because theater is something that's in the moment; once it's past, it's gone, so what you take from it is what you're going to get out of it."

"From my own perspective, stage management is an art form. No two stage managers are identical. The way you do things varies from person to person. A successful stage manager is someone who knows his/her strengths and weaknesses and will capitalize on those. You are going to be able to surround yourself with people who are able to help you as well. I had a mentor who said, 'If someone wants to do a job for you, let them, but just make sure they do it!' "

Anyone who has worked in community theater has run across the occasional stage manager who has not been trained and doesn't have a clue, but there are some very good ones, too. When I first got back into theater in 1982, after my son had reached his mid-teens, my first show was **CAMELOT** at **Lyric Music Theater**, where it was so popular with audiences that it ran an unprecedented five weeks! Bill Donovan was the experienced stage manager. Before the house opened at each performance he was on the backstage PA system saying, "Actors, check your props!" Although that was, of course, a very small part of his duties, for the first time it really brought a stage manager to my attention, and it has stayed with me through the ensuing 25 years and numerous shows so much that I have never failed to check my props when getting to the theater!

Lilias Outerbridge has been involved with **The Belfast Maskers** since its beginning as a member of the Board of Directors, and as actress, stage manager, or producer in too many productions

to count. She remembers when founder Basil Burwell, an actor and drama teacher who had recently retired to Belfast with his actress wife Nancy, put out the call in the Maskers' early days: "One day Bazz said, 'For this next play we will need a stage manager. Who is willing to take that on?' To me it sounded simple – just moving the chairs around the stage as needed, so I volunteered! He promptly gave me a 500-page book on the subject. After that I was stage manager many times. I don't do it much now, but we do have very capable and efficient people in that job."

One of the best in southern Maine community theater is Joanna Chantal, who has worked many shows for **Portland Players**, and Players President Nancy Lupien says, "I hope she's going to be working many more for us!"

"I got into theater," says Joanna, "doing props for **Lyric Music Theater** when I was 17. Then I was props mistress for **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** when Joe Thomas was directing it for Portland Players (Thomas was the long-time artistic director for the Players until his death in 1990). There was no one available to stage manage, so I stepped in and took it on – someone else did the props! Since then I've probably worked 40 to 50 shows, mostly at Players but also some at **Biddeford City Theater** and at Lyric Theater. I love it from the first rehearsal to the final strike. It's very rewarding to see the production come together with the set, the lights, costumes, and so on. I like working with different directors and seeing their different approaches. I listen to the audience reaction during a performance. It makes you feel good when they're enjoying it and you know you're helping the cast and crew to a smooth performance. Sometimes I go back and forth between the booth and the floor; some SMs prefer the booth, but I like working from the floor and communicating with the booth through my headphone. I like the responsibility of running the show. And, no, I'm not comfortable as an actor – I did step in once and donned a jacket over my blacks when they were short a soldier in a scene, but I prefer to do what I feel good doing, which is stage managing!"



A CHRISTMAS CAROL, **Portland Stage Company** 2006: Nephew Fred's Party with Sally Wood (Belle), Cristine McMurdo-Wallis (Ghost of Christmas Present), Paul Barry (Scrooge), and Dustin Tucker (Fred). *Photo by Darren Setlow*

Joanna's next SM duties at Portland Players will be for **THE FANTASTICKS** running January 16 – February 3, and **CRAZY FOR YOU**, May 16 – June 1. (207) 799-7337

Meanwhile, Myles is SM for **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**, running through December 24, Marjorie will work **FULLY COMMITTED** January 22 – February 17 and **MAGNETIC NORTH** April 1 – 20; and Myles will be back for **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** February 26 – March 23 and **DOUBT** April 29 – May 25. (207) 774-0465

So it seems that successful stage managers really love what they're doing. I think Myles sums it all up for Marjorie, Joanna, others, and himself when he says, "For me being a stage manager is comfortable. I know what I'm doing, I enjoy what I'm doing, and I find a huge appreciation for everybody else involved. One of the strengths of a stage manager, I think, is that you have the knowledge of what everybody else has to do, what it takes to put a production together. You know what the desires and needs of a designer are, the sets, the lights, the costumes, and the sound; you know what kinds of needs the actors are going to have. You're going to know what's important to people, and you're going to know how to fold all that together to make one cohesive whole so that everybody feels that they're being supported, everybody's getting what they need, and therefore they produce a brilliant product. The happier and the more comfortable they are with what they're doing, the better the product's going to be for the audience and what they'll get out of it. There's that whole give and take between the audience, what they see on stage, and the actors, and I feed into that energy. Running a show is like you're conducting an orchestra because I'm affecting everything the actors are doing, whether the lights are coming up, how they're going to move to get the actor across the stage. I have a crew – the size depends on how technical the show is; for instance, when we did **THE WOMAN IN BLACK**, there are three actors, well, basically two, but I had a full staff on stage, four times the size of the cast to make it all happen, and the audience doesn't see that. They see an empty stage with a door. All these things happen during the show, but the audience doesn't see how – it's like magic to them, but I know and my crew knows that we are a huge facet of that production making it all happen! There's a lot of satisfaction in that kind of work!"

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THE CHIEF ENGINEER

By Muriel Kenderdine

You know about the Brooklyn Bridge, right? Do you know how it was built? Do you know that some people considered it a miracle?

In 1869, John Roebling began designing the Brooklyn Bridge. Then one day as he and his son, Washington, were surveying, with a third man on the New York side, and John on a cluster of piles near the ferry slip on the Brooklyn side, a ferry came very close to where John was standing, causing him to involuntarily step back. When he did this, his foot got caught, crushing it. Less than a month later he died of tetanus. Washington took over as master builder, and his wife, Emily Warren Roebling, in order to help her husband as much as possible, started studying civil engineering topics: math, strength of materials, stress analysis, and cable construction. In 1872, while working on the sinking of the tower caissons, Washington was stricken with decompression sickness (the bends) and was left bed-ridden and partially paralyzed. So, guess who finished the job, going to the construction site every day until completion of the bridge in 1883, in the beginning ostensibly carrying out her husband's instructions (to ease the worries of the board and the stockholders, who in those days of the Victorian Era would not consider a woman capable of such a thing), but was ultimately acknowledged by many as the chief engineer on the project – Emily, that's who!



Emily Roebling

Because I think it's important to recognize and encourage original plays so that the theater doesn't expire in a plethora of

re-runs and revivals, in November I sat down with Kevin O'Leary, Artistic Director of **Lanyard Theatre Company** and actor, teacher, director, and playwright, to talk about his latest play, **THE CHIEF ENGINEER**.

So how did you happen to choose this subject?

"Back in the spring of 1983 I was fresh out of NYU in hot pursuit of my 'illustrious' acting career, out on the pavement like many young actors fresh out of college, and one day I was down at the Fulton Market. It was the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge, and there was an exhibition of photographs and displays, costuming, and what not, in a whole wing of the Market. They were all about this person Emily Roebling, this guy Washington Roebling, and this guy John Roebling, and the Brooklyn Bridge. I thought this is fascinating – there's the bridge right there – I just came over it. So I was wandering up and down and had just started reading when I came to a photograph of Emily, and I fell in love with her – in love with a dead woman! This was long before I was ready, about seven years before I started taking playwrighting seriously. But the more I read I said, 'Some day if I ever write anything, I have to write a play about this woman first, this bridge second, the story of this miracle as they called it.' And it is a miracle that that bridge ever had one brick laid, forget about opening to traffic! So that was 24 years ago.

"Fast forward to the 1990's – I'm writing and teaching now. Then in 1999 I was sitting in a coffee shop on the upper West Side, and I had a little notebook which I was always carrying at the time because I was writing in earnest about my play **THE FAIR**, so I was sitting there in Starbucks and all of a sudden she came back to me. I wrote in my notebook 'The Engineer's Wife, a play about Emily Roebling.' That's what I called it at the time, and I wrote 2 pages, the opening of the play, which really hasn't changed much. The first page and a half of **THE CHIEF ENGINEER**, which you'll see in December, is pretty much intact.

"My life continues, I leave New York and come back to Maine with my family, go to Morse High to teach. I call my friend Joe Barbarino my franchise player because he has been involved with every single solitary thing I've ever had my hands on, whether it be acting or doing other stuff for me, starting from years ago until last summer when he was supposed to be in **DEVIL'S ELBOW** but couldn't come, so I took over his part. When we were in New York and my play **HAS ANYONE SEEN RICHARD MANGIONE?** was in its early stages, he said, 'KO, may I direct your next play whenever that is after Mangione?' It was a muscle he's always wanted to flex – he has flexed every other theatrical muscle except the director, and it was one he really wanted to use. I said, 'Terrific, I'd love to have you.'

"Our lives unfold, we open Lanyard (Theatre Company), we do Mangione, and in the summer of 2006 he was here for a big chunk of time for **A FEELING OF FAMILY** as well as the staged readings of the benefits **LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT** and **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**. A FEEL-

ING OF FAMILY was about to open, and we were sitting around when I said, 'You know, Joe, I've got to get back to this Roebing play.' He said, 'What are you doing right now?' I said, 'Sitting here talking to you.' And he said, 'Go home and start your research.'

"So I credit Joey B. with really kicking my butt to get me going because if he hadn't, oh, I would have written it eventually but it wouldn't have been ready for this season. So Joe gets the credit with being my coach and my support because the story was so intriguing to him. We both read David McCullough's book The Great Bridge for all the facts. It reads like a novel, beautifully written; I culled all my facts about the bridge from that. The fantasy part later was me.



Joseph Barbarino

"At one point I said, 'I wonder if there are any books out there about Emily Roebing.' Joe looked on *ebay* and found a copy of an out-of-print book called The Silent Builder: The Story of Emily Roebing. He ordered it, it came in about three days, and he gave it to me and said, 'Here. Go read it.'

"So Joe cracked the whip! He would go off to rehearsal for A FEELING OF FAMILY, and I would go to the library for my research. From late July of 2006 I wrote every single day, and I did something I've never done before – I continued to write during the school year on Saturdays. Normally when the school year begins, I'm done – I have to do the writing in the summer – but this time something inside of me said, 'Keep going.' So every Saturday all through that fall I wrote, and I finished the third or fourth draft in October and sent it to Shel-

ley Delaney, and she loved it. That's also something I've never done before – I wrote this play for Shelley and for Chris Clavelli because, like Joe B., they have both been by my side from day one. They have directed my plays, workshoped my plays, acted in my plays, given me advice on my plays. So the three of them – Joe, Shelley, and Chris – have had their hands on every single Kevin O'Leary project from the beginning. It was a labor of love. I wrote this play for them as a gift, pay-back for some 20 odd years of loyalty to me and advice and counseling.

"This past February I went down to New York and read it to WritersGroup because if it doesn't pass WritersGroup, it doesn't get done! Joe was there, too. I read all three parts. They took notes; they gave great notes. I was thinking of doing it this past summer, but things got switched around so we did DEVIL'S ELBOW instead. Then I thought next summer, but Cynthia (Babak) needed more time for her play, so I said, 'Okay, I'll take the December '07 slot because it's ready and my actors can do it – they're available for two weeks – that's all the time I can get from them.

"Then about three weeks ago, thinking I was done, I had Michael Howard and Lisa Stathoplos read it for me because I had never heard it read by other actors than myself, and it was wonderful – I was so impressed with their reading it relatively cold and making phenomenal choices. I thought, 'Oh, good, it works! I'm done! It works!'

"I emailed Joey B and said, 'I'm done. I don't think I can do any more.' He emailed me back and said, very politely, 'You're not done. You still have 8 weeks to go, and there's something you should look at.' My ego, my writer's pride, was taken aback for a moment, but he was right. There was one piece of the second act that he was having trouble believing. He said, 'I'm going to have a problem when I come up against that moment in rehearsal. If you really feel you're done, fine, but I think you ought to look at this moment.'



Lillian O'Leary

"So I swallowed my pride and sat down about two weeks ago, went in and opened it up on the screen and attacked it with his notes. And I had a writer's miracle! The muses were pleased with me that day because it came pouring out, about 10 pages,

and I finished it and liked it; but I had to get my director's approval. I called him up and read it to him. There was a very long pause at the end, and then he said, 'I like it. It's exactly what I needed to believe.' So I sent off the rewrites to Shelley and Chris."

Is this a two or three person play?

"Ninety-five percent of the play is just Shelley and Chris (both Equity actors), but there are three entrances for a third actor, my daughter Lillian, who plays John Sullivan, an orphaned newspaper boy. More will be revealed about this character as the play continues -- I want to keep a few surprises!

"Shelley plays Emily Roebling, and Chris plays E. F. Farrington, the Master Mechanic on the bridge, who made sure things got done correctly. At the time he was the number one expert in the nation, in the world even, on cable and wire systems. Washington, the husband, never actually appears on stage, but his presence is greatly felt.



Chris Clavelli and Shelley Delaney

"This bridge would not be there if it weren't for Emily. After her husband became ill she went to the site every day overseeing everything. I can't begin to tell you how many problems there were during those years of construction. Every single day there was a problem: cutting of funding, fire in a caisson (foundation of each of the two towers), wire frauds. The Brooklyn Bridge is one of the greatest architectural and artistic achievements on the planet Earth. David McCullough said that in 1969 when he was starting his research for his book, he found an elderly woman on Staten Island who was alive when the bridge was finished and had actually crossed it, and she said to him, 'Oh, yes, that Neil Armstrong on the moon, that was interesting, but it doesn't compare with the Brooklyn Bridge being built. That was an amazing feat. That was a miracle!'

"There was every reason for the project to fail, every reason for Emily to give up. But she kept going for the rest of the years it took to complete the bridge in 1883. And it took 50 years for her to get proper credit. There is now a plaque on each tower crediting her for being the one who really got it done.

"This is a love story; everything I write is a love story. There is no factual evidence of a romantic triangle -- this is strictly my design because I wanted the dramatic tension of a triangle,

and I wanted something pulling Emily, and it had to be someone close to the project. So I used dramatic license and made E. F. Farrington younger, nearer to Emily's age (as Arthur Miller did with John Proctor in *THE CRUCIBLE*). I needed it to be plausible. In the play they are in love with each other's intelligence. I love seeing on stage a strong intelligent male and an equally strong intelligent female connect -- I love that intellectual give and take. It creates great energy on stage. But the nature of the relationship between E. F. and Emily is my fiction.

"I follow the Greeks, that a well-made play takes place in 24 hours. The day that I chose because I wanted this dramatic hook was August 25, 1876, after both towers were completed. On that day they strung a rope across from the Brooklyn tower to the New York tower, and E. F. Farrington sat on a board hung from the rope and flew across the expanse of the East River with 10,000 people watching because he wanted to show all of New York, 'You see, I'm willing to risk my life to show you how safe this bridge is!' He went across and then back again. The whole thing took about 20 minutes. That really happened.

"The costumes will be in period. Barbara Kelly is building them from the ground up. My co-founder of Lanyard, John Upham, is technical director and set designer. Neill Ewing-Wegmann, who has painted something for every show we've done, is painting a diptych, an interpretation of the towers. One panel will be at each side of the stage area, and they'll be auctioned off at the end of the run to raise money for Lanyard's next production."

World Premiere of THE CHIEF ENGINEER by Kevin O'Leary

Lanyard Theatre Company at The Chocolate Church Curtis Room Annex

798 Washington Street, Bath, ME

Thursday, December 27 at 7 pm (Pay-What-You-Can Preview)

Friday, December 28 at 7 pm (Opening Night)

Saturday, December 29 at 2 pm and 5 pm

Sunday, December 30 at 2 pm and 5 pm

Suitable for ages 11 and up

Call (207) 442-8455 (Tuesday-Saturday, noon - 4) or visit www.chocolatechurcharts.org

Cast & Crew

How to reach us:

www.castandcrew.org

castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com

207 - 799 - 3392

**P.O. Box 1031
Portland, ME 04104**



*Wishing
You*



SEASON'S GREETINGS

HEARD IN THE GREEN ROOM

Ah, yes, 'tis the season once again, and there are a number of versions of Dickens' beloved A CHRISTMAS CAROL out there for your enjoyment. The one at **Portland Stage Company** opened on Nov. 30 and will continue through Dec. 24 at 25A Forest Avenue. Favorites Mark Honan, Daniel Noel, Dustin Tucker, Sally Wood, and Maureen Butler have returned in principal roles to this family show. Call (207) 774-0465 or visit www.portlandstage.com.

Christopher Schario's adaptation of A CHRISTMAS CAROL will be staged at **The Public Theatre**, Maple & Lisbon Streets in Lewiston, ME, Dec. 7 & 8 at 7 pm, Dec. 9 at 1 & 4 pm. In the cast of six will be JT O'Connor as Scrooge, Dennis Price as Fred/Christmas Present, Michael Frederic as Marley/Bob Cratchit, Maria Kelly as Belle/Fan, Sheila Stasack as Mrs. Cratchit/The Ghost of Christmas Past, and Emily Schario in her fourth time as Tiny Tim. Following the intermission, fiddler and storyteller Jennifer Armstrong returns with *A Homespun Holiday*, her own mix of holiday songs and stories. (Schario was delighted to hear that this year a theater in London was going to be producing his script and said, "Winning the 'stamp of approval' from a company in London was a nice affirmation!") Call (207) 782-3200.



A CHRISTMAS CAROL THE MUSICAL, **L/A Community Little Theatre**: David Purcell (Scrooge) and Gavin Crawford (Tiny Tim). Photo by Rachel Morin

Mitchell Clyde Thomas directs a cast of 85 performers, many of them family groups, in A CHRISTMAS CAROL: THE MUSICAL at **L/A Community Little Theatre** in the Great Falls Performing Arts Center, 30 Academy Street, Auburn, ME. Performances will be Dec. 6, 7, & 8 at 7:30 pm, with matinees at 2 pm on Dec. 8 & 9. The cast is headed by David Purcell as Scrooge with Gavin Crawford as Tiny Tim. Call (207) 783-0958 or visit www.laCLT.com.

Midcoast Youth Theater will also offer a multigenerational production of A CHRISTMAS CAROL: THE MUSICAL at Mt. Ararat High School, Eagle's Way, Topsham, ME (off Rte. 201), Dec. 7, 8, 14, & 15 at 7 pm, Dec. 9 & 16 at 2 pm. The cast includes Pat Scully as Scrooge with Aaron Young (Bob Cratchit), and Jesse Sherwood (Tiny Tim). Henry Eichman directs, with musical direction by Rebecca Beck Atkins, choreography by Elaine Perry, and costumes by Beverly Diller. Call (207) 729-1819 or visit www.youth-theater.org.

In Dexter, ME, **Wayside Theatre** will bring back to the Wayside Grange on North Dexter Rd. Ed Hoovler's one-man show, JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS, Dec. 6 – 9 & 14 – 16, evenings at 7 pm except for Sundays, which will be at 2 pm. Then the annual Wayside Family Christmas will be at 4 pm on Dec. 22 and will feature The Wayside Youth Theatre, The Wayside Singers with carol sing-alongs, and Ed Hummel as Master of Ceremonies. Call (207) 924-8813.

Unfortunately you have just missed three CHRISTMAS CAROLS: **Open Book Players** in a readers theater version on Dec. 1 & 2 at Johnson Hall in Gardiner, ME; a main stage production adapted and directed by Jeff Watts at **Waterville Opera House** Nov. 23 – Dec. 2; and a staging at **Rochester Opera House** in Rochester, NH, Nov. 29 – Dec. 1.

You can still catch SCROOGE at **Sanford Maine Stage**, One Hilltop Lane in Springvale, where it opened Nov. 24 and continues Dec. 7 & 8 at 7:30 pm and Dec. 9 at 2 pm. This adaptation is by John Jakes and was directed by Derek Brigham and Trisha Fitzpatrick. Call (207) 324-9691; visit www.sanfordmainestage.org for directions.

In Dover-Foxcroft, ME, **The Slightly Off-Center Players** will offer A CHRISTMAS CAROL at Center Theatre for Performing Arts, 20 E. Main Street, Dec. 13, 14, 20, & 21 at 7 pm, and Dec. 22 at 2 & 7 pm. Call (207) 564-8943.

And, you will also find A CHRISTMAS CAROL at **The Grand Auditorium**, Main Street in Ellsworth, ME, Dec. 20 – 22 at 7 pm, and Dec. 22 & 23 at 2 pm. Call (207) 667-9500.

In Portsmouth, NH, A CHRISTMAS CAROL will be on the boards at **The Players' Ring** at 105 Marcy St., where it opened Nov. 30 and continues through Dec. 23, Fri. at 8 pm, Sat. at 3 & 8 pm, Sun. at 3 & 7 pm. This adaptation of the classic is by Players' Ring founder F. Gary Newton. Call (603) 436-8123.

And **The Palace Theater** at 80 Hanover St., Manchester, NH, will offer A CHRISTMAS CAROL Dec. 7 – 23, Fri. at 7:30, Sat., at 2 & 7:30, Sun. at 2. Call (603) 668-5588.

The radio script of IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE is the holiday choice for **Stage East at Eastport Arts Center**, Dana & Water Streets, Eastport, ME, where it will run Dec. 7, 8, 14, and 15 at 7 pm, and Dec. 9 & 16 at 3 pm. Brian Schuth directs. Call (207) 853-0823.

The holiday event at **Portland Players**, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland, ME, will be A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION on Dec. 8 at 2 & 7 pm, with a cast of 28 young people ages 9 – 12. Call (207) 799-7337.

The enduring holiday tradition of the **PSO's MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS**, directed again by Brian P. Allen, will begin Dec. 14 and run through Dec. 23, with various performance times at **Merrill Auditorium** in Portland. Mark Mandarano conducts, Ellen Domingos and David Burnham will be soloists, and 2007's new program also includes the Portland Ballet and the Musica de Filia Girl Choir as well as the Magic of Christmas Chorus. Call (207) 842-0800.

Penobscot Theatre Company's offering at the Bangor Opera House on Main Street in Bangor is a little different with the original version of PETER PAN running in rep with THE SANTALAND DIARIES by David Sedaris Dec. 12 – 23. Scott R. C. Levy directs PETER PAN, with Jonah Spear as Peter. SANTALAND DIARIES (for mature audiences) stars Nathan Halvorson as Crumpet and is directed by Joye Cook-Levy. Call (207) 942-3333 or 1-877-PTC-TIXX.

There will be a sneak preview of THE SANTALAND DIARIES on Dec. 9 at 6 pm at the **Stonington Opera House** on Deer Isle in Maine. For this hilarious tale of a Yuletide elf employed at Macy's Department Store, call (207) 367-2788.

Sandy River Players in Farmington, ME, also chose **THE SANTALAND DIARIES** for their holiday show this year with dinner theater performances Dec. 7 at the Homestead Bakery, Farmington, Dec. 8 at The Boiler Room, Rumford, and Dec. 9 at The Boiler Room, Wilton – check with the restaurant for specific seating times & tickets. Regular stage performances will be at 7:30 pm Dec. 15 and at 2 pm Dec. 16 in the Alumni Theater at UM Farmington. Dan Ryder stars, with Andy Buckland as accompanist. Tickets at the door. (Adult language)

The **USM Opera Workshop** will present **AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS**, directed by Ellen Chickering, in Corthell Hall, Gorham campus, on Dec. 8 at 8 pm. Call (207) 780-5555. On Dec. 10 at 7:30 pm there will be a *Messiah Sing Along*, conducted by Robert Russell, at St. Patrick's Church on Congress Street, Portland. Tickets at the door.

The annual **SING! IT'S CHRISTMAS!** will take place at **The Chocolate Church**, 804 Washington Street, Bath, ME, at 7 pm on Dec 17. Call (207) 442-8455.

Another annual holiday treat, **THE NUTCRACKER**, can be seen in several venues this month. **Portland Ballet** will dance at Merrill Auditorium in Portland on Dec. 8 at 7:30 pm and Dec. 9 at 2 pm, with the PB Orchestra and the Victorian Festival Singers. Dancers include Elisa Gerasin as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Tyler Sperry as the Snow Prince, and Nell Green as the Snow Princess. Call (207) 842-0800.

The Bossov Ballet, in Andrei Bossov's adaptation, will dance on the stage of Waterville Opera House on Dec. 14 at 7 pm, Dec. 15 at 2 & 7 pm, and Dec. 16 at 2 pm. Call (207) 873-7000.

The Robinson Ballet will dance this ballet at The Grand Auditorium, Ellsworth, ME, Dec. 15 & 16 at 2 pm. Call (207) 667-9500.

See **AN 1836 PORTSMOUTH NUTCRACKER** at **The Music Hall**, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, NH, Dec. 13 at 7 pm. Call (603) 436-2400.

And what is Christmas without toys? **Maine State Ballet** will present **THE MAGIC TOY SHOP** in their showcase Theater at 348 US Rte One in Falmouth, ME, Dec. 7 & 14 at 7 pm, Dec. 8 & 15 at 1 & 4 pm. Call (207) 781-7MSB.



THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES, Belfast Maskers: Martin Long (Maharajah) and Erik Perkins (District Commissioner).

Belfast Maskers opened **THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES** on Nov. 29, and it continues this coming weekend Dec. 6 – 9 at their Waterfront Theater in Belfast, ME. The play, adapted by Neil Duf-

field from the Andersen story, is set in the time of the Raj--performances at 7 pm Thurs. & Fri., at 2 & 7 pm Sat., and 2 pm Sun. Call (207) 338-9668.

Broadway at Good Theater is the holiday offering of this theater in residence at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, Dec. 6 – 9. Brian P. Allen directs, and the music director is Vicky Stubbs. Willi Burke and George Merritt (both were here from NYC for **DRIVING MISS DAISY**) will join some of your favorite Good Theater regulars and guests, including Kelly Caufield, Ellen Domingos, Timothy Bate, Ned Donovan, and Amy Roche. Call (207) 885-5883.

Portland Playback Theatre Company will bring their own style of improvisation to a benefit performance for Artists Exchange for a Just Peace at The Center for Grieving Children, 555 Forest Ave, Portland, on Dec. 9. Objects of art will be on sale at noon; and at 1:30 Playback Theatre will entertain with a theme of *The Personal Impact of Art*.

The Children's Theatre of Maine will present **KITCHEN TABLE FABLES, Lessons Learned in an Ant's Kitchen**, at the Children's Museum of Maine, Free Street, Portland, Dec. 8, 9 and 14 – 16. Call (207) 878-2774.

The holiday show at **The Theater Project**, 14 School Street, Brunswick, ME, will be **WALES & HOLIDAY TALES**, featuring Thornton Wilder's *The Long Christmas Dinner* and Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, Dec. 14 – 16 & 21 – 22, Fri. & Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2 pm. Al Miller directs. Call (207) 729-8584.

A **CHRISTMAS STORY** is being offered by **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, NH, where it opened Nov. 23 and continues through Dec. 30. Call (603) 433-4472 or 1-800-639-7650.



LITTLE WOMEN, Schoolhouse Arts Center Cast B: Front L-R, Clara Stickney (Beth), Gretchen Wood (Marmee), Emily Stickney (young Amy); Back L-R, Nicole Avery (Jo), Cate Goetschius (Meg). Photo by Stephen Demetriou

LITTLE WOMEN is the holiday choice for the **Schoolhouse Arts Center** on Rte 114 near the intersection with Rte 35 in Sebago Lake Village. (The March family does celebrate Christmas!) This musical, based on Louisa May Alcott's novel, has a book by Allan Knee, music by Jason Howland, and lyrics by Mindi Dickstein. Michael Hjort

directed the show, which just opened Nov. 30 and continues through Dec. 16, Fri. & Sat. at 7:30 pm, Sun. at 2 pm, with an additional 2 pm Sat. matinee on Dec. 8. This is a family affair for some, like Eileen Avery (Aunt March) and her daughters Nicole (Jo March) and Samantha; Heidi Libby and daughter Monica (ensemble); and Karen Stickney (choreographer) and her daughters Clara (Beth), Emily (young Amy), and Dorothy. The cast also includes Gretchen Wood as Marmee, Cate Goetschius and Greer Vashon as Meg, Keith Halliburton as Mr. Laurence, Joe Valliere as Laurie, and Matthew Within as Prof. Bhaer. Musical direction is by Allen Thomas. Call (207) 642-3743. The Schoolhouse recently received an award from Norway Savings Bank in support of the arts in the Standish community. **However**, sadly, before the set designer arrived on the morning of Nov. 24 to put finishing touches on the set, vandals had entered the Schoolhouse breaking newly replaced windows and the antique door, tossing out furniture and artwork, using fire extinguishers to spray a thick layer of chemical dust everywhere, spraying paint on theater seats, walls, and the set, throwing lighting instruments from the light booth, setting a fire under the light booth, and leaving human excrement in the Green Room. So the show could open on time, volunteers, including actors, directors, board members, and neighbors, have worked very hard to clean up the building and make repairs, although some of this will be ongoing for some time because of the extensive damage! Board President Paul Stickney wanted me to say how grateful they all are not only for the car after car of people who came to help on Saturday, but also for the fact that almost every local theater group has called offering lighting and sound equipment and moral support.

The 5th annual holiday show of **The Maine Hysterical Society** will be Dec. 29 at 7 pm and Dec. 30 at 2 pm at Scarborough High School Auditorium, Oak Hill, Rte 1, Scarborough, ME, with Randy Judkins, Steve Underwood, Barney Martin, and Brandon Baines. Call (207) 885-5883.

Acorn Productions will again host the PHYZZIG Festival, featuring some of your favorites as well as some new performers, Dec. 26 – 31, including shows on New Year's Eve. All *Phyzkids* shows will be at SPACE Gallery, 538 Congress Street, Portland, at 11 am & 2 pm, and include such performers as Jan Damm, Zev Eisenberg, Michael Lane Trautman, Leland Faulkner, Antonio Rocha, and Iman Lizarazu. Mainstage shows will be at the Portland Performing Arts Center, 25A Forest Avenue, with Julie Goell, Amanda Houtari, Yo-Yo People, and more among the performers. There will be a 9 pm Cabaret Show for adult audiences on Dec. 29 at One Longfellow Square. The two New Year's Eve performances will be at 3 pm & 7 pm on Dec. 31 at PPAC. Call (207) 854-0065 or visit www.phyzgig.org.

BAH HOONCHBACH returns to the **Oddfellow Theater** on Rte 117 in Buckfield, ME, Dec. 8, 14, 15, 21, 22; and you can be entertained by *Dickie's Rockin' New Year's Eve* on Dec. 31. Call (207) 336-3306.

DANCE USM, the annual concert of original work by student dancers and choreographers, will be at **USM's Russell Hall** in Gorham Dec. 13, 14, & 15 at 7:30 pm, Dec. 16 at 5 pm. Maria Tzianabos directs. Call (207) 780-5151.

If you're an opera fan, you can see live performances of Gounod's ROMEO ET JULIETTE from the **Metropolitan Opera** on Dec. 15 on the screens at **Brunswick 10 Cinema**, 19 Gurnet Rd, Brunswick (Cook's Corner) – call (207) 798-4505; and at **The Strand Theatre**, 345 Main St., Rockland, ME. **The Music Hall** in Portsmouth, NH, will have live broadcasts from the Met in 2008, with HANSEL & GRETEL on Jan. 1 at 1 pm, ROMEO ET JULIETTE on Jan. 5 at 1:30 pm, and MACBETH on Jan. 12 at 1:30 pm. Call (603) 436-2400.

Lanyard Theatre Company will present the world premiere of THE CHIEF ENGINEER by Kevin O'Leary at The Chocolate Church Dec. 27 – 30 (see article in this issue for details). On Nov. 24, as a benefit for the company, Michael Howard and Kevin O'Leary presented a staged reading of David Mamet's A LIFE IN THE THEATER.

Mad Horse Theatre Company is currently touring their acclaimed production of Steinbeck's OF MICE AND MEN to various high

schools that have requested it, including Kennebunk High School on Nov. 30. FMI call (207) 730-2389.

Acorn Productions' **Naked Shakespeare Ensemble** will return to the Wine Bar, 38 Wharf St., Portland, with *Sonnets and Soliloquies* on Jan. 7 & Feb. 4. Call (207) 854-0065.

ECLIPSED by Patricia Burke Brogan will be staged by **AIRE (American Irish Repertory Ensemble)** at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, Jan. 10 – 27, Thurs. – Sun. Tony Reilly directs this play, which sheds light on one of Ireland's dirty secrets – the Magdalene Laundries, where “fallen women” were sent by their families to work in penance for their sins under the strict supervision of Catholic nuns. An estimated 30,000 women worked in the laundries, often against their will, in the 150 years the laundries were in operation. The play provides a powerful portrait of the penitents and nuns in one laundry in the 1960's, 30 years before the last Magdalene Laundry in Ireland was finally closed in 1996! In the cast are Shannon Campbell (Cathy), Janice Gardner (Nellie/Nora), Tavia Gilbert (Brigit), Liz Hardcastle (Mandy), Casey Turner (Rosa/Juliet), Tara McCannell (Sister Virginia), and Susan Reilly (Mother Victoria). Call (207) 799-5327.

Open Waters Theatre Arts will offer Wallace Shawn's THE FEVER at Zero Station in Portland Jan. 10, 12, 18, & 20 with Jennie Hahn; and Jan. 11, 13, 17, & 19 with Keith Anctil. In this play a nameless character is violently coming to terms with his/her personal role in global economics “in a country where my language isn't spoken,” and walks us through a chilling revelation that will change his/her, and possibly our, definition of self. Performances of this 1991 Obie Winner for Best Play will be Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 8 pm, Sun. at 2 pm. Call (207) 799-5945.

THE FANTASTICKS, the world's longest running musical (in NYC), will be the next production for **Portland Players** at 420 Cottage Rd, South Portland, ME, running weekends Jan. 18 – Feb. 3, Fri. & Sat. at 8 pm, Sun. at 2:30 pm. David Goulet directs. Call (207) 799-7337.

The Early Evening Show begins the new year at the **Oddfellow Theater** in Buckfield, ME, on Jan. 11 & 12. Then enjoy the humor and sleight-of-hand of Leland Faulkner on Jan. 25 & 26. Call (207) 336-3306.

A cast of 8 actors playing more than 60 characters will bring THE LARAMIE PROJECT to life for **L/A Community Little Theatre** Jan. 18 – 27 at Great Falls Performing Arts Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn, ME. Linda Britt directs. Cast members are Mark Hazard, Calvin Shaw, John Blanchette, Matt Delamater, Jacqueline McDonald, Mary-Atala Lessard, Mariah Perry, and Becky Shor. Call (207) 783-0958, visit www.laCLT.com, or email: boxoffice@laclt.com.

Lincoln County Community Theater of Damariscotta, ME, starts the new year with A HAND FOR MURDER by local playwright Art Mayers, with performances Jan. 11 – 13 in the format of readers' theater. The play, based on a true story, is taken from a book by Alvin R. Dunton, a well-known handwriting expert from Camden, ME, who testified against Nathan Hart to the grand jury investigating the strange murder of Sarah Meserve of Tenants Harbor in 1881. Hart was indicted, convicted, and sentenced to a life term at the Thomaston prison; however, after the indictment Dunton discovered he had been given a false standard of Hart's script. From that moment, Dunton worked tirelessly to free Hart and finally wrote the book, *The True Story of the Hart-Meserve Murder Trial*, in 1882. The truth of the case is really still a mystery. Call (207) 563-3424.

On Jan. 4, and Feb. 1, 2008, **Portland Playback Theatre** will resume their *First Friday Performance Series* at 7:30 pm at First Parish Church, Congress & Temple Streets, Portland. On Nov. 14, the troupe presented HOLIDAYS FROM HEAVEN AND HELL at USM's Abramson Center in Portland, offering members of the community to come in and open up and tell stories from their lives. “We think your story is important enough to be heard by others and for us to play it back theatrically,” said Artistic Director David LaGrafte. Others

from the 13-member company participating in November besides LaGrafte were Bob Bittenbender, Grace Cleaves, and Virginia Collins. No reservations needed at First Parish. Come and share your story or just watch!

Heartwood Regional Theatre Company will open Arthur Miller's **THE CRUCIBLE** on Jan. 18 at the Skidompha Library, Damariscotta, ME. The drama will run Jan. 18–20, 25–27, & Feb. 1–3. Griff Braley directs. The large cast includes Brendan McQuillen (John Proctor), Kevin Kiley (Rev. Hale), Laura Graham (Elizabeth Proctor), Elizabeth Davis (Rebecca Nurse), Elise Voigt (Abigail Williams), Kellie Gardner (Mary Warren), and Sarah Winglass (Betty Paris). Call (207) 563-1373.



Scene from **INTO THE WOODS**, **Heartwood Regional Theater Company** Nov. Youth Production

Neil Simon's **LOST IN YONKERS** will be in the Studio Theater at **Waterville Opera House**, Main St., Waterville, ME, Jan. 25, 26, Feb. 1 & 2 at 7:30 pm, Jan. 27 & Feb. 3 at 2 pm. Doree Austin directs. Call (207) 873-7000.

Dustin Tucker, who has been a favorite at The Theater at Monmouth for the last 5 seasons and has played Fred in the **Portland Stage Company** A **CHRISTMAS CAROL** in 2006 and 2007, will take on the *tour de force* role in **FULLY COMMITTED** by Becky Mode, which will run at PSC, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, through Feb. 17, with previews Jan. 22 – 24 and an official opening on Jan. 25. Dustin will play Sam, a reservations operator, and more than 30 other characters from inside and outside a Manhattan eatery. Call (207) 774-0465.

Monmouth Community Players will offer Ernest Thompson's **ON GOLDEN POND** in Cumston Hall, Monmouth, ME, Jan. 18–20 and 25–27. Kathleen Nation directs. Call (207) 441-1998. On Nov. 24 & 25 MCP's celebration of the Christmas season was a concert titled *All Is Bright*. The large cast included Alyra Donisvitch, Josie French, Mike French, Scott Powers, Katie St. Pierre, Vincent Ratsavong, Mitch Thomas, and Andy Tolman.

The **Theater at Monmouth's** annual NEA-sponsored Shakespeare play will be **MACBETH**, which will tour Maine Jan. 18–Feb. 6. FMI call (207) 933-2952. Meanwhile, TAM Producing Director David Greenham's play *Taxing Maine*, which toured in 2006 and was performed in 2007 as part of the Americans for the Arts National Conference in Las Vegas, has won two awards: an Award of Merit and a WOW Award from The American Association for State & Local History (only four WOW Awards were made nationally this year!).

Janis Stevens, a favorite at TAM for the last 8 seasons, will perform her Drama Desk-nominated one-woman show **VIVIEN**, about Vivien Leigh, Jan. 15 – Feb. 3 at Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia. (FYI: Walnut Street is the oldest theater in America and the only one operating continuously as a theater since it opened in 1809!)

John Patrick Shanley's **DOUBT, A Parable**, will take the stage at **The Public Theatre** in Lewiston, ME, Jan. 25 – Feb. 3, Thurs. at 7 pm, Fri. & Sat. at 8 pm, Sun. at 2 pm. Call (207) 782-3200. In November

Susan Poulin and Gordon Carlisle of Poolyle Productions brought their show **SPOUSAL DEAFNESS** to the TPT stage.



ALMOST, MAINE, **The Public Theatre** Oct. Production: Actor David Mason, Playwright John Cariani, actors Tarah Flanagan, Janet Mitchko, John Patrick Driscoll, and director Christopher Schario.

Ten Bucks Theatre will offer **FAULTY TOWERS MEETS MONTY PYTHON** Jan. 24–26, Jan. 31–Feb. 2, & Feb. 7–9 at 7 pm; Jan. 27, Feb. 3 & 10 at 2 pm, with performances at The Next Generation Theater at the Between Friends Art Center, 39 Center St., Brewer, ME. Julie Arnold Lisnet directs. Call (207) 884-1030.

In New Hampshire, **Peacock Players**, 14 Court St., Nashua, opened **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ** Nov. 30 and it continues through Dec. 9, Fri. at 7 pm, Sat. at 2 & 7 pm, Sun. at 2 pm. Call (603) 886-7000 or visit www.peacockplayers.org.

Garrison Players, 650 Portland Ave., Dover, NH, opened **THE WIZARD OF OZ** Nov. 30, and it continues there through Dec. 16, Fri. at 8 pm, Sat. at 11 am & 3 pm, Sun. at 3 pm. Michael Tobin directed. Call (603) 750-4ART.

Becky Mode's **FULLY COMMITTED** will be offered by **Yellow Taxi Productions** Dec. 7 at 8 pm & Dec. 8 at 4 & 8 pm in the Hunt Building on Main St. in Nashua, where it will star Josiah George. Tickets at the door.

At **The Players' Ring**, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, **ATOMS, MOTION AND THE VOID** a production of **John Herman & Sean Hurley**, will open Dec. 28 and run weekends through Jan. 6. Then **Lighthouse Theater Company** will come in with **STONES IN HIS POCKETS** by Marie Jones, weekends Jan. 11 – 27. Call (603) 436-8123. In early November when **Sharp Dressed Men Productions** staged **INTERFERENCE**, a kind of ghost story by Jacquelyn Benson and Heather Bourbeau, Andrew M. Fling directed G. Matthew Gaskell, Liz Krane, Matthew Schofield, and Joi Smith. In late November, **Phylloxera Productions** presented **BECKET, OR THE HONOR OF GOD** by Jean Anouilh directed by Gary Locke, with Matthew Schofield (Henry II), Richard Harris (Becket), Joi Smith (Henry's Queen), and Marie Fitzgerald (Queen Mother).

DINNER WITH FRIENDS is the winter choice for **Nashua Theatre Guild**, 14 Court St., Nashua, Jan. 17 – 20, with Craig Ciampa (Gabe), Marie Papp (Karen), Mari Keegan (Beth), and Larry Pizza (Tom). Call (603) 320-2530.

The dinner theater show Jan. 18 – 20 for **Stage One Productions** at 124 Bridge St., Manchester, will be **TRIANGLES FOR TWO**. Call (603) 699-5511.

The November production of **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER** presented by **Milford Area Players** in Milford, NH, was directed by Vick Bennison with Neal Blaiklock, Renee MacNeil, Mari Keegan, Leigh MacNeil, Melissa Groff, and Jason Crowell.

Back here in Maine, **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER** was also the November offering of **OHMPAA (Oxford Hills Music & Performing Arts Assoc.)** Nov. 1 – 11 at the Norway Grange. Linda Sturdivant directed, with set design and construction by Claire and Steve Sessions. In the cast of six were Kenn Sawyer as architect Bernard,

Stephanie Day as his mistress, Suzanne; Carol Brown as his wife, Jacqueline; Molly Rennie as a cordon bleu chef, Suzette; Tommy McFarlane as her husband, George; and Steve Sessions as Bernard's alibi-supplying friend, Robert.



DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER, Oxford Hills MPAA: Front – Stephanie Day, Molly Rennie, Carol Brown; Back – Steve Sessions, Tommy McFarlane, Kenn Sawyer.

During Sparkle Weekend in Freeport, ME, Dec. 1 & 2, **Freeport Community Players** presented their 4th annual HOME TIME RADIO HOUR with new episodes of *Joe Tanner PI* and *The Adventures of Marshall Will Barnett*, plus *Tales From the Other Side*, at the Freeport Performing Arts Center.

The November show for **Gaslight Theater** in Hallowell, ME, was **OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS** directed by Richard Bostwick, assisted by Katherine Wiltuck, produced by Marc Loiselle, and stage managed by Jenny Benjamin Rider. In the cast were Tom Dix as Nick, Kendra Richards as Caitlin; Larry Vinal and Lynn Twitchell as Nick's maternal grandparents, and Mark Nadeau and Meg Harvey as his paternal grandparents.



OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS, Gaslight Theater: Larry Vinal, Mark Nadeau, Meg Harvey, Kendra Richards, and Tom Dix.

Marsh River Theater on Rte 139 in Brooks, ME, closed their season with **PUMP BOYS & DINETTES** Nov. 2 – 10.

Nov. 2 – 4, **Poland Players** presented **CAMELOT** with Tom Ferent as King Arthur at Poland Regional H.S.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF took the stage Nov. 16 – 18 at **Deer Isle Reach Performing Arts Center**.

Lyric Music Theater, 176 Sawyer St., South Portland, ME, just closed the Yeston-Kopit **PHANTOM** on December 2 after a three-weekend run. Robert Gauthier headed the cast in the title role with Jaime Lupien as Christine, Cynthia O'Neil as diva Carlotta, and Bill McCue as Gerard Carriere. Michael Hjort directed with musical direction by James Colby, and choreography by Deborah Lombard. **Marissa Sheltra** was the winner of Lyric Music Theater's *Idol ME!* Contest on November 3. The runner-up was Edward "Ned" Donovan.

The comedy about a love triangle gone awry, **MURDER AT THE HOWARD JOHNSON'S**, was staged by **ACAT (Aqua City Actors Theater)** Nov. 8 – 17 in the Waterville Opera House Studio Theater.

Evan Sposato directed, and the cast featured Peter Diplock, Dan Goodheart, and Leslie Stein.



PHANTOM, Lyric Music Theater: Robert Gauthier (Erik) and Jaime Lupien (Christine)

Michael Lane Trautman returned in November from three weeks of performing in Shanghai, China, and returns to the St. Lawrence Arts Center in Portland for his *Second Saturday Show* Dec. 8 and Jan. 12. Call (207) 775-5568.

Mt. Blue Theatre Company offered **OUR TOWN** Nov. 1 – 3 in the Mt. Blue High School in Farmington, ME.

City Theater brought **Susan Poulin** in **PARDON MY FRENCH** to the stage at 205 Main St. in Biddeford, ME, on Nov. 3, where she told about her roller-coaster ride of self-discovery to reconnect with her Franco-American heritage.

The Theater Project in Brunswick, ME, has announced the appointment of **Wendy Poole** as Executive Director of the theater.



Mamet's **SHORT PLAYS & MONOLOGUES, River Company** Oct. Production: Front, L-R – Tom Handel, Tom Crutcher, Bill Michaud; Back, L-R – Andrea Handel, Charlie Waterman, and Jan Haskell-Mohr.

River Company veteran performers made up the ensemble cast of the group's October production of David Mamet's **SHORT PLAYS & MONOLOGUES**: Tom Crutcher, Andrea Handel, Tom Handel, Jan Haskell-Mohr, Bill Michaud, and Charlie Waterman. Ann Foskett and Charlie Waterman directed.

Cape Newagen, ME, husband and wife playwrights **Larry Crane** and **Jan Paetow** have had honors for their most recent plays: Larry Crane's **TRANSIT OF VENUS**, a five-character dramatic thriller set

in New Jersey, was presented in October by the HRC Showcase Theatre in Hudson, NY, directed by Barbara Waldinger. Jan Paetow's SOLITARY DANCERS received Honorable Mention in the 2007 "Pen is a Mighty Sword" contest of the Virtual Theatre Project, a global theater company in North Hollywood, CA, dedicated to identifying, developing, and staging new work.

Nathan Halvorson directed Charles Busch's THE TALE OF THE ALLERGIST'S WIFE for **Penboscot Theatre's** Oct/Nov production at the Bangor Opera House. In the cast were A. J. Mooney as Marjorie; David Gable as her husband; Marcia Joy Douglas as her mother; Jeri L. Misler as her friend, Lee; and Shalin Agarwal as Mohammed.

Avner "The Eccentric" Eisenberg performed his show *Exceptions to Gravity* on Nov. 17 at **Temple Stream Theater** in Temple, ME. **Julie Goell** presented her show, *THE MOPera*, where she plays all the characters in and at a performance of CARMEN including the Ladies' Room attendant, Nov. 2 – 4 at **West End Studio** in Portsmouth, NH.

Alden Wilson, director of the **Maine Arts Commission**, will step down after 33 years, with his resignation taking effect Feb. 2, 2008.

In college theater news, Arthur Hill directed FUDDY MEERS, performed at **UM Machias** in November with the cast including Sandi Scovil (Claire), Melanie Colbeth (Gertie), Crystal Czaja, and Josh Greene.

UM Farmington Dancers presented *Connection and Alienation* on Nov. 9 at Farmington's Merrill Hall.

At **UM Orono** Sandra Hardy directed her own translation of HEDDA GABLER in a November production with Sarah Farnam (Hedda), Anthony Arnista (Tesman), Greg Middleton (Lovborg), Rebecca Ross Bailey (Thea), and Simon Ferland (Judge Brack).

At **Bates College** in Lewiston, ME, in November, Paul Kuritz directed FIVE CUPS OF COFFEE, a dark romantic comedy about the nature of time and the human condition, by Gillette Elvgren, who attended the opening.

And at **Colby College** in Waterville, ME, LIFE IS A DREAM by Calderon de la Barca was offered in mid-November at the Strider Theater.

The mid-coast theater community has lost **Phil Price**, who was active in many capacities in Belfast Maskers productions almost from their beginning 20 years ago. A memorial service was held at his home in Orrington on Nov. 10 when his fellow Maskers members gathered to share memories with his family.

Muriel Kenderdine



PINOCCHIO (1994), **Belfast Maskers**: Amon Purinton, Basil Burwell, and **Phil Price** as Geppetto



THE SPIRIT OF REINDEER, **USM School of Music** November Production (Santa's reindeer are shocked to learn they may be replaced by a machine): Joe Valliere, Jeremiah Haley, Ashley Christy, Kyle Dennis, Alexis R. D. Handy, Megan Leddy, Matt Withee, and Slaney Rose Jordan



NOTICE: Auburn Middle School is performing a show called '65 MUSTANG through Dec. 8 and has built a full-sized wooden vehicle to look like a 1965 Ford Mustang. The doors and trunk open so it will hold several actors. It's about 13 ft. long and 150 lbs. If anyone is interested in having this vehicle after Dec. 8, FMI contact Liz Rollins, Dir. Music & Theater, Auburn Middle School, 207-653-5325 or rollins@auburnschl.edu.

LATE BREAKING NEWS: Playwright and Tony-nominated actor John Cariani, author of ALMOST, MAINE, will teach a 3-day playwriting intensive master class titled "Story is Where the Art Is" Jan. 7-9 at Stonington Opera House. Registration is limited, and the deadline is Dec. 20, 2007. FMI visit www.operahousearts.org or call (207) 367-2788.

ALPHABETICAL THEATER LISTINGS

Acadia Repertory Theatre (Summer) Prof. Non-Equity
Box 106, Somesville, Mt. Desert, ME 04660
(207) 244-7260 Cheryl Willis & Andrew Mayer, Art.
Drs. Kenneth Stack, Exec. Dir.
www.acadiarep.com email: arep@acadia.net

ACAT Theatre - Community
Waterville Opera House, Artspace Theater
93 Main St. Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 580-6783 <http://www.acattheatre.org>

LUNCH HOUR – Mar.
TWELVE ANGRY MEN - June

Acorn Productions – Prof. Non Equity
P. O. Box 44, Portland, ME 04112
Michael Levine – Artistic Director
(207) 854-0065 www.acorn-productions.org

Sonnets & Soliloquies (Naked Shakespeare)-Dec.3,Jan.7
PHYZGIG – Dec. 26 – 31 @ PPAC and SPACE
Maine Short Play Festival – Mar. 17 – 30 @ St.Law.A.C.
MERCHANT OF VENICE - May 8 – 11 @
One Longfellow Square, Portland

Actorsingers – Community Theater
Actorsingers Hall, 219 Lake St., Nashua, NH
(603) 320-1870 www.actorsingers.org

HONK! JUNIOR – Feb. 21 - 23
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST – May 2 - 10

ADD VERB Productions, Prof/Non-Equity
Touring & Theater in Educ. 1 Longfellow Sq.
P. O. Box 3853 Portland, ME 04104-3853
(207) 653-4554 Cathy Plourde, Director
info@addverbproductions.com

Touring pieces on specific issues. Commission for new
scripts, or bring in to assist in script development for your
education/outreach programs. Train & conduct workshops
on building community through theater or using theater as
classroom or social change tool. FMI contact above.
Current touring productions, regionally and nationally:
WHEN TURTLES MAKE LOVE: Real Talk Between
Parents and Teens
YOU THE MAN (one-man show on dating violence, sexual
assault and unhealthy relationships. Conferences, Colleges,
High Schools.)
THE THIN LINE (one-woman show on eating disorders.
Conferences, Colleges, High Schools and Middle Schools.)
MONEY TALKS (financial literacy--8th grade - adult.)
BUTT OF COURSE
COOKIN' WITH TYPHOID MARY (by Carolyn Gage)

Advice To The Players – Prof/Community
P. O. Box 52 North Sandwich, NH 03259 (603) 677-2739
Carolyn Nesbitt – Producing Director

American Irish Repertory Ensemble (AIRE)
Portland, ME (207)799-5327 www.airetheater.com
Tony Reilly – Art. Director, Susan Reilly – Managing Dir.

ECLIPSED – Jan. 10-27 @ St. Lawrence Arts Ctr
PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME-Apr.24-May 11,PPAC

**Arts in Motion/Mt. Washington Valley Cultural Arts
Center** Educ/Prod. Co./Community Theater
P.O. Box 2619, Conway, NH 03818-2619
(603)447-1866 Nancy Steen Greenblatt & Glenn Noble

Arundel Barn Playhouse Prof. /Equity Guest Artists
(Summer) 53 Old Post Road, Arundel, ME 04046
Adrienne Grant, Artistic Director Admin: (207) 985-5553
Box Off: (207) 985-5552 www.arundelbarnplayhouse.com

Bangor Community Theatre
90 Wiley St. Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 942-0000 Michael and Penny Weinstein

Barnstormers Theatre - Prof Equity
Main Street, P. O. Box 434, Tamworth, NH 03886
(603) 323-8500 Bob Shea, Artistic Dir. Clayton Phillips,
Prod. Art. Dir. Office: (603) 323-8661
www.barnstormerstheatre.com

Bates College Theater Dept.
Lewiston, ME 04240 Box office: (207)786-6161
Martin Andrucki (207)786-6187 www.bates.edu

The Belfast Maskers - Community Theater

P.O. Box 1017, Belfast, ME 04915 (207) 338-9668
Aynne Ames, Artistic Director
www.belfastmaskerstheater.com

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES – Nov.29-Dec.9

The Bell Center – Community/Education
47 Fourth St., Dover, NH (603) 742-2355
www.bellcenter.org info@bellcenter.org

Best Foot Forward Productions – Community Theater
Derry, NH (603) 641-6066
www.bestfootforwardproductions.org

Biddeford City Theater - Community Theater
205 Main St., P.O. Box 993, Biddeford, ME 04005
(207) 282-0849 www.citytheater.org
Steve Burnette, Producing Director

ALMOST, MAINE – Mar. 7 – 16
THE SECRET GARDEN (Musical) – May 2 – 11
FUDDY MEERS – June 20 – 29
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE – Aug. 8 – 17
1776 – Oct. 10 – 19, 2008

Boothbay Harbor, The Opera House At – Professional
P. O. Box 800, Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538
(207) 633-6855 Box Office (207) 633-5159
www.boothbayoperahouse.org

Boothbay Playhouse www.boothbayplayhouse.com
Rte. 27, P.O.Box 577,Boothbay, ME
(207) 633-3379 Susan Domeyer, Owner/Producer

Booth Theater – Prof.
13 Beach St., Ogunquit, ME (207) 646-8142

Bossov Ballet Theatre www.bossov.com
295 Main St., Fairfield, ME 04967 (207) 487-6360

Bowdoin College <http://academic.bowdoin.edu>
Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 725-3375

Bucksport Community Theatre
100 Mills Lane, Bucksport, ME (207)469-8992
or 888-295-0123 www.bucksporttheatre.org

Camden Civic Theatre – Community
Camden Opera House, Elm St., P.O.Box 362,
Camden, ME 04843 Box Office: (207)236-2281
www.camdencivictheatre.com

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? – Feb.
TAMING OF THE SHREW - Apr.
DEATHTRAP – June/July
SEUSSICAL The Musical – Aug.

Capitol Center for the Arts www.ccanh.com
44 So. Main St., Concord, NH (603) 225-1111

BATTLE FOR THE PENTAGON PAPERS–Feb. 6
H.M.S. PINAFORE – Mar. 14
THE PRODUCERS – Apr. 5
MOVIN' OUT – June 5

Carousel Music Theater (Summer)
Prof. Non-Equity/Dinner Theater/Musicals
P.O. Box 665, Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538
(207) 633-5297 or 800-757-5297 (ME only)
www.carouselmusictheatre.com

Cauldron & Labrys Productions
160 Dartmouth St., #1, Portland, ME 04103
(207) 774-4231 Carolyn Gage – Artistic Dir.

Celebration Barn Theater - Theater School/Workshops
190 Stock Farm Rd. (off Rte. 117) South Paris,
ME 04281 (207) 743-8452 www.CelebrationBarn.com
Email: info@celebrationbarn Amanda Houtari, Exec.Dir.

Center Theatre for Performing Arts
20 E. Main St. P.O.Box 441, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
(207)564-8943 Patrick Myers,Ex.Dir.
www.centertheatre.org

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (Slightly Off-Ctr)-Dec.13-22

Chamber Theatre of Maine Prof. Non-Equity/Touring
Box 372, Thomaston, ME 04861
(207) 354-8807 Erika Pfander Art. Dir.

Children's Backyard Theater Group – Community
Lovell, ME (207) 925-2792

Children's Theatre of Maine
P.O. Box 1011, Portland, ME 04104
(207)878-2774 www.childrenstheatremaine.org
Raymond Dumont, Managing Director
Rebecca Short, Artistic Director

KITCHEN TABLE FABLES – Dec. 8, 9, 14 - 16
@ Children's Museum of ME, Free St.,Portland

Chocolate Church Arts Center Community Theater
804 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530 (207)442-8455 Roo
Dunn, Exec. Dir. www.chocolatechurcharts.org

Sing! It's Christmas! – Dec. 17
THE CHIEF ENGINEER (Lanyard)-Dec. 27-30
TWELVE ANGRY MEN/WOMEN – Feb-Mar.
LES MISERABLES (Student Ed) co-production with
Studio Theatre – May 8 – 18

The Classics Company - Prof./Non-Equity/Touring
P. O. Box 1281, Dover, NH 03821 (603) 743-3796
Jewel Davis, Artistic Director

SIMPLY SHAKESPEARE - Touring H.S.,Libraries, etc.

Colby College Theater Dept. Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 859-4535 - Box Office; 872-3388 - Theater Dept.
www.colby.edu/theater/production_season.shtml
S = Strider Theater

THE ONE WHO GETS SLAPPED-Feb. 8 – 10 (S)
AUGUST WILSON: The Man & His Work-Feb.22,23(S)
IN THE HEART OF AMERICA – Apr. 4 – 12 (Cellar)
Colby Dance Theater – Apr. 24 – 26 (S)
A New Play by K. O'Toole '05 – May 2 (S)

Community Little Theatre – Lewiston/Auburn
Great Falls Performing Arts Center
30 Academy St., P.O.Box 262, Auburn, ME 04212
(207) 783-0958 www.laCLT.com
Box Office email: boxoffice@laclt.com

A CHRISTMAS CAROL:THE MUSICAL-Dec. 6 - 9
THE LARAMIE PROJECT – Jan. 18 – 27
ONCE ON THIS ISLAND – Mar. 7 – 16
DIAMONDS – Apr. 26 - 27
SYLVIA – June 13 – 22
FOOTLOOSE – Aug. 15 – 24, 2008

A Company of Girls – (Children's Workshop/Theater)
P.O.Box 7527, Portland, ME 04112
(207) 874-2107, Odelle Bowman, Exec. Director
www.acompanyofgirls.org

Concord Community Players –Community
Concord City Aud., Prince Street, Concord, NH
P.O.Box 681, Concord, NH 03302 (603) 224-4905

THE ODD COUPLE – Feb. 14 – 16
THE FULL MONTY – May 1 - 3

Criterion Theatre
35 Cottage St., Bar Harbor, ME (207) 288-3441
www.criteriontheatre.com

Crossroads Youth Center
Saco/Biddeford, ME Deb Landry, Dir. (207)838-2146
www.crossroadsyouthcenter.org

Deertrees Theatre
P.O. Box 577, Harrison, ME 04040
(207)583-6747 -Box Office www.deertreestheatre.org
Lee Bearse, Exec. Dir. (207) 647-2111

Eastport Arts Center - Stage East - Community Theater
Dana & Water Streets, Eastport, ME 04631
(207)853-0823 Brian Schuth, Pres. www.stageeast.org

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (the Radio Play)-Dec.7 - 16

The Escapists - Comedy/Improv
Portland, ME www.theescapists.net

Figures of Speech - Prof. Non-Equity/Touring
77 Durham Rd., Freeport, ME 04032 John & Carol
Farrell (207) 865-6355 www.figures.org/

FAR EAST – Tales from China & Japan - Touring

Louis Frederick (207) 874-6301
P. O. Box 40, Portland, ME 04112

Freeport Community Players – Community Theater

P.O Box 483, So. Freeport, ME 04032 (207)865-2220
Elizabeth Guffey, Pres. www.fcponline.org

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?-Apr.11-27
A FUNNY THING...FORUM - Summer

Garrison Players – Community Theater
650 Portland Ave., Dover, NH (603) 750-4ART or
800-838-3006 www.garrisonplayers.org

THE WIZARD OF OZ – Nov. 30 – Dec. 16
WE THE PEOPLE – Jan. 18 - 27
THE MAD WOMAN OF CHAILLOT-Mar. 21 – 30
OUR TOWN – May 16 - 25

Gaslight Theater - Community Theater
P.O. Box 345, Hallowell, ME 04347 (207)626-3698
Kelly J. Arata, Gen. Mgr www.gaslighttheater.org

Jackson Gillman – ‘Stand Up Chameleon’
P.O. Box 41, Onset, MA 02558 (508)295-0886
jackson@jacksongillman.com

Girl Power Productions – Community Theater
3200 Atlantic Highway, Waldoboro, ME 04572
(207) 785-5244 Jeff & Jessie Payson

Good Theater Productions – (Prof./Non-Equity)
at St. Lawrence Arts & Community Theater
76 Congress St.,Portland, ME. www.goodtheater.com
Brian P. Allen – Art. Dir (207) 885-5883

Broadway at Good Theater – Dec. 6 - 9
Judy Garland Songbook – Jan. 31 – Feb. 10, 2008
PRELUDE TO A KISS – Feb. 14 – Mar. 9
RABBIT HOLE – Apr. 10 – May 4

Hackmatack Playhouse (Summer) Prof.Non-Equity
538 School Street, Berwick, ME 03901
(207)698-1807 Michael Gupitill, Exec. Producer
Sharon Hilton, Art. Dir. www.hackmatack.org

RUMORS – June 25 – Jul. 5
ANNIE GET YOUR GUN – Jul. 9 – 19
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE – Jul. 23 – Aug. 2
ALL SHOOK UP! – Aug. 6 - 23

The Hampstead Players – Touring, Prof.
Children's Theater. 1053 N. Barnstead Road,
Center Barnstead, NH 03225-3955 (603) 776-6044 Kathy
Preston, Owner; Michael Phillips, Art. Dir.

Harpwell Community Theater
Centennial Hall, Rte. 123, Harpwell Center, ME
(207) 833-6260 Betty Erswell, Founder/Producer

Heartwood Regional Theater Co.
P. O. Box 1115, Damariscotta, ME 04543
(207) 563-1373 Griff Braley – Art. Dir.
www.heartwoodtheater.org

THE CRUCIBLE – Jan. 18 – Feb. 3
GILGAMESH – May 1 - 17

Hope Hoffman's Town Hall Theater – Community
Bowdoinham, ME www.hopehoffman.com
Touring Dance, Music, & Comedy Shows – website FMI

InterActors – Professional/Non Equity/Touring
406 Main St. #201, Biddeford, ME 04005
John Bryson (207) 286-1427 www.interactorsinc.com

Johnson Hall Performing Arts Center
Professional & Community Shows for all ages & Tours
280 Water Street,P.O. Box 777, Gardiner, ME 04345
(207) 582-7144 Judy Lloyd, Exec.Dir
Denise Reehl, Artistic Dir. www.johnsonhall.org

Kingdom Falls Arts Center – Community Theater
52 Kingdom Rd., Montville, ME 04941

King's Bridge Theatre – Prof. Non-Equity
Admin. Office 9 Foss Rd., Lewiston, ME 04240
Perfs at Vineyard Aud., 12 Foss Rd. (207) 784-9500
www.kingsbridge theatre.org

Lake Region Community Theater
Bridgton, ME Anne Miller (207) 627-4989
www.lrcrctme.org (207) 655-7317

Lakewood Theater/Curtain Up Enterprises (Summer)
Community Theater RFD #1, Box 1780, Skowhegan 04976
(207) 474-7176 www.lakewoodtheater.org

Lanyard Theatre Company Prof /Equity SAA
Bath, ME (207) 773-2727 Kevin O'Leary, Art. Dir.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER (@Choc.Ch)– Dec. 27 – 30
THE BLACK MADONNA – Aug. 08
WHERE I DWELL – Dec. 08

Leddy Center for the Performing Arts
131-133 Main St., P.O.Box 929, Epping, NH 03042
(603) 679-2781 www.leddycenter.org

A STORY OF CHRISTMAS - Dec. 7 – 16
LITTLE WOMEN – Feb. 8 – 18
SENSE & SENSIBILITY – Apr. 18 – 27

Lincoln Co. Civic Lt. Opera & Drama Assoc.
RFD #1, Box 680, N. Whitefield, ME 04353

Lincoln County Community Theater
P.O. Box 237, Damariscotta, ME 04543 www.lcct.org
Barbara Bowers, Exec.Dir. Box office: (207) 563-3424

A HAND FOR MURDER – Jan. 11 – 13
THE SISTERS ROSENSWEIG – Feb. 22 – Mar. 2
RED HOT & COLE – Apr. 25 – May 4
THE ODD COUPLE (female version)-June 13 – 22
GUYS AND DOLLS – Aug. 1 – 9

Little Theater at Nasson (under renovation)
Nasson Community Center & PAC, Springvale, ME
Peter Smith, Pres.

Lyric Music Theater - Community Theater
176 Sawyer St., So. Portland, ME 04106
(207)799-1421, 799-6509 Linwood Dyer, Art. Dir.
Bruce Merrill, Pres. www.lyricmusictheater.org

URINETOWN – Feb. 22 – Mar. 9
AIDA – Apr. 25 – May 11

M&D PRODUCTIONS – Community
P.O. Box 1147, Conway, NH 03818
Mark DeLancey & Ken Martin (603) 662-7591
www.yourtheatre.com mdproductions@netzero.net

Mad Horse Theatre Company Prof. Non-Equity
Box 9715-343, Portland, ME 04104 (207) 730-2389
Andrew Sokoloff, Art. Dir. www.madhorse.com

THE PILLOWMAN – Jan. 31 – Feb. 17
HEDDA GABLER – Apr. 3 - 20

Maine Center for the Arts UMO, Orono,ME 04469
(207)581-1110; Box Off: 581-1755 or 800-MCA-TIXX
www.umaine.edu/thearts/events.htm or
www.mainecenterforthearts.org and
Maine Masque Theater (M=Minsky; H=Hauck)
UMO, Orono, ME 04473 (207)581-1963
800-622-8499 (Box Office) www.umaine.edu/spa

Comedy Night (M) – Dec. 12
Opera Workshop (M) – Dec. 15
THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (H) – Feb.15 – 24

Maine Grand Opera Company
P. O. Box 656, Camden, ME 04843
Karen Eisenhauer, Artistic Dir. (207) 763-3071

Maine State Ballet
348 US Route 1, Falmouth, Maine 04105
(207) 781-7MSB www.maineateballet.org
Linda MacArthur Miele – Artistic Director

THE MAGIC TOY SHOP-Dec.8,9,15,16 @ Showcase

Maine State Music Theater (Summer) Prof.Equity
P.O. Box 656, Brunswick, ME 04011 www.msmt.org
(207)725-8769 Charles Abbott, Artistic Director

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, THE PRODUCERS, ALL
SHOOK UP, LES MISERABLES

Main Street Entertainment & Mystery for Hire
Prof/Non Equity, Dan & Denise Marois, Poland, ME
(207) 998-2472 www.mysteryforhire.com

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, Improv Comedy, & Stage
Productions.

Majestic Theatre – Community Theater
281 Cartier St., Manchester, NH www.majestictheatre.net
Admin (603) 644-8155 – Box Office (603) 669-7469

Manchester Community Theatre Players
Manchester, NH (603) 627-7679

Mapleheat Productions

80 Massachusetts Ave., So. Portland, ME 04106
Rhonda Carlson and Kevan Patriquin (207)761-0122

Marsh River Theater (Community – summer to fall)
Rte. 139, Brooks, ME (207) 722-4110
www.marshrivertheater.com

MeACT (Maine Assoc. of Community Theaters)
P.O. Box 489, Monmouth, ME 04259
www.meact.org Foner Curtis, Pres.(207) 594-4982
email: foner.curtis@lonza.com

One Act Play Festival – Apr. 25 - 27

Midcoast Family Theatre Company – Community
Outreach program of Pen Bay YMCA, 116 Union St.,
Rockport, ME (207) 542-6791 Sally B. Landsburg &
Kate Fletcher www.MidcoastFamilyTheatre.org

The Traveling Theatre – Touring
Senior Readers' Theatre; Teen Readers' Theatre

Midcoast Youth Theater – Community
P.O.Box 43, Brunswick, ME 04011
(207) 751-2619 Henry Eichman, Pres.
www.youth-theater.org email: henry@youth-theater.org

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (Family) – Dec. 7-9, 14-16

Milford Area Players – Community Theater
Box 193,Milford, NH 03055 (603) 673-2258
www.milfordareaplayers.org

GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER – Spring 08

Mill Pond Ctr for the Arts - Prof. Non-Equity
50 Newmarket Rd., Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-8999 (Box Office) www.millpondcenter.org

Monmouth Community Players - Community Theater
P.O Box 359, Monmouth, ME 04259
www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org

ON GOLDEN POND – Jan. 18 - 27
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS – Mar. 7 - 16
NUNSENSE – Oct. 2008

Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Co. (Summer)
Prof. Non-Equity **Eastern Slope Inn Playhouse**
Box 265, No. Conway, NH 03860 (603)356-5776
Linda Pinkham – Art. Dir. www.musical-theatre.org

Music & Drama Company – Community
P. O. Box 704, Londonderry, NH 03053
(603) 434-2180 www.madco.org

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS – Apr. 25 – May 3

Music at Immanuel – Community
Greenough Chapel Theater, Immanuel Baptist Church
56 High St., Portland, ME (207) 879-0071 X3
Aaron Robinson, Art.Dir. Music4ibc@aol.com

The Music Hall – Prof. www.themusichall.org
28 Chestnut Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801
Box Office (603) 436-2400, Admin. (603) 433-3100
Patricia Lynch, Exec. Dir.

An 1836 Portsmouth Nutcracker – Dec. 13 @ 7 pm
Live Broadcast of Metropolitan Opera matinees:
HANSEL AND GRETEL – Jan. 1 @ 1 pm
ROMEO ET JULIETTE – Jan. 5 @ 1:30 pm
MACBETH – Jan. 12 @ 1:30 pm
MANON LESCAUT – Feb. 16 @ 1 pm
PETER GRIMES – Mar. 15 @ 1:30 pm
TRISTAN UND ISOLDE – Mar. 22 @ 12:30 pm
LA BOHEME – Apr. 5 @ 1:30 pm
LA FILLE DU REGIMENT – Apr. 26 @ 1:30 pm

Nashua Theatre Guild
14 Court St., P.O. Box 137, Nashua NH 03061
(603) 320-2530 www.nashuatheatreguild.org

DINNER WITH FRIENDS – Jan. 17 - 20
ENCHANTED APRIL – Spring 2008

National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped
Belfast, ME John Spalla, Dean www.ntwh.org

NETC (New England Theatre Conference)
215 Knob Hill Dr., Hamden, CT 06518
(617) 851-8535 www.netconline.org

New Dance Studio, Lisa Hicks, Director
Memorial Hall, Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St.,
Portland, ME 04102 (207) 712-1714.

New Hampshire Shakespeare Festival Prof.Non-Equity
P. O. Box 91 Deerfield, NH (603) 666-9088

New Hampshire Theatre Project- Educational/Touring
P.O.Box 6507,Portsmouth,NH 03802 (603)431-6644
Genevieve Aichele, Art. Dir www.nhtheatreproject.org

New London Barn Playhouse (Summer) Prof. Non-Equity
84 Main St., P.O Box 285,
New London, NH 03257 (603)526-6710, 526-4631
Nancy Barry – Art. Manag. Dir. www.nlbn.com

New Surry Repertory Theatre & Acting School
P.O.Box 1597, Blue Hill, ME 04614 (207) 374-5556
Bill Raitten, Director www.newsurrytheatre.org

Next Generation Theater, Art & Dance Studio
Center St., Brewer, ME 04412
(207) 979-7100 Tracey Marceron, Owner
Theater in Residence **Ten Bucks Theatre Co.**

North Country Center for the Arts (Prof.)
Papermill Theater, P.O.Box 1060, Lincoln, NH 03251
Box Office: (603)745-2141; Admin. (603)745-6032
Kim Barber, Artistic Dir. www.papermilltheater.org

North Country Community Theatre
Lebanon Opera House, Lebanon, NH
(603) 445-2444 www.ncct.org

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS...Feb.29-Mar.2
Singin' With NCCT – May 16 – 17
STATE FAIR - July

Northeast Shakespeare Ensemble (NESE)
P.O.Box 1559,New London,NH 03257 (603)526-8251 Box
Office (603) 735-6870 www.nesetheatre.org

North Haven Arts, P.O.Box 474, No.Haven,ME 04853
(207) 867-2029 Christie Hallowell – Exec. Dir.

Northport Music Theater (Prof.)
Rte 1, Northport, ME (207) 338-8383
Ruth & John Gelsinger (207) 236-8468 weekdays 9-5

Oddfellow Theater - Prof. Non-Equity/Community
P. O. Box 127, Route 117, Buckfield, ME 04220
(207) 336-3306 - Michael & Kim Miclon
www.oddfellow.com

BAH HOONCHBACH – Dec.8,14,15,21,22
Early Evening Show – Jan. 11 – 12
Leland Faulkner - Jan. 25 - 26

Ogunquit Playhouse (Summer)-Prof. Equity
P.O. Box 915, Ogunquit, ME 03907
(207)646-5511 Bradford Kenney, Exec. Artistic Dir.
www.ogunquitplayhouse.org.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL,
THE PRODUCERS, LES MISERABLES

Open Book Players – Readers Theater Ensemble
Gardiner, ME (207)582-5717 Lucy Rioux, Art.Dir.
www.openbookplayers.org

Open Waters Theatre ArtsProductions
Portland, ME Jennie Hahn jhahn@open-waters.org
www.open-waters.org

THE FEVER–Jan.10–20 @ Zero Station,Portland

Opera North
Lebanon Opera House, 20 West Park St.,
Lebanon, NH 03766 (603) 448-4141
Box Office: (603) 448-0400 www.operanorth.org

The Originals - Prof. Equity Special Appearance
P.O. Box 661, Bar Mills, ME 04004
(207) 929-5412 Dana Packard and Jennifer Porter

Overboard Players – Community Theater
c/o The Opera House, P. O. Box 800,
Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538 (207) 633-3431

Oxford Hills Music and Perf. Arts Assoc. – Community
P.O.Box 131,Norway, ME 04268 www.ohmpaa.org

Palace Theater - Prof./Equity Guest Artists
80 Hanover St. - P.O. Box 3006, Manchester, NH 03105
(603) 668-5588 www.palacetheatre.org

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – Dec. 7 – 23
ALL SHOOK UP – Feb. 6 – 16
CRAZY FOR YOU – Mar. 7 – 15
A CHORUS LINE – Apr. 11 – 19
LA CAGE AUX FOLLES – May 9 - 17

PCA Great Performances - Prof. Touring
20 Myrtle Street, Portland, ME 04101
(207) 842-0800 www.pcagreatperformances.org

Limon Dance Company – Feb. 27, 2008
LA TRAVIATA (Teatro Lirica d'Europa) – Mar. 5
BLAST! (Nat'l Tour) – Mar. 12 & 13
MOVIN' OUT (Twyla Tharp – Nat'l Tour) Mar. 25 – 27
MOBY DICK REHEARSED (The Acting Co) – Apr. 16
EVITA (Nat'l Tour) – May 2 & 3

Peacock Players, 14 Court St.,Nashua, NH 03060
Box Office: (603) 886-7000 Gen. Tel: (603) 889-2330
www.peacockplayers.org

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ – Nov. 30 – Dec. 9

Penobscot Theatre - Prof./Equity Guest Artists
131 Main St. (Bangor Opera House), Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 942-3333, 877-PTC-TIXX Admin. (207) 947-6618
Scott R.C.Levy,Prod.Art.Dir. www.penobscottheatre.org

Original 1904 PETER PAN in rep with THE
SANTALAND DIARIES – Dec. 12 – 23
LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS – Feb. 6 – 17
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS – Mar. 19 – 30
NIGHT OF THE IGUANA – May 7 – 18
Northern Writes: Annual New Play Fest-May 27-June 8

Players Ring, 105 Marcy St.,Portsmouth,NH 03801
(603) 436-8123 www.playersring.org

CHRISTMAS CAROL (**Players Ring**)-Nov.30-Dec.23
ATOMS, MOTION & THE VOID (**John Herman & Sean Hurley**) – Dec. 28 – Jan. 6
STONES IN HIS POCKETS (**Lighthouse Th.**)-Jan. 11-27
IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (**Theater on the Rocks**) – Feb. 1 - 17
CHASE A KILLER, CATCH A KILLER, RUN, RUN,
RUN (**Savage Productions**) – Feb. 22 – Mar. 9
THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA (**Generic**)-Mar.14-30
LAST NIGHT (**Blue Jay & Rooster Prods**) – Apr. 4-20
EQUUS (**Rolling Die Prods**) – Apr. 23 – May 11
ROADSIDE AMERICA (**Players Ring**)-May 16-June 1
A WINTER'S TALE (**Players Ring**) – June 6 - 22

Poland Players – Community Theater
Poland, ME D'Arcy Robinson (207) 998-5400

Pontine Movement Theatre, 135 McDonough St.
P.O. Box 1437, Portsmouth, NH 03802
(603) 436-6660 Marguerite Matthews, Greg Gathers

Portland Ballet www.portlandballet.org
517 Forest Avenue, Portland, ME 04101
(207) 772-9671 Eugenia O'Brien, Artistic Director

THE VICTORIAN NUTCRACKER – Dec. 8-9
@ Merrill Aud., Portland
Bach Birthday Bash w/FOKO – Mar. 11 @ Merrill Aud
ONCE UPON A BALLET – April @ John Ford Theater
Portland Dances! – Aug. 16-17, 2008 @ John Ford

Portland Opera Repertory Theatre – Prof.
P. O. Box 7733, Portland, ME 04112-7733
(207) 842-0800 www.portopera.org

Portland Playback Theatre
Portland, ME (207) 799-3489 dlafr1@maine.rr.com
David La Graffe, Artistic Director

Benefit for Artists Exchange for a Just Peace
@ Ctr for Grieving Children – Dec. 9
First Friday Performance Series - Jan.4, Feb 1
@ First Parish Church, Congress St., Portland

Portland Players – Community Theater
420 Cottage Rd., So. Portland, ME 04106
Nancy Lupien, President (207) 799-7337, 799-7338
Fax: (207) 767-6208 www.portlandplayers.org

A Christmas Celebration – Dec. 8 @ 2 & 7 pm
THE FANTASTICKS – Jan. 18 – Feb. 3
ONE FLEW OVER ..CUCKOO'S NEST–Mar.21– Apr. 6
CRAZY FOR YOU – May 16 – June 1

Portland Stage Company -Prof./Equity
25A Forest Ave., P.O. Box 1458, Portland, ME 04104
(207)774-1043 Box Office: (207) 774-0465
www.portlandstage.com .Anita Stewart, Artistic Dir.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – Nov. 30 – Dec. 24
FULLY COMMITTED – Jan. 22 - Feb. 17, 2008
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING – Feb. 26 – Mar. 23
BARRING THE UNFORESEEN (Studio)-Mar.6-16
MAGNETIC NORTH – Apr. 1 – 20
DOUBT – Apr. 29 – May 25
Little Festival of the Unexpected(Studio) – May 13 - 17

Portland Symphony Orchestra
P.O. Box 3573, Portland, ME 04104
Ari Solotoff, Ex.Dir.,Robert Wood,Music Dir.Designate
MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS – Dec. 14 - 23

Prescott Park Arts Festival (Summer)
P.O. Box 4370, Portsmouth, NH (603) 436-2848
www.prescottpark.org

Presque Isle Community Players, P.O. Box 373,
Presque Isle, ME 04769 (207) 762-1351

The Public Theatre - Prof. Equity,
Maple & Lisbon Sts., Lewiston, ME (207) 782-3200,
Office: 782-2211 Mailing Add.:2 Great Falls Plaza, Box 7,
Auburn, ME 04210 Christopher Schario, Artistic Dir.
www.thepublictheatre.org

CHRISTMAS CAROL/HOMESPUN HOLIDAY-Dec.7-9
DOUBT, A Parable – Jan. 25 – Feb. 3
WELL – Mar. 7 – 16
OVER THE RIVER & THRU THE WOODS-May 2-11

Rangeley Friends of the Arts – Community &
Tours P.O.Box 333, Rangeley, ME 04970
Allen Wicken, Art.Coordinator allenwicken@yahoo.com
www.rangeleymaine.com/rangeleyarts

Reindeer Theatre Company – Community
Westbrook, ME (207) 857-9002 Louis Philippe

The Riverbend Players – Community
P.O. Box 340, Bucksport, ME 04416
(207) 469-5885 Suzi Leeman, President

River Company – Prof./Non-Equity
Skidompha Library/Porter Meeting Hall
P.O.Box 101, Damariscotta, ME 04543
Pres. Ann Foskett – foskett@lincoln.midcoast.com
Art. Dir. Tom Handel – handel@lincoln.midcoast.com
Reservations: (207) 563-8116

Robinson Ballet Company
Brewer, ME 04412 (207) 989-7226
Art. Dirs: Keith Robinson and Maureen Lynch
Julie Arnold Lisnet, Manag.Dir. www.robinsonballet.org

THE NUTCRACKER @ The Grand – Dec. 15, 16

The Rochester Opera House (Dinner Theater)
31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH (603) 335-1992
www.rochesteroperahouse.com

PARDON MY FRENCH (Susan Poulin) – May 3
MACBETH – May 9 - 10

Rumford Assoc. for Advancement of Performing Arts
Rumford, ME - Community Theater
Judy Kuhn (207) 364-7242

Running Over Productions – Community
Portland, ME (207) 653-8898 or 409-3949

Sandy River Players - Community Theater
P.O. Box 709, Farmington, ME 04938
Jayne Decker, Art. Dir. sandyriverplayers@hotmail.com

SANTALAND DIARIES – Dec.7-16 various locations

Sanford Maine Stage – Community
One Hilltop Lane, P.O. Box 486, Springvale,
ME 04083 (207)324-9691 www.sanfordmainestage.org

SCROOGE - Nov. 24 – Dec. 9
Touring MURDER MYSTERY THEATER
Reading Shakespeare w/Alix Golden (490-0342)

Schoodic Arts Meetinghouse Theatre Lab-Community
Hammond Hall, Winter Harbor, ME (207) 963-2569

Schoolhouse Arts Center - Community & Children's Theater Rte. 114, 1/2 blk No. of Rte. 35
P.O. Box 424, Sebago Lake, ME 04075-0424
(207) 642-3743 Paul Stickney, Pres.
www.schoolhousearts.org

LITTLE WOMEN (Musical) – Nov. 30 – Dec. 16
NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP – Apr. 10 – 13
INTO THE WOODS – Jul. 10 - 27

Seacoast Repertory Theatre - Prof. Non-Equity
125 Bow St. Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603)433-4472 Box Office: 1-800-639-7650
www.seacoastrep.org

A CHRISTMAS STORY – Nov.23 – Dec. 30
8 TRACK, Music of the 70's – Jan. 10 – Feb. 10

Seaglass Performing Arts - Community Theater
P.O. Box 265, Kennebunk, ME 04043
(207)985-8747 Jean Strazdes, Art. Dir.
www.seaglassperformingarts.org

CARMINA BURANA – Mar. 29
THE SOUND OF MUSIC - Summer

Shoestring Theater - Community Theater - People's Bldg.,
155 Brackett St., Portland,
ME 04102 (207)774-1502 Nance Parker

Singers Workshop, Denmark, ME
Denmark Arts Center (207) 452-2057
Ralph Morse & Lillian Lee Morse

E. J. Smackels (Improv Group)
Sanford, ME Leo Lunser (207) 490-1210
peacefreak@metrocast.net

Southern Aroostook Cultural Arts Project
(SACAP)Visions at 66 Main Street
P.O. Box 382, Houlton, ME 04730 (207)521-3130
Susan J. York (207) 532-2727

Stage at Spring Point (Summer)
P.O. Box 5183, Portland, ME 04101 (Perfs. in
So. Portland) (207) 828-0128 www.thestagemaine.org
Janet Ross, Artistic Director

Stage Front - Community Theater
Powers Hall, 9 O'Brien Ave, University of Maine
Machias, ME 04654 (207) 255-3313

Stage One Productions - Prof. Non-Equity/Dinner
124 Bridge St., Manchester, NH 03101 George F. Piehl
(603)699-5511 www.stageoneproductions.net

TRIANGLES FOR TWO – Jan. 18 – 20
A LITTLE QUICKIE – Feb. 15 – 17
ON GOLDEN POND – Mar. 28 - 30

Stage Source of Boston
Boston Theater Network Equity & Non-Equity
88 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02108 (617)720-6066

St. Lawrence Arts Center
76 Congress Street, Portland (207) 775-5568
www.stlawrencearts.org Deidre Nice, Exec. Dir.

Broadway at Good Theater – Dec. 6 - 9
ECLIPSED (AIRE) – Jan. 10 - 27
Judy Garland Songbook (GT)- Jan. 31 – Feb. 10
PRELUDE TO A KISS (GT) – Feb. 14 – Mar. 9
Maine Short Play Festival (Acorn) – Mar. 17 - 30
RABBIT HOLE (GT) – Apr. 10 – May 4

Stonington Opera House - Community/Prof. Tours
One Opera House Lane, P. O. Box 56, Stonington, ME
04681 (207) 367-2788 www.operahousearts.org

Linda Nelson – Exec. Dir., Linda Pattie, Mkt.Dir.
Judith Jerome & Carol Estey – Co-Artistic Dir.

SANTALAND DIARIES (Penobscot Th.Co.)-Dec.9

Studio Theatre of Bath – Community Theater @
Historic Winter Street Church, 880 Washington St.
P. O. Box 710 Bath, ME 04530 (207) 443-2418
Thom Watson – Pres. www.studiotheatreofbath.com

LES MISERABLES (Student Ed.)-May 8-18 at
Chocolate Church

Ten Bucks Theatre Company
Mailing address: 300 French St, Bangor, ME 04401 (207)
884-1030 www.tenbuckstheatre.com

FAWLTY TOWERS MEETS MONTY PYTHON –
Jan.24-Feb. 10 @ Next Generation Theater,Brewer

The Grand Auditorium - Community
165-167 Main St., - P.O. Box 941 Ellsworth, ME 04605
Jack Lafond, Executive Director
(207) 667-9500, (207) 667-5911 www.grandonline.org

THE NUTCRACKER (Robinson Ballet) – Dec. 15, 16
A CHRISTMAS CAROL – Dec. 20 - 23

The Theater at Monmouth Prof. Equity/Shakespeare &
Other Classics, Cumston Hall, P.O. Box 385,
Monmouth, ME 04259 (207) 933-9999, 933-2952
David Greenham,Prod.Dir. www.theateratmonmouth.org

MACBETH – NEA sponsored tour Jan. 18 – Feb. 4
THE BOY w/WAXEN WINGS/Greek Myths-Tour- May
Summer: ARSENIC & OLD LACE, MYSTERY OF IRMA
VEP, WINTER'S TALE, MERCHANT OF VENICE, Jazz
THREE LITTLE PIGS; Fall: MIKADO

The Theater Project - Prof. Non-Equity/Equity Guest
Young Peoples Theater & Community Theater
14 School St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 729-8584 - Al
Miller, Art. Dir. www.theaterproject.com

WALES & HOLIDAY TALES - Dec. 14 - 22
Winter Cabaret (Prof.Ensemble)– Jan.25-Feb.10
HAROUN & SEA OF STORIES (Young Co)-Mar.7-16
SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS(Young)-Apr.4-6
STEEL MAGNOLIAS (Prof) – May 2 – 18
VOICES IN THE MIRROR (Young Co)-May 30-Jun.1

University of Maine at Farmington
Alumni Theater, Academy St., Farmington, ME
(207)778-7465

University of Maine at Machias
9 O'Brien Ave., Machias, ME (207)255-1200
Prof. Lee M. Rose (207) 255-1391

University of New Hampshire
Durham, NH (603) 862-2290, (603) 862-0093
www.unh.edu/theatre-dance
Hennessey Theatre (HT) Johnson Theatre (J)

SHAKESPEARE IN HOLLYWOOD (J) - Feb. 20-24
Dance Company Concert (J) – Apr. 2 – 6
UBU ROI (HT) – Apr. 16 – 20

USM Theater Dept.Russell Hall, College Ave. Gorham,
ME 04038 (207)780-5480 Box Office:(207) 780-5151
www.usm.maine.edu/thea

AM AHL & NIGHT VISITORS (Sch. of Music)-Dec. 8
DANCE USM – Dec. 13 – 16
TO GILLIAN ON HER 37th BIRTHDAY – Feb. 14 – 17
CITY OF ANGELS (with Sch. of Music)-Mar.14-23
THE HOMECOMING – Apr. 18 – 27

Waldo Theatre - Community

P. O. Box 587, 916 Main St., Waldoboro (207) 832-6060
Diane Walsh, Artistic Dir. www.waldotheatre.org

Waterville Opera House
93 Main Street, 3rd Floor. Diane Bryan, Exec. Dir.
Waterville, ME 04901 (207)873-5381
Box Office: (207) 873-7000 www.operahouse.com
Main Stage – MS - Studio Theater – S

THE NUTCRACKER (Bossov Ballet-MS)–Dec.14 – 16
LOST IN YONKERS (MS) - Jan. 25 – Feb. 3
THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND (MS) – Feb. 8 – 16
LUNCH HOUR (ACAT – S) – Mar.
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (MS) – Apr. 4 – 13
OVER THE TAVERN (MS) – May 2 – 11
TWELVE ANGRY MEN (ACAT – S) - June

Wayside Theatre – Community
Wayside Grange, No. Dexter Rd., Dexter,ME
(207) 924-8813 Jane Woodman – Art. Dir.

Jacob Marley's CHRISTMAS CAROL. – Dec. 7 – 16
Wayside Family Christmas – Dec. 22
THE RAINMAKER – June 2008

Weatherlane Theatre (Summer)
Prof. Equity & Non-Equity Res. Rep., Rte 3
39 Jefferson Rd., P.O.Box 127,Whitefield, NH 03598
(603) 838-6072 Jacque Stewart, Artistic Director
www.weatherlanetheatre.org

Wide Open Mind Productions
Portland, ME Jason Wilkins

Windham Center Stage - Community Theater
P.O. Box 529, Windham, ME 04062 (207) 893-2098
www.windhamtheater.org

ALADDIN JR. – Feb. 2008
CLOSER THAN EVER – July 2008

Winnepesaukee Playhouse & Performing Arts
Education Center– Prof. & Comm. P. O. Box 5201,
Laconia, NH 03247 Bryan Halperin–Exec.Dir; Neil
Pankhurst–Art.Dir. (603)366-7377
www.winnipplayhouse.com

Winnie Players: TWELVE ANGRY MEN – Feb. 8 – 24
THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE-May 16-25

Winter Harbor Theatre Co.,P. O. Box 8176
Portland, ME 04104 (207) 775-3174
Caitlin Shetterly, Artistic Dir.

Winterport Open Stage - Community Theater
P.O. Box 5, Winterport, ME 04496-0045
(207)223-2501 Reed Farrar, Art. Dir.
www.winterportopenstage.com

Yellow Taxi Productions - Prof. /Equity
Playhouse 101, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH
Suzanne Delle, Artistic Dir. (603) 661-3879
Jamie Pusateir, Managing Dir. (603) 315-5064
www.yellowtaxiproductions.org

FULLY COMMITTED – Dec. 7 - 8

*All information is up to date as of press time. Cast &
Crew suggests you call to confirm.*

NOTE: You can subscribe FREE to ShowBiz How To,
the monthly (mostly) on-line magazine from veteran
actor/director/producer Bob Fraser at
www.showbizhowto.com.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

ACORN ACTING ACADEMY, school of Acorn Productions. Classes for adults and children (5 thru teens) at Acorn Studios, Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME. Creative Storytelling, Intro to Acting, Teen Improv, Acting for Ordinary People, Adult Improv and advanced Scene Study. Faculty: Keith Ancil, Rachel Flehinger, Michael Howard, Michael Levine. Free introductory workshop Dec. 17 or 19. (207) 854-0065 www.acorn-productions.org.

AYNNE AMES, BELFAST MASKERS Artistic Director & State Chair of The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, offers private classes for teens and adults in theater history, script study & audition techniques. Specializing in audition preparation for professional & college theater work. Classes in Belfast, ME. FMI write: maskers@adelphia.net.

BELL CENTER, 47 Fourth St., Dover, NH. www.bellcenter.org

CASCO BAY MOVERS DANCE STUDIO, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101. (207) 871-1013. Classes for children, teens, adults.

CENTRE OF MOVEMENT School of Performing Arts, 19 State St., Gorham, ME 04038. (207) 839-3267. Dance lessons for children & adults and musical plays. FMI call Vicki Lloyd at above number..

CHERYL GREELEY THEATRA-DANCE STUDIO, 875 Broadway, So. Portland, ME. (207) 767-1353. Tap, ballet, jazz, ballroom, drama, singing.

CITY DANCE, 408 Broadway, So. Portland & 196 U.S. Rte One, Falmouth, ME. Tap, ballet, jazz, street funk, pre-school. FMI call (207) 767-0870..

DANCE FOR CHILDREN with Betsy Melarkey Dunphy. Ages 4 – 16. Classes in Creative Movement, Modern, Tap, and Theater at Elm St. Church, So. Portland, ME. For brochure & information, call (207) 799-3273.

DROUIN DANCE CENTER at Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge Street, Suite 325, Westbrook, ME. All types of dance. Ages 3 – Adult, Beginners – Advanced. Visit www.drouindancecenter.com or call (207) 854-2221 FMI.

GOOD THEATER ACTING STUDIO – Beginners Class, Musical Theater Class, and Adult Singing Class at Elm Street United Methodist Church, 168 Elm St., South Portland, ME. Ellen Domingos, Equity actor/singer is the instructor. Call (207) 885-5883 or visit www.goodtheater.com.

GOTTA DANCE, Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge St., Studio 425, Westbrook, ME 04092. Call (207) 321-1240. www.gottadance2.com. Beginner to advanced classes in ballroom dance – no partner necessary.

HOPE HOFFMAN'S TOWN HALL THEATER, Bowdoinham, ME. Dance, music, & comedy for all ages. www.hopehoffman.com/classes.htm.

KING'S BRIDGE THEATRE, Vineyard Campus, 9 Foss Rd., Lewiston, ME. Classes for adults & children. Call (207) 784-9500 or visit www.kingsbridgetheatre.org.

LAUGH-U School for Improv Acting, **City Theater**, Main St., Biddeford, ME. Tier I, Tier 2, and Tier 3. Students completing Tier 3 considered for placement in The CIA (Comedy Improve Alliance). FMI call (207) 282-0849.

LEDDY CTR FOR PERFORMING ARTS, 131-133 Main St., Epping, NH. Classes in musical theater for ages 6 – 17. FMI call (603) 679-2781.

MAINE ACADEMY OF STAGED COMBAT, Dir. Mark Bedell, at Acorn Studios, 90 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME. Classes for ages 13 and up. (207) 353-5336 or email fightdirector@maineacademyofstagedcombat.org. www.MaineAcademyofStagedCombat.org

MAPLE WHEAT CTR FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS, So. Portland, ME. Classes in theater, music, dance for children 3-18. Rhonda Carlson & Kevan Patriquin, Artistic Directors; Andrea Pike, Dance. FMI call (207) 773-5945.

MAINE STATE SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 348 U.S. Rte. One, Falmouth, ME. (Home of Maine State Ballet) Training in dance, voice, drama, music. Call (207) 781-7672 for schedule & information.

NEW DANCE STUDIO, Memorial Hall, Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland, ME 04102. Modern Dance, Ballet, Improv, Creative Movement, ages 3 – adult. Call (207) 712-1714.

NEXT GENERATION THEATER, ART & DANCE STUDIO, Center St., Brewer, Me. Theater classes for ages 3 – 13; also dance classes for youth & adults and art & crafting workshops. (207) 979-7100.

OPERA STUDIO – Lab-style classes for singers, with physical & vocal warm-ups, to hone craft & prepare concert/audition material. Led & critiqued by international performer Julie Goell. FMI call (207) 766-2945 or email Julie@juliegoell.com.

PARADIGM Classes in Dance & Movement in Harrison and other locations. FMI call J. Applegarth at (207) 637-2097 or email julee@paradigm-arts.org.

THE PASSIONATE PLAYER Workshop for Actors: challenging actors to be real on stage. Instructor: Lisa Stathoplos. FMI call (207) 646-3389 or email: lstathoplos@yorkschoools.org.

PENOBSCOT THEATRE, 131 Main St, Bangor, ME. Intern programs, Shakspeare in the Schools, Storytelling for gr. 4-8. Youth Theatre Program for ages 8 – 14 with Joye Cook-Levy & A.J. Mooney; PTC Dramatic Academy: Acting Studio for adults 17 & up with Scott R.C. Levy; Musical Theater for ages 12 – 21 with Nathan Halvorson; Between the Lines for all ages. Email: education@penobscottheatre.org or call (207) 942-3333.

PONTINE MOVEMENT THEATRE, McDonough St. Studio, Portsmouth, NH. Classes with M. Marguerite Mathews and Gregory Gathers. Call (603) 436-6660 or email: pontineh@ultranet.com.

PORTLAND FENCING CENTER, 90 Bridge St., Suite 410, Westbrook, ME. Taught by Nancy Reynolds. FMI call (207) 856-1048.

PORTLAND SCHOOL OF BALLET, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101. (Portland Ballet home) Call for sched. information (207) 772-9671.

SCARBOROUGH DANCE CENTER, Rte. One, Scarborough, ME. Classes for children – adults (including boys only tap & hip hop) all ages; private lessons; master classes; family jazz class. FMI call (207) 883-4569.

SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER, Rte. 114 just no. of Rte. 35, Sebago Lake, ME. Classes for ages 2 and up in art, theater, music, & dance; also Adults, am or pm. FMI (207) 642-3743 or visit: www.schoolhousearts.org.

SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL THEATER classes with Michael Lane Trautman at Acorn Studios, Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge St. in Westbrook. Classes in Mime, Improv & Circus Skills age 8 – adult. (207) 761-4598 or mlt@solothheater.com. Also visit www.solothheater.com.

SEACOAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, NH. (603) 433-7272 X 131. Workshops for young performers from 5 and up in all aspects of musical production. Also Jazz/Tap/Tumbling/Ballet for all levels.

STAGES ACADEMY, 183 USRte 1, Suite C, Scarborough, ME 04074. Music, movement, and theater classes for pre-school thru high school. Stacey M. Koloski, Director. (207) 510-6050. www.stagesacademy.com

STAND-UP COMEDY WORKSHOP, Portland, ME, with award winning writer/director **Tim Ferrell**. FMI call Tim Ferrell at (207) 767-2004.

STARLIGHT ACTING INSTITUTE, Gorham, ME. "Energize! A Holistic Approach to Acting" classes with Emmanuelle Chaulet Also individual RYSE and Energize! by appointment. (207) 839-9819 www.starlightacting.org

THE THEATER PROJECT, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME. Classes for children of various ages; also adult classes sometimes. Some scholarships available. www.theaterproject.com or call (207) 729-8584.

WARREN KIDS, Warren Memorial Library, 479 Main St., Westbrook, ME 04092. Theater classes for ages 6–18 David LaGraffe, Instructor. Subsidized tuition. FMI: warrenkidsandteens@yahoo.com or call (207) 650-3789.

WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE & ARTSPACE, 93 Main St., 3rd floor, Waterville, ME. Classes in Movement, Yoga, Dance, and theater. Children's theater camps during summer & school breaks. FMI call (207) 873-5381.

WINTERHARBOR THEATRE CO., Portland, ME. Classes for children & adults, taught by Caitlin Shetterly at St. Lawrence Arts & Community Center, Portland. FMI call (207) 775-3174.

AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

We try to bring you all the audition information available. However, theaters may set their own audition dates after we go to print and/or announce and complete the audition process before we go to print with the next issue. Therefore, we suggest that along with your CAST & CREW newsletter, you consult your newspaper listing and/or the individual theater as well (see Theater Listings) & send your email address to castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com for notification between issues.

FREEPORT COMMUNITY PLAYERS, Freeport, ME. Auditions at Freeport Performing Arts Center on Holbrook St., for WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? Jan. 13 & 14, 6 – 8:30 pm; callbacks Jan. 17 @ 6 pm. 2 men, 2 women. Bill Steele directs. Perfs. Apr. 11-27. Please bring resume/headshot if available. Reading sides from the play. More auditions May 4 & 5 for summer show: A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM.

L/A COMMUNITY LITTLE THEATRE is seeking to expand its directorial pool. Interested directors please submit the following to Adam Klein, Production Manager, L/A CLT, P.O.Box 262, Auburn, ME 04210 or to aklein@laclt.com: (1) Theater Experience/Resume; (2) A brief paragraph explaining what makes you a good director & preferred production genre (i.e., comedy, drama, musicals, etc.); (3) Optional – Any available video footage of directing work. Any questions, call (207) 577-9614.

L/A COMMUNITY LITTLE THEATRE, Great Falls Performing Arts Ctr, 30 Academy St., Auburn, ME. Auditions for ONCE ON THIS ISLAND Jan. 13 & 14 at 7 pm – **seeking an all African-American cast** for this calypso-flavored retelling of the “Little Mermaid” tale, focusing on the effect that social class divisions have on love. Workshops provided to help prepare for the auditions on Dec. 16 & Jan. 6, 2 – 5 pm at the theater. Perfs. Mar. 7 – 16. Steve Dupont will direct & choreograph; music direction by Paul G. Caron. FMI call (207) 783-0958 or visit www.laact.com.

MONMOUTH COMMUNITY PLAYERS, Monmouth, ME. Auditions for LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS Dec. 8 at 10 am & Dec. 10 at 7 pm, both in the caucus room at Cumston Hall. 3 men, 4 women, Audrey II voice, & a puppeteer. Be prepared to sing a pop style Broadway song. Michael T. French, Dir. Perfs. Mar. 7-16. FMI call (207) 685-9569 or email french_mt@hotmail.com.

NETC (New England Theatre Conference) Auditions for 18 and up, including mature, adult talent with professional experience and/or experience in community or summer theaters, for both seasonal and job-in employment. Producers will also be interviewing for technical and staff positions. See www.netconline.org for applications, instructions, and more information. To receive application by US Mail, send a #10 business-size self-addressed stamped envelope to: NETC AUDITIONS, New England Theatre Conference, Inc., 215 Knob Hill Drive, Hamden, CT 06518. There are fees for applications. Fees are non-refundable and do not guarantee an appointment. 2008 auditions will be Mar. 15 - 17 at The Crowne Plaza Hotel Boston-Natick, 1360 Worcester Rd (Rte 9), Natick, Mass. **Applications for Auditions must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2008, to be eligible. Technical staff may continue to submit applications until the dates of the Auditions.**

PENOBSCOT THEATRE, 131 Main St., Bangor, ME, seeks volunteers and interns for the 2007-08 season. FMI call Joye Cook-Levy at (207) 947-6618 or email education@penobscottheatre.org.

PORTLAND PLAYERS, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland, ME. Auditions for ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST on Sunday & Monday, Jan. 20 & 21 at 6 pm at the theater; callbacks on Wednesday. Barbara Buck directs. Performances Mar. 21 – Apr. 6.

SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER, Rte 114 just north of intersection with Rte 35, Sebago Lake Village, ME. Auditions for youth ages 14 – 21 for NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP, written especially for this age group by Jerry Walker, Dec. 29 & 30, 2 – 4:30 pm. Flexible rehearsal schedule, after school & evenings only. Readings from the script; perusal scripts at www.schoolhousearts.org. Performances Apr. 10 – 13, 2008.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLAYWRIGHTS

Acorn Productions seeks original scripts for the 7th Annual Maine Short Play Festival. Selected scripts will receive workshop productions in 3 evenings of rotating repertory at the St. Lawrence Arts Center in Portland from March 17 – 30, 2008. Entries must be postmarked by January 1, 2008. Playwrights must have primary residence in Maine. For complete guidelines and application form visit www.acorn-productions.org.

Stonington Opera House Arts is seeking original, one-act plays for staged readings. All New England playwrights are encouraged to submit a one-act play or plays, with a cover letter and brief synopsis, to: One Acts, Opera House Arts at the Stonington Opera House, P.O. Box 56, Stonington, ME 04681. Deadline for submissions to be considered for the coming production season is January 1, 2008. Readings of selected plays will take place in Spring 2008 as part of OHA's acclaimed *Our Own* Community Playreading Series. FMI visit www.operahousearts.org.

Playwrights, also **note** that there is a new **Maine Playwrights' online free Catalog** on the MeACT website at <http://www.meact.org> (The link is in the lower left of the main page.)

MeACT Invites You

All Maine-based Community Theaters **are invited to post their seasons on our website using the submission form (an automated entry) found on the Theater Calendar page:**

<http://www.meact.org/calendar.htm>. It is no longer necessary to be a member of MeACT to do so, although that would be a highly desirable thing, indeed, as we are trying to build membership. This calendar entry works in a similar manner to that used by MPBN for their calendar page. Our webmaster will be responsible for deleting out-of-date information.

This invitation is open to: Community Theaters and Not-for-Profit Venues – 501©3, which serves a number of non-profit groups.

We hope this will

- (1) Acquaint more Maine Community Theater companies with the MeACT website
- (2) Encourage more Maine Community Theater companies to join MeACT and participate in our events
- (3) Provide our fellow companies with another publicity outlet, gratis, for their events such as performances, auditions, fundraisers, and educational events.

Questions and comments may be forwarded to Foner Curtis, MeACT President, at foner.curtis@lonza.com.

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