

# StD Guilder

ST. DUNSTAN'S GUILD OF CRANBROOK



## FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

Sept. 7 Clue Cruise Rally

Sept. 7 Open House

Sept. 9 MAC meeting 7:30  
Green Rm.

## DIAL M IS CAST

That fabulous whodunit, *Dial M for Murder*, was cast just before summer break. The lovely Joy Oetjens is Margo Wendice, recently seen as Adelaide, the well-known fiancée, *in Guys and Dolls*; Nasir Khawaja is her tennis pro husband, Tony Wendice; Paul Gillin is the American crime novelist, Max Halliday; Sean Kecskes is Captain Lesgate, the hired assassin and newcomer and WWJ afternoon radio personality, Greg Bowman, will play the role of the wily Inspector Hubbard. Director Sandra Prokopp will be assisted by Laura Bradshaw (imported from Village Players). Dianne Blasciuc is the Producer and Set Designer/Builder is Tom Edson. Sean Kecskes will be doing double-duty, both acting in the show and designing Lights. Sound Designer is Chris Steinmayer, with Kathy Shapero and Linda Watson collaborating on Costumes. Roz Basherian, with her keen eye for style, will be decorating the set. She has already found some fine furniture to bring 1930s London to life on our stage. Bob Yazejian will provide Props, Pam Richards is Stage Manager; Ruth Bennett will run Tickets and Concessions and Molly Dorset is in charge of Publicity for the show. Pictures and more intrigue to come in the next Guilder...Now, where are those bloody scissors?



## SUNDAY SEPT. 7 Clue Cruise Road Rally!

Now that we will have new chairs and risers for the opening show, we want to offer our patrons the chance to have fun AND help us pay for them! We are magnanimous! So, here is the story! Last year, so many people enjoyed the treasure hunt/clue-solving game we sponsored in downtown Birmingham, the Board decided to do it again. And, thank goodness, Jake Zinke wrote a new one—The Clue Cruise Road Rally! This game turns a group of family and friends into a mystery-solving detective team! For the mere ticket price of \$80/carload, meet at St. D's between 11:30 a.m. and noon on Sunday, Sept. 7. Each team will receive an explanation of the mystery and receive a packet of clues. Race begins at noon. The clues will lead the teams to various nearby locations. Reassemble at 3 p.m. for a reception and Open House. The first and second teams to solve the mystery will receive cash prizes.

## OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, SEPT. 7 3 pm – 6 pm

Reconnect, schmooze and get involved in the new season!

## SEPTEMBER 2014

### RALLY ROUND THE SEATS!

Dick Hartle started it with his generosity, and St. Dunstan's took it all the way. We will have new chairs for the first show of the season! Our polling during the June show showed that most voters wanted extra wiggle room, so we ordered a fantastic pattern for the new chairs, in the widest chair offered. Our seating chart will change slightly as a result of the new purchase, but there are so many advantages to the new seating! We will be able to offer reserved seating! Every other chair will have arms, so we can indicate a seat number. Once we establish the seating chart with reserved seating, it might be possible for our patrons to pick their seats online from a chart, and we will KNOW which seats are taken and which seats we can sell just prior to the house opening. It will make seating better for the patrons, easier for Tickets and Concessions and it will REALLY be a huge help getting every seat filled with someone who WANTS to sit where they are sitting!

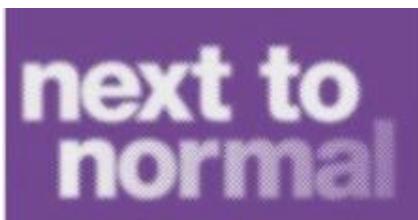
### NEW RISERS TOO!

Just under the Light Booth, the Guild has had a set of risers for some time. Our patrons enjoy being up off the floor a bit, to get a better view of the show---well, now the new risers will look good from every angle, and be MUCH lighter and more portable for dismantling, should the need arise. We might even be able to use them in June shows in the Greek. Hooray for versatility and for the foresight of the Board for investing the time

and energy to research exactly what is needed to get our physical setting up to the standards of the shows we produce at St. Dunstan's. Bravo and thank you!

#### **PARTY LIKE THE PRESIDENT**

Part of the real fun of being in a "family" is establishing the family traditions that are carried on. The President's Party has had a new look for a few years (and is much more fun around the pool), thanks to the hospitality of members Tom and Mo Edson. Senior members drop by to see who is new, and cast members from the newly closed season can't wait to see each other again and reconnect. Tom cooked up a storm—literally, for as the party was winding down, the wind wound up and the rains started. We got in all the partying we could, however, and we offer our sincere thanks to our marvelous hosts!



*Next to Normal* is a Pulitzer prize-winning musical that explores how one suburban family copes with crisis and mental illness. This contemporary rock musical is an emotional roller-coaster that takes the audience from the brightest hope to the deepest despair and back again. Auditions will be Oct. 12 and 13, and performances are set for Jan. 16-31, 2015. Rehearsals will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7 and Sundays at 4. Bring a complete list of conflicts to auditions. Additional audition information can be obtained by e-mailing [n2nstdunstans@gmail.com](mailto:n2nstdunstans@gmail.com)

**To be certain those who might wish to audition have time to acquaint themselves with the show, we include the audition notice this month, rather than waiting for the October Guilder.**

#### **ROLES**

**DIANA** (mid 30's to mid 40's). Attractive, sharp, delusional and possibly bipolar. Audience should feel a full range of emotions about her as she lets us see her many sides. Mezzo Soprano.

**DAN** (mid 30's to mid 40's). Handsome, genuine, positive, consistent and tired. He desperately wants a *perfect loving family*. Demonstrate a full range of emotions. Tenor.

**GABE** (18-22). Handsome and all-American. He's bright, playful and knows the right things to say to win his game. Tenor.

**NATALIE** (16-18). Typical rebellious teen-ager with good intuition. She's fearful she may be "too much" like her mother and desperately tries to convince herself and the audience that she's not. Mezzo Soprano.

**HENRY** (16-18). Part philosopher and part stoner. He feels he understands Natalie and has a romantic interest in her. He offers the show some of its comic relief. Tenor.

**DR. MADDEN** (30's and over). Assured rock star meets a nerdy doctor. Tenor.

Suggested ages are for the characters, not necessarily for the actors (we are flexible and understand makeup and lighting can add or subtract years, so don't let it deter you from auditioning).

#### **AUDITIONS**

**Oct. 12 at 2 p.m.**

Diana and Dan (registration at 1:30).

**3 p.m. Gabe, Natalie, Henry and Dr. Madden (registration at 2:30).**

**Oct. 13**

All newcomers for all roles -- 7 pm (registration at 6:30).

Call-back auditions-7:30 pm.

#### **LEADING ROLES FILLED: NEW PARENTS, NEW GRANDPARENTS AND NEWLYWEDS**



In the family way might be a great way to describe St. Dunstan's recently. Long-time and active members Molly and Paul Dorset just added beautiful little Lillian to the growing family. She jumped her cue by about 5 weeks, and we are so happy that she still came forward beautiful and healthy! Paul thinks he's one heck of a good dad—and Molly agrees!



Topper and Kappy Pennington may have a match made in heaven for Lillian! They are the "over-the-moon" proud grandparents of Benjamin Boyd Pantlind, born July 27 to daughter Grace.



The final good news piece is actually three-fold! Jake Zinke and Jeff Foust tied the knot in Chicago on Aug. 25, so we have newlyweds, who are also now official parents of Daniel Christian—and the third leg of the great news is that they also have a new baby, Benjamin!

Love to all our happy members. We enjoy living your joy along with you. MAZEL TOV and every good wish!

### **PROPS THOSE PILLS**

We need hundreds of empty pill bottles—preferably prescription kinds, but any kind will do. If we begin now, by the time *Next to Normal* goes up, we may have the numbers we require. Will you help? Save up a plastic baggie of them and drop them at the theatre when you come to see *Dial M!*

### **Reinstated--it feels so good!**

Paul Gillin  
273 Euclid  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
248-852-5936 /  
[pgillin2@comcast.net](mailto:pgillin2@comcast.net)

Peggy Lee has a new phone number: 248-639-9938. Please note it in your most recent Roster.

### **HEALING DOWN THE MIDDLE**

--Sally Garrison had a hip replaced over the summer. She is doing well, but isn't up to climbing St. Dunstan stairs just yet. She will miss seeing all her friends at the Open House, but hopes to be back at the theatre soon.

--Connie McEwan is doing remarkably well getting around in her new mobility chair. She maneuvers like a Formula 1 champ!

--Betsie Robinson came to see *Guys and Dolls*. She has had some health issues lately, but says she is on the mend!

--Ruth Bennett is still recuperating from hand surgery at the beginning of the summer. Whenever she is at the theatre, give her a shout out and your helping hand.

--Mairo Towle will be having some surgery in late September. She doesn't think she will be "down" for long, but welcomes all good thoughts.

### **Where are they now?**

--Kelly Robinson, former junior member at St. D's made the big break—she moved to NYC to pursue a career in acting after finishing her degree at Wayne State!

--Sue Mancuso has a role in *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* at Village Players, opening first weekend of September.



First production team meeting for *Next to Normal*.

Director: Jeff Davison; Music Director, Matt Horn; Asst. Director, Kathy Brooks; Choreographer, Stephanie Peltier; Producer, Mairo Towle; Apprentice, Billy McLean

### **Some Assembly Required**

The *Guilder* team lost some of its spark and verve when Susan Holmes had to step down because of additional duties at work. Now, here is the opportunity many of you may have been waiting for! Stretch your involvement, and offer to assemble the *Guilder*! Do you know how to desktop publish? Do you have software you are DYING to show off to the world? Well, you are in luck! You don't have to write the *Guilder*—merely make it look good! Call Pam Richards at 248-931-2757 or shoot her a text. She'd love some company and expertise in the assembly process!

### **Who turned 50?**

One firecracker on July 4 had Jeff Davison's name on it---for his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday! Jeff and Anthony are celebrating the big 5-0 with a trip to Bali!

### **~IS THERE A SHOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO DIRECT?**

### **~DO YOU HAVE A VISION?**

### **~CONTACT PR&C CHAIR CHRIS STEINMAYER AND SHARE YOUR DREAM!**

### **~2015-2016 SLATE IS STILL BEING FORMULATED.**

**DID YOU PAY YOUR DUES?**

**DID YOU SIGN UP FOR THE COMMITTEE OF YOUR CHOICE?**

**IF NOT, DO IT NOW!**

**Please?**



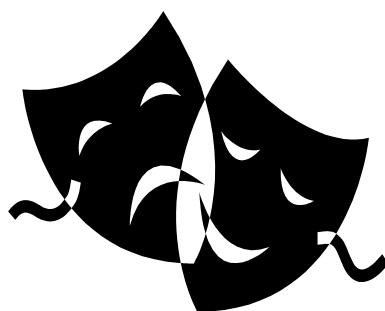
Come to the Pavilion and party with the cast weekend nights after rehearsal. You will love the nights you won't/can't remember with St. D's friends you can't forget.

### PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Hi Everyone! New President, Jeff Foust here. My favorite time of year is the fall—when both the temperature and the leaves start to drop...and the shortened days lead into cool, crisp autumn evenings. I'm also excited that fall brings the start of a new theatre season, when everyone comes back from different summer happenings and the theatre is again bustling with activity. One such summer happening was the President's Party hosted by the Edsons in August. Every year this party is a blast as members gather to greet one another with food, drink and a little chlorine. It was great getting to talk to members that I haven't really had a chance to get to know before and learn a little more about the history of the Guild from some of the past presidents.

This season is going to be especially exciting for me as I venture into new leadership territory in my tenure as president. This fall is already shaping up to be especially exciting with the pending arrival of our new seats and riser system! I think the extra seat space, comfortable cushions and numbered seating will really enhance the experience at the shows for everyone, not to mention the aesthetic value added with the new professional riser system for the rows of chairs in the back of the pavilion and the sharp colors of the seat fabric. (Make sure you sign up for the Clue Cruise on Sept. 7!)

We hope to keep the upgrades coming in addition to the seats, risers and sound system to truly enhance the artistic expressions the season's shows will bring. We have a very exciting slate and I personally cannot wait to see each and every show!



**Editor:** Pam Richards  
**Contributors:** Jeff Davison  
Tom Edson  
Jeff Foust  
Sally Garrison  
Sandy Prokopp



Tom Edson, Set Builder, Designer and Chef

Jeff Davison SO excited to be 50!



Daniel Christian

VISIT ST. DUNSTAN'S WEB SITE  
[www.stdunstanstheatre.com](http://www.stdunstanstheatre.com)

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CALL 248.737.3587