

StD Guild

ST. DUNSTAN'S GUILD OF CRANBROOK



JANUARY 2012

FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

- Jan 10 Board Meeting
- Jan. 15 She Loves Me Long Sunday
- Jan. 20 She Loves Me OPENS
- Jan. 23, 24 Escanaba in Love auditions
- Jan. 25 Feb. Guild deadline
- Jan. 30 IMPROV-A-LOOZA auditions

YOU'LL LOVE SHE LOVES ME

Mark your calendar for Jan. 20 opening of the touching, funny, beautifully written (and acted) musical *She Loves Me*.

Georg and Amalia, two clerks in a European parfumerie during the 1930s, feud constantly at work. Outside work, each secretly finds solace in romantic, anonymous love letters through the personals column. Little do they know they are writing to each other! Sound familiar? The it's the same storyline as the movie *Shop Around the Corner*, which also inspired the hit film *You've Got Mail*.

You'll see some familiar St. Dunstan faces, including Laurie Dooley, Chris Steinmayer, Pam Richards, Nat Towle, Anthony Marsalese and Sandra Prokopp in the cast. You will also have the chance to enjoy some talent we haven't seen enough of and also some newcomers to the group! Jeff Foust, Kate DeBoer (she was Kate Rasmussen when she played



Jeff Foust, Suzette Ho, Chris Steinmayer, Kate DeBoer, Benjamin Ludwig

Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*), Benjamin Ludwig, Jon Huegli, John Tonkovich, (three newcomers!) Suzette Ho (violinist extraordinaire, but sharing NEW talents in this show!), Valerie Mould (choreographer and lovely singer- new to St. D's stage), Jake Zinke (fresh from *The 39 Steps*) and Niko Bokos, another newcomer-sure-to-be-heartthrob among the teen set, with his pure vocal style and shy, easy smile.

She Loves Me runs from Jan. 20-Feb. 4, 2012 and tickets are already selling, so reserve today and bring your friends and family.

ESCANABA IN LOVE AUDITION

OK all you Winnebago driving white wine drinking fudgesucking flatlandingtrolls (dat is, dose dat live BELOW da Big Mac Bridge), it's time for auditions for ESCANABA IN LOVE. This is the second part of Jeff Daniels' uproarious trilogy about the goings on at the World Famous Soady Deer Camp in Escanaba, Michigan (dats in da Upper Peninsula, for all you Loopers). So, get out your flannel shirts and hiking boots, put on your best Yooper, and make the trek up to St. Dunstan's on Sunday, Jan. 22 and Monday Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. for the chance to join a sure-to-be fun cast.

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Escanaba in Love, the hilarious prequel to the legendary *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, is set in the Soady deer camp during World War II and outfitted with a whole new cast of wacky Yoopers. Eighteen-year-old Albert Soady, Jr. is celebrating his final hunting season before he becomes a sharpshooter for the U.S. Army when he falls head-over-heels for Big Betty Balou - the woman destined to become Reuben and Remnar's mother. When he brings her up to the cabin to spend his wedding night, much to the chagrin of the rest of the hunters, she soon proves there's no question that she is a good fit for the royal Soady family.

THE CAST:

ALPHONSE SOADY (70s) . The patriarch of the Soady clan, he built the Soady deer camp after WWI. A crusty, set-in-his-ways old fart who knows EXACTLY how kids should be brought up, and how a deer camp should be run.

ALBERT SOADY, SR. (50s)--Young Albert's father. More than ready to take the reins of the deer camp from Alphonse.

ALBERT SOADY, JR. (18) . An experienced hunter, but somewhat naive in the ways of the world. Just passed his physical, and set to go off to WWII in a few days.

SALTY+JIM NEGAMANEE (40s) . An odd duck, very much in the form of a jimmer from Escanaba in da Moonlight. Had an accident at sea, and is not quite all there.

BIG BETTY BALOU (20s) . Tough as nails, able to drink and cuss with the best of them. An outdoorsman's ideal, with a persona as big as the outdoors. While she can (and does) do just about everything a man can, she has her delicate side as well.

Director: Mark Walters
Asst. Dir: Nina Kircher
Producer: Sandy Prokopp

Rehearsals will be Monday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday evenings.

Scripts available by email from Mark Walters (walters@adrsoft.com).

Questions? E-mail Mark Walters or call (248) 646-6033.

A WARM ST. D's WELCOME

Here is a bit more background on some of our newest members who are in *She Loves Me*.

Jeff Foust was in our Greek Theatre production of *Joseph*, you may remember him as Elvis. Jeff also ran sound for *The 39 Steps*.

Jake Zinke was on our stage in *Joseph* and most recently *The 39 Steps*. Jeff recently ran sound for *Aantsy Aardvark*.

Jon Huegli started acting at the age of 5 and has acted and directed in over 50 shows. Thanks to Pam Richards, he is making his comeback after a 45-year hiatus. John is on our prop and set design/construction committee.

Ben Ludwig a very experienced acting career began at age 12 when he had a lead in a Lincoln Center operetta. He's had many roles including 3 different leads in 3 separate *Pirates of Penzance* in 3 different states. Ben is on our Special Events committee.

John D. Tonkovich, a speech-language pathologist and a professor at EMU. He has been involved in many community theatre productions around the U.S. John has joined our ticket committee.

Suzette Ho has appeared on many stages around town but is making her St. D stage debut. She has played violin in many of our orchestras. Suzette will be helping either on our costume or ticket committee.

Linda Bokos has joined so her talented 15-year-old son, Niko, could play the role of Arpad.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in *She Loves Me*. We couldn't make it happen without your hard work, talent and support.

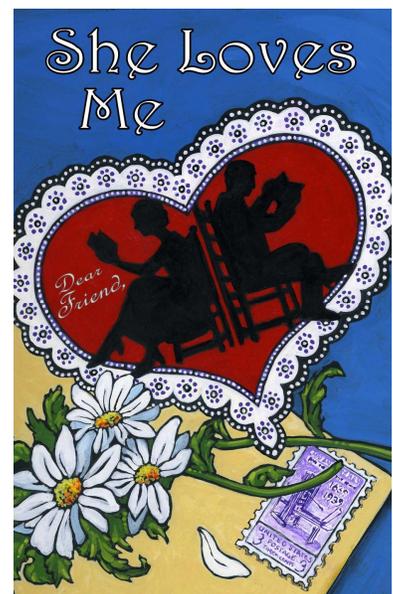
IMPROV-A-LOOZA FUNNY

Do you think you are funny. or better yet, has anyone ELSE ever said you were? Well, then come help raise money for St. Dunstan's Theatre by auditioning for "Improv-a-Looza!," a one-night fundraiser to raise money for better equipment and other capital expenses at the theater. The show will be held in the theater on Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m.

"Improv-a-Looza!" will feature 6-8 improvisers who will compete for points through improv games. The winner will get bragging rights as the funniest person of the evening and perhaps some fabulous prizes (we are still working on those!). Improvers do not need to raise funds or pay to be in the event. All fundraising will be through ticket sales or audience donations.

Auditions will be held Monday, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Room. They will consist of several improvisation games. For more information, contact Kathleen Lietz at 734 658-8960 or email KL_home@lycos.com

If you don't audition, **SAVE THE DATE!** This will be a fun and hilarious evening for everyone.



THANKS FOR HUGE SUCCESS

The last strains of Mark the Herald Angels Sing are still echoing in my head as I write about the joyful Concert and Carol Sing. The church was full, the children's choir was wonderful, the St. Dunstan ensemble was extraordinary, and the woodwind trio added just the right touch. I have such appreciation for Matt Horn's directorial prowess and the talent and commitment of the St. Dunstan vocalists. I hope you had a chance to experience it, either in person or on cable TV. By the way, it is now showing on <http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/cable/OverviewCable.htm> so you can watch it on your computer at home. Just select Video on demand and scroll down to St. Dunstan.

Please consider the producer's job for next year. There really isn't anything to do for most of the year. You contact a children's choir in the Spring (and there are many who would love to participate). Then it's just all about the three to four weeks preceding the event and it's all covered in detail in the producer's book. There's an easy-to-follow timeline and spreadsheets of contacts and previous participants. I'll transfer everything to a disc and you'll be set to go! And I would be happy to discuss it and help out along the way. It's truly an amazing and rewarding experience!

Profound thanks to everyone who sang, ushered, set up sound, handled graphics and print (you're the best, Susan Holmes!) or participated in some way to make it happen and especially those who showed up to support St. Dunstan! Each of you is appreciated, and I wish you all Happy New Year and full houses for our performances!

St. Dunstan's holiday party Dec. 3, following the Christmas concert, welcomed many long-time members as well as new friends. Santa and his Mrs. were warmly greeted by all, especially the children. And everyone enjoyed the delicious food and drink, provided both by the committee in charge and by members.

Party organizers Jim Luzenski and Ruth Bennett send a huge thank-you to all who helped set up, decorate, and clean up, and to the many members who donated treats. Special thanks to Gail Holmes and Gayle Bettega for all their work, to Linda Watson for her gorgeous table decorations, to the cast of "She Loves Me" and everyone else who came to the Friday night Tree Trimming Party to help decorate. The St. Dunstan tradition of many people pitching in to make a successful event lives on!

WISH I'D SAID THAT....

Cashstration (n.): The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period of time.

Intoxicaton: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating.

Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Inoculate: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit.)

Glibido: All talk and no action.

Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.



John Tinkovich, Sandra Prokopp, Valerie Mould, Pam Richards, Laurie Dooley, Jake Zinke, Anthony Marsalese



Kate DeBoer, Jeff Foust



Suzette Ho, Chris Steinmayer

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

With the hustle and bustle of the holidays behind us, (except maybe for a couple of football games), we look back on a full 2011, and forward to a prosperous and happy 2012. In only a couple of weeks, on Jan. 20, we open the delightful musical, *She Loves Me*. I know all members will come out and support this fantastic cast and crew who've worked so hard for the past few weeks (including time over the holidays) when they could have been relaxing or with their families. Then, on Jan. 22 and 23 we'll hold auditions for our next show, *Escanaba in Love*. This uproariously funny show from Jeff Daniels is the second part of the *Escanaba* trilogy, and tells the story of a young Albert Soady, who was getting ready to head off to war, but meets Big Betty Balou, destined to be the mother of Reuben and Remnar. When Albert brings her to deer camp, all kinds of fun ensue! Make sure to read the audition notice included with this issue, and consider auditioning for this funny, and yet, sometimes touching show.

Speaking of fun, we will be auditioning for another kind of silliness on Jan. 30. Kathleen Lietz, who so successfully directed this season's first show, *The 39 Steps*, has begun to put together a terrific fund-raising opportunity, a *Whose Line is it Anyway* kind of improv night! People will compete against each other for prizes, while the rest of us enjoy watching their

antics, and vote for our favorites. Stay tuned for further details.

All in all, January will be a jam-packed month, and a great way to start the year, being energized, upbeat, but most of all, INVOLVED.

Here's hoping 2012 will be a fabulous year for everybody!



*Back Row: Jake Zinke, Valerie Mould, Jeff Foust, Chris Steinmayer, Niko Bokos, Jon Huegli,
Center Row: Kate DeBoer, Suzette Ho, Benjamin Ludwig, Sandra Prokopp,
Front Row: Pam Richards, John Tinkovich, Laurie Dooley, Anthony Marsalese.*



Contributors:
Ruth Bennett
Jeff Davison
Kathleen Lietz
Connie McEwan
Mark Walters

VISIT ST. DUNSTAN'S WEB SITE
www.stdunstanstheatre.com

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