

StD Guilder

ST. DUNSTAN'S GUILD OF CRANBROOK



JUNE 2011

FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

June 3 Opening, *Joseph*
June 13, 14 Auditions 39 Steps
Aug. 13 President's Bash
Aug. 15 Rehearsals begin, 39 Steps

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

ACTORS, MUSIC, DANCE, LIGHTS, COSTUMES, SET, DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS, CREW—ALL AMAZE AND DELIGHT!!!



Coat Dreams: The Art of Costume Design

You are the costume designer. For a show that references a specific article of clothing in the title. Intimidating enough for you? Now add that this article is described as 'amazing' and 'technicolor'! Such is the challenge to the costumer for

Joseph. Costume design is one of the many creative and artistic elements woven together to tell a story on stage. Memorable theatre requires the collaboration of talented set, lighting, hair, make-up and costume designers to name only a few. These dedicated stage crafters toil endlessly behind the

scenes of any successful production. Unfortunately, they don't take bows or get the applause at curtain call. To celebrate these unsung stars among us we offer 'COAT DREAMS – Celebrating the Art of Costume Design.' Come into the Pavilion during intermission and

enjoy this exhibit of 'Joseph Coats' from various local productions. Truly works of art, these coats, like all stage costumes, are created for a show and subsequently packed away out of sight when the show closes. We have thrown open the wardrobe closets and assembled perhaps the largest collection of Joseph coats ever seen under one roof. We think you will enjoy this rare opportunity to celebrate the creativity and dedication of all those who work so tirelessly backstage to make the magic happen when the curtain goes up.

CORRECTION:

Sandi HANEY is the Narrator in Joseph. Her name was mistakenly listed as "Lucky." It is our troupe that is lucky to have Sandi Haney as a new member and her beautiful voice gracing our stage as Narrator.

NEED A SHEEP FOR JOSEPH

If you saw this article, we found a camel on wheels, to make the walk in the desert that much more realistic!

YOUR GROCERIES CAN EARN

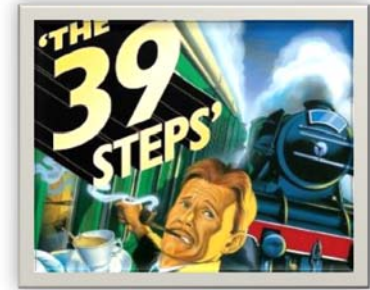
Participants in the Kroger Rewards program linking members' Kroger Rewards card and St. Dunstan's, had to re-register as of April 1. You should see a message at the bottom of your receipt indicating you are connected with St. D's. And now would be a great time for the rest of you Kroger shoppers to link your card to St. Dunstan's which will then receive a percentage of your purchases each quarter. Contact Paul Gillin if you need the instructions sent to you again, or print out the April *Guild*, which has the full explanation.

CALLING ALL DIRECTORS

Play Reading and Casting is asking that anyone interested in directing a show in the 2012 - 2013 season, to let them know which shows are of interested, so they can read and consider them.



St. Dunstan's own Richard Hutchison made three of the amazing coats that will be on display in the Pavilion during JOSEPH.



AUDITIONS JUNE 13,14

"The 39 Steps" will be Monday and Tuesday, June 13 and 14 at 7 p.m. Performance dates are Oct. 14, 15, 21-23 and 28, 29. Rehearsals will begin Aug. 15. There are 38 wildly imaginative scenes, as the script re-enacts the original movie with actors playing multiple roles and even inanimate objects.

Roles:

Richard Hannay – Male, Early 30's to Early 50's. The charming and self-assured Hannay finds himself on the lam from a group of mysterious bad guys. Even as he is pursued through bogs and marshes, he shows a great amount of poise, charisma and humor. The actor must speak with a very fake British accent.

Annabella Schmidt/Pamela/Margaret – Female, Early 20's to Late 30's.

One woman will play all the female lead roles, from the mysterious Annabella who is murdered in the first act, to the shy wife of the Scottish farmer to Pamela, the ultimate female heroine and love interest. The actress must speak with a very fake British accent and a very fake Scottish brogue.

Clown 1 and Clown 2 – Males, Any age. These two actors portray everyother character (male and female!) that our hero, Richard Hannay encounters: Salesmen on the train, policemen on the take, and even the mysterious "Professor" with the missing finger and his wife. These actors should be able to quickly shift into other characters, voices, fake

ALL MEMBERS!

REVIEW YOUR LISTING IN THE ROSTER

CHECK ACCURACY OF YOUR INFORMATION

**ADD: EMAIL ADDRESSES
CELL PHONE NUMBERS**

(WHATEVER DEVICE YOU CHECK ON A REGULAR BASIS)

CHANGES?

**CALL OR EMAIL
BARB GOWANS
248-673-3650**

BARBGOWANS@SBCGLOBAL.NET

accents and genders. Improvisation work will be a big part of the rehearsal process.

Producer: Mairo Towle,
586-504-9879,
pandamoniamail@comcast.net

Director: Kathleen Lietz
734-658-8960
KL_home@lycos.com

AUDITION TIPS: 39 STEPS

Read the entire script.

It is very important for an actor to understand the audition scene in the context of the entire show. This will help the actor to make the strongest, most appropriate choices during their audition.

Visualize your character.

You don't have to dress up like your character for an audition, but you should have a complete visual image in your head of your character. Right before you walk on to read your scene, take a minute to call up that picture in your mind and then move into your scene.

Make your characterization physical.

At home, practice walking across the room in character, holding a drink, or smoking a cigarette. How would your character do these things? And don't forget about physical interaction with your counterparts. How and when would they touch the other characters? Remember, in the real world, most of the information people receive are from body language, so as an actor, "how you do what you do" is just as important as how you interpret the words.

"SAY YES... AND" The number one rule for comedy improv is to **"SAY YES... AND"** to your scene partner. Saying no to the suggestions from your partner will kill the scene and create a negative environment. So if your scene partner ask you "Why are

you standing on the moon," don't say "Uh, what moon?", say **"Yes... And"**: **"Yes**, I love standing on the moon at night, it is so relaxing... **And** why aren't you wearing your astronaut suit, you know how thin the air is out here?!"

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Well gang, another season is coming to a close. We've had a lot of things to be proud of this year. And, we're going to go out on top with a great run of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, opening this Friday. I know that there are graduations, parties, weddings, sports, and a lot of other events that fill our schedules as the weather warms, but I hope you'll all take the time to come out and see *Joseph*. Hopefully all the rain this week means that it'll be nice for the run of the show. Then, once *Joseph* finishes up, it's the previously dreaded clean-up week. We have changed that one. It is THE time to come to the theatre and hang out with the best theatre people around.

Starting Sunday, June 19, we will be moving out of the theater for the summer. Talk to your committee chairpersons to find out how YOU can help out. Many hands make for easier work. But, even though we'll be 'officially' gone until the Opening Punch on Sept. 11, a few exciting things will still be happening.

First, the board has decided to once again move the President's Party from its scheduled June 25 date. Like last year, we are going to throw a President's Party Summer Sizzler on Aug. 13 with much the same type of format as last year. We thought that it is nice to have a chance to come together for a party when maybe things are not quite so busy. Then, the week after Labor Day the lobby and Green Room will be transformed with new paint. We'll also put up the lobby monitor that'll present information in a whole new entertaining way. So, when we

come back for the Opening Punch, we'll have completed our makeover that began last summer with the lobby carpeting and the spiffy cleaned and polished pavilion floor. Of course, we also fixed the front steps and lighting, had a new grade of the emergency access drive in the rear, purchased the new burgundy main curtain (thank you Obie), thoroughly cleaned the kitchen, and put the website address on the marquee. And, we added internet access to the lobby, which is required for our new ticket system, ShowClix, which has been put in place for *Joseph*. This gives us a real person answering the phone from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday thru Friday, and they are adding weekend hours soon. Hopefully we'll be proud to bring prospective new members to the Punch, and they will be as thrilled with the space as we are.

I have to thank the retiring board members Laurie Dooley, Kathy Shapero and Ned Schneider. THANK YOU for all your hard work over the past three years. And while we're at it, thanks to those members staying on including Paul Dorset, Jim Luzenski, Sue Mancuso, Ian McEwan, and especially Ruth Bennett for being my right hand, and keeping me somewhat organized. We never could have accomplished so much this year without all their considerable input and talent.

The crowd at the Annual Meeting on May 19 was a small, but vocal crowd, and we got a lot accomplished. Highlights from the meeting included a financial report from Ian McEwan, and presented by Kathy Brooks, that showed we actually have a profit of nearly \$7,000 for the year, after a loss of more than **\$36K** last year. The difference was due to a \$41K increase in ticket sales (to over \$95K). YAY! HOWEVER, it costs us over \$62K just to keep the lights on for the year, and with only \$20K in revenue outside of plays

(member dues, donations, etc.) we have really no profit at all. SO, all you directors and producers out there realize that the shows have to make money for the group to make money. Hopefully, our new ticket system will help with more and easier ticket sales, too. We elected three new board members for the slate of 2014: Alan Canning, Susan Holmes and Nina Kircher. The new board met after the election and set the slate of officers for the next year.

President – Mark Walters
Vice-President – Ruth Bennett
Treasurer – Ian McEwan
Recording Secretary – Paul Dorset
Corresponding Secretary – Jim Luzenski

Thanks to Sally Garrison for meeting with the Orkin man each month for the past few years. Sally is responsible for keeping us all from going totally buggy in the Pavilion. Cranbrook has now taken over the pest control operations, saving us \$60 a month.

And thanks to Connie McEwan for organizing the Christmas Carol Sing. She will be stepping down after this year, so we'll need someone to fill her shoes for 2012 and beyond.

Also, thanks went out to those members stepping down as chairpersons: Betsie Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Jeff Davidson, Susan Holmes, Tracey Griggs, Brian Jones, Joanne Baughman, and Barb Gowans. And a special thanks to Tom Edson for stepping in to take over set construction. We couldn't have had such a great year without all these wonderful people.

We also mentioned some policy changes the Board adopted this year to help make the group more in tune with the community theater of today. Starting with *Joseph*, we have put in place a rehearsal fee schedule for shows, which will hopefully make us more amenable to the 'gypsies' of the acting world, and allow us to continue our reputation of putting on terrific shows. Hopefully, some of these will choose to join the group when they see the camaraderie of St. Dunstan's members—unmatched at other groups. Another policy change regards the budget process for each show. By starting with a 'zero basis' then estimating ticket sales and taking overhead costs from each show, we should continue to stay in the black and make certain that any other revenue will cover improvements well into the future.

One other important bit of business from the meeting, if you want to CHANGE WORK COMMITTEES, we need a preference card from you. Otherwise, you will be assigned to the committee you worked this year. Please return the card ASAP, or email Kathy Brooks (rosehip@wowway.com) who organizes the cards.

Remember, auditions for *39 Steps* are June 13 and 14, and clean-up week starts June 19. Watch for more details about clean-up in the Monday morning mailings.

All in all, we've had a great season. I've been privileged and proud to be a large part of the success of St. Dunstan's in 2010-2011. I hope to see all of you at *Joseph*, and then the President's Summer Sizzler in August. To those of you I don't see, have a GREAT summer, and I look forward to seeing you back in the fall at the Opening Punch on Sept. 11, and for a fabulous season beyond that.

Mark Walters, President



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