

Actorsingers Newsletter

OVATION

Oct/Nov 2011 Issue

Editor: Kerry Schneider

THE SOUND of MUSIC

Friday, November 4 – 8:00 pm

Saturday, November 5 – 8:00 pm

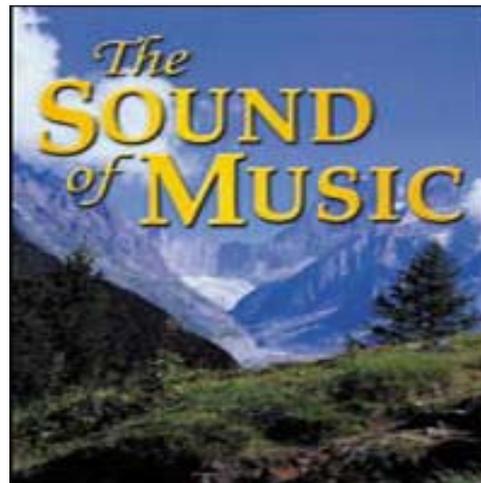
Sunday, November 6 - 2:00 pm matinee

Tickets: Buy online at www.actorsingers.org

Or call (603) 320 -1870

Reserved seats at the Keefe Auditorium
Elm St. Middle School, 117 Elm St., Nashua

\$20 Adults / \$18 Seniors and Students Group Rates available



Directed by: **Joe Vago, Jed Holland** and **Martha Holland**

Producer: **Charles Emmons** Stage Manager: **Steve Harper**

Set Design: **Don Smith-Weiss** Master Carpenter: **John McAllister** Tech Director: **Dennis Schneider**

The Cast:

Maria: **Sarah Reese Souter**

Captain Von Trapp: **Erik Duchesne**

Mother Abbess: **Anne Orio**

Sister Margaretta: **Katie Weiss**

Sister Sophia: **Carol Gorelick**

Sister Berthe: **Cindy Fisher**

Elsa: **Allyson Bergendahl**

Max: **Bob Frasca**

Frau Schmidt: **Nancy Rosen**

Franz: **Jon Fisher**

Baron Elberfeld: **Mark Kelley**

Liesl: **Bailie deLacy**

Rolf: **Spenser Hukill**

Friederich: **Ben Gorelick**

Louisa: **Maddie Kuchta**

Kurt: **Cayden Plummer**

Brigitta: **Sammy O'Neil**

Marta: **Kelly Frasca**

Gretl: **Caitlin Hilterman**

Herr Zeller: **Don Higgins**

Baroness Elberfeld: **Nicole Ste. Croix**

The Nuns and Fabulous Ensemble: **Barb Amaral, Mary Louise Bingham, Tina Cassidy, Kathy Demers, Sarah Desaulniers, Katrina Fisher, Lauren Friedman, Anne Harvey, Diane Iwaskiewicz, Pam Jordan, Mark Kelley, Mark Lawrence, Pam Lefchak, Catherine Prestipino, Nicole Ste. Croix, Ann Siglin, Cheryl Stocks, Karen Thomas, Sherri Veneman, Gail Ward, Mel Bucklin, Andrew Holland, Dan Weiss, Jim Maloney, Adam Harding, Phil Laks and Gregg Stephens**

Thank you to those who served on The Auditioning Board for *The Sound of Music*: **Glen Grimard** (chair), **Tim Lord, Joe Rojek, Laura Prior** and the **three Directors**.

Thank you also to the talented singing group from the cast of *The Sound of Music* who entertained at the recent fundraiser for Marquerite's Place. I heard there was a standing Ovation!

Have you been down to The Actorsingers Hall lately? Thanks to VP **Paul Metzger** and Actorsingers members (including **Tom Ritrovato, John McAllister, Bob Lovering, Bill Wenrich, Steve Pierpont, Craig Brennan** and many others), the first floor has been dry walled, lit, is awaiting fresh paint, and the process of insulating and replacing the walls and completely renovating the kitchen is almost finished! A MAJOR project that will make the first floor a more useful space with a modern kitchen (including a dishwasher!) that will allow us to rehearse and entertain in a much more pleasant way. Thank you to everyone involved in the project and apologies to all who have put up with the mess and inconvenience during the renovation. A big Hug to many members of the Cast and Crew of *The Sound of Music* who helped clean up a lot of the debris from the construction. Things are looking good!

**** **MEMBERSHIP** ****

Dues for this fiscal year are overdue!! (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Only those who paid after June 30, 2011 are considered members for this year.

If you were a member in 2010 but did not pay your dues for this year, this will be the last Ovation you will receive and you will no longer be considered a member. Please send in your membership dues today!

Mail checks (made out to The Actorsingers!) - \$10 (Individual) or \$15 (Family – all at one address) to:
The Actorsingers, c/o Kerry Schneider, 32 Clearview Dr., Nashua, NH 03062.

Be a proud member of the oldest (and we think finest!) Community Theater group in Southern New Hampshire

WORKING

What a wonderful summer teen show this was – full of energy and fun! Thank you to the Directors, entire cast, crew and parents. Kudos!

THE NHCTA SHOW – *LAST TUESDAY*

Larry Pizza and **Kim Cassette** directed this Actorsingers entry in the New Hampshire Community Theatre Festival in September. Even though we didn't win Best Production at the festival this year, **Craig Brennan** took home the Best Lighting Award, Actorsingers won for Hair and Makeup, and 11 year old **Alycia Basdekis** won the Best Supporting Actress award! Congratulations to the entire cast – **Cheri Brich, Bradley Greenland, Mel Bucklin, Marie Rouleau Papp, Rachel Cerullo** and **Cheryl Stocks** and Thank you all for representing The Actorsingers. Congratulations to Ghostlight Theatre for having the Best Production.

Holiday Stroll – November 26

Glen Grimard is seeking singers for the Nashua Holiday Stroll. Planned rehearsals are from 7-10 pm on Tues. and Wed. evenings. Contact Glen (grim856@aol.com) if you would like to participate...or just come down to the hall during rehearsals. Join The Actorsingers at this wonderful family event on Saturday, November 26 in downtown Nashua. The Actorsingers will be performing at The Unitarian Church on Lowell St. from 5:45-6:45. The Stroll is attended by thousands and gets everyone in the holiday spirit. Last year, over 50 groups performed at various venues throughout the city, bringing smiles to all. Come and support all the live performers and enjoy this festive **FREE** event. Thank you **Glen** for organizing, all who participate for your musical talents, and **Jamie Feinberg** for her musical skills.

Save \$\$\$\$\$ - There is still time to **become a Subscriber** and see both Shows - **Save \$\$\$\$\$**
The Sound of Music and ***Chicago*** – only \$30! Call (603) 888-2837 for details

The 60th NETC Convention will take place Nov 17-20 at the Natick Crown Plaza Hotel and will feature Tony Award winning composer Jason Robert Brown and Donna McKeichine (Most famously originated the role of Cassie in "A Chorus Line") in addition to Tony Nominee Christian Borle (originated the role of Emmett Forest in "Legally Blond") and numerous other theater practitioners. To register and more information: www.NETCOnline.org or 617-851-8535

Condolences

The Actorsingers mourns the deaths of:

Life Member **Kay Goranson** who passed away this summer. Kay conducted the Actorsingers Chorus for many years and was the Musical Director of the 1st Broadway style musical (not Gilbert and Sullivan) that the Actorsingers performed back in 1965 – *Brigadoon*.

For those who also remember, **Liz Winters** passed away in Sept. from complications from MS. Liz was a talented actress who was Adelaide in our 1984 production of *Guys and Dolls*.

A Third "Old timer", **Ernie Berube**, also passed away recently. Ernie was in many productions starting in the Good Shepherd Church. He was Horace Vandergelder in *Hello Dolly* back in 1971 when **Raelene Liljeberg** played his niece, Ermegarde.

Sad Goodbyes

Goodbye to Life Member **Stan Polan**, ex-Treasurer and Scholarship Committee Chair, who moved to PA at the end of August to be closer to his grandchildren. Also saying goodbye in November is Costume seamstress **Elizabeth Strycharz** who has helped sew costumes for our productions for many years. The Actorsingers wish you both Good luck in your new homes. We will miss you.

The New Hampshire Theatre Awards – sometime in February, 2012 at The Palace Theater, Manchester, NH. This event brings hundreds of fellow thespians and technical wizards together to celebrate achievements in theatre. More info about a group rate and exact details of the evening in the next **Ovation**. Our shows, *Guys and Dolls* and *The Sound of Music* will be in the running for awards.

In and About Town – **Ben Pascucci** is reprising his role as Arvide Abernathy in *Guys and Dolls* for the Palace Theatre. Congratulations to Life Member **Irene Archambault** on her 65th wedding Anniversary! **Pat Lawrence** is in *A Little Night Music* with the Nashoba Players of Westford, MA and is also doing *Follies* in concert as a fundraiser for NextDoor Center for the Arts in Winchester, MA. ...and Milky White, the white cow she and Jay constructed for The Actorsingers production of *Into The Woods* in 1994 is still playing gigs all over – the latest at WPI in Worcester. Peacock Players recent *Cinderella* featured **Hannah Benson** and **Jake Schwartzberg**. Jake's big brother, **Nathan**, is The Cat in the Hat for Bedford High School's *Suessical* and is also in Stagecoach's *A Chorus Line* along with another brother, **Daniel** and dad, **Mark**. Also in that production, with Musical Direction by **Judy Hayward**, are **Tina Cassidy**, **David Cote**, **Rachel Cerullo**, **Adam Harding**, **Alan Hunter**, and **Jen Sassak**. So glad to hear that **Rich Glynn** is okay after suffering a minor stroke early in Sept. **Ellie Risley** not only performed in The Senior Center show, *A Walk Down Broadway*, but also is the Director of their Silver Lining Chorus. **Lauren Friedman** and **Laura Prior** recently appeared in New Thalian's *Broadway Backwards*. **Laura** also performed in *Cole* at The Capitol Center for the Arts. Over at Kid's Coop in Derry, **David DuCharme** is directing *Happy Days*. **Deb Walz's** daughter, **Noelle Bourguard**, was in Riverbend Youth Theatre's *The Producers* this past summer and at the first auditions at her college, she got one of only 3 female roles for the freshman play, *This is the Rill Speaking*. Kudos to ex-members **Garrett Hawe** who was in *Newsies* at Papermill Playhouse in New Jersey in Sept. and, hopefully, will be in a run of the show on Broadway! And **Alexandra Socha** played a free concert at Bubby's, a Brooklyn, NY restaurant, along with other members from her Broadway cast of *Spring Awakening*. **Alexandra** can also be seen on Showtime's *The Big C* and was just featured on TV's *A Gifted Man*. **Carl Andress**, **Catherine Andruskevich's** son, is Directing Tony Award winners John Cullum and Chita Rivera in a Broadway Concert of Kander and Ebb's *The Visit*. His choreographer? Ann Reinking! Talk about your big leagues!

Until next time ... news? call Kerry (603) 888-2837 or E-mail ActingKer@aol.com

Theatrical Terms (passed along to me by **Greg Tarsa** about a year or two ago, but always worth a repeat)

Eternity - The time that passes between a dropped cue and the next line.

Prop - 1. A hand-carried object small enough to be lost by an actor shortly before it's needed on stage. 2. Anything that gets in the way of a scene change.

Director - The individual who suffers from the delusion that he or she is responsible for every moment of brilliance cited by the critic in the local review.

Blocking - The art of moving actors on the stage in such a manner as to not collide with the walls, furniture, orchestra pit or each other. Similar to playing chess, except the pawns want to argue.

Quality Theater - Any show with which you were directly involved.

Turkey - Every show with which you were not directly involved.

Final Dress Rehearsal - Rehearsal that becomes a whole new ball game as actors attempt to maneuver among the 49 objects that the set designer added at 7:30 that evening.

Tech Week - The last week of rehearsal when everything that was supposed to be done weeks before finally comes together at the last minute; reaches its grand climax on final dress rehearsal night when costumes rip, a dimmer pack catches fire and the director has a nervous breakdown.

Set - An obstacle course which, throughout the rehearsal period, defies the laws of physics by growing smaller week by week while continuing to occupy the same amount of space.

Monologue - That shining moment when all eyes are focused on a single actor who is desperately aware that if he forgets a line, no one can save him.

Bit Part - An opportunity for the actor with the smallest role to count everybody else's lines and mention repeatedly that he or she has the smallest part in the show.

Dark Spot - The stage area which the lighting designer has inexplicably forgotten to light, and which has a magnetic attraction for the first-time actor. A dark spot is never evident before opening night.

Hands - Appendages at the end of the arms used for manipulating one's environment, except on a stage, where they grow six times their normal size and either dangle uselessly, fidget nervously, or try to hide in your pockets.

Stage Manager - Individual responsible for overseeing the crew, supervising the set changes, baby-sitting the actors and putting the director in a hammerlock to keep him from killing the actor who just decided to turn his walk-on part into a major role by doing magic tricks while he serves the tea.

Lighting Director - Individual who, from the only vantage point offering a full view of the stage, gives the stage manager a heart attack by announcing a play-by-play of everything that's going wrong. One who whines, throws fits, and says This is the last show I'm doing here! I swear to God !

Makeup Kit - among experienced community theater actors, a battered tackle box loaded with at least 10 shades of greasepaint in various stages of desiccation, tubes of lipstick and blush, assorted pencils, bobby pins, braids of crepe hair, liquid latex, old programs, jewelry, break-a-leg greeting cards from past shows, brushes and a handful of half-melted cough drops.

Stage Crew - Group of individuals who spend their evenings coping with 50-minute stretches of total boredom interspersed with 30-second bursts of mindless panic.

Strike - The time immediately following the last performance that all cast and crew members are required to watch the two people who own Makita screw drivers dismantle the set.

Actors - People who stand between the audience and the set designer's art, blocking the view. That's also the origin of the word blocking, by the way.

Stage Right, Stage Left - Two simple directions actors pretend not to understand in order to drive directors crazy. (No, no, your OTHER right !)

Just remember: It's only theatre until it offends someone ... then it's ART !

**Thank you to Mass Mutual
for becoming an Actorsingers Gold Season Sponsor!
And to TD Bank for Remaining a Season Sponsor**

The Ovation

c/o The Actorsingers
P.O. Box 91
Nashua, NH 03061

<p>Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Nashua, NH Permit No. 999</p>

ACTORSINGERS Important Dates

November 4, 5 and 6 – *The Sound of Music*– Keefe Auditorium

Choose your seats and buy Online at www.actorsingers.org

Or call for Tickets: (603) 320-1870

November 26 – *Holiday Stroll* – Downtown Nashua

Remember to check our Web site www.actorsingers.org for detailed up to the minute information
