

August 2009



In the Wings

The Newsletter of The Concord Players

Editor: Robert Runck

THE COSTUMING LIFE

Costuming itself is quite an art, and involves many steps. Here is a brief rundown:

- Consulting with the director
- Researching the period or year
- Measuring the cast
- Making or finding the costumes
- Dressing the cast, both for rehearsals and during the play
- Deodorizing, washing, and repairing the costumes during the run
- Cleaning all costumes after strike
- Returning the costumes to their places

This is the basic list of things to be done. The research and finding/or making of the costumes is the artistic part, and when we see our artwork on the stage, as the actors take their places and perform, it is the verification of our calling.

For calling it is! There are few of us crazy enough to keep on costuming!

Costume construction is an art in itself, and there are many books written on the subject. Much of what we do is illusion, the magic of having something appear as it should, from 20 feet away. The costumes also have to stay together for as many performances as needed, and so have to be constructed sturdily.

We are fortunate at The Concord Players to have, after the stage and Green Room remodeling, a sewing room where we can leave the machines and iron set up, and projects in pieces during rehearsal, and where we can manage instant repairs during performances!

If you think you might like to be involved in costuming, please join our band of costumers here at Concord Players! —Pat Kane costmcloth@yahoo.com



Tom Large and costumer Pat Kane work on his Henry VIII costume for Lion in Winter.

DASH AWARDS COMING SOON

The EMACT DASH Gala (our own Tony awards for community theater) will be held on Saturday, September 19, at Cary Memorial Auditorium in Lexington MA. The nominees will be announced in August. The Players recent season should certainly be in the running.

THE LATEST FROM MEMBERSHIP

Membership Chair Corinne Kinsman is very pleased that not only have so many people renewed their memberships, there are many new members, too. Some of you are receiving your Newsletter for the first time, so WELCOME. If you have news to share with other members regarding shows you might be in, weddings, obits, births, or just general announcements that you think the other members would be interested in, please do so. You may email Corinne at

concordplayers@gmail.com and she will pass your information on to the Newsletter editor. If you have not renewed yet, there's still time to get your info into the members' Yearbook, which will come out some time in late fall. If you've lost your membership renewal letter, membership is \$25.00 for the season, and it may be mailed to Concord Players, Membership, PO Box 22, Concord, MA 01742. A membership renewal form may be downloaded from the Players' website at www.concordplayers.org

NEWS FROM THE RIALTO

Lida McGirr recently won a Playwrights' Choice Best Director award for her direction of "Amerika" at the Playwrights' Platform Summer Festival. The production starred Lis Adams, who won the Audience Choice Award for Best Actress.

DON'T FORGET!

Auditions for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* will be held Sunday, August 16, 2–6 pm and Wednesday, August 19, 7–10 pm, with possible callbacks Thursday, August 20, 7–10 pm, at 51 Walden Street, Concord MA. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Southern accents and familiarity with the script are strongly encouraged. If you have any questions, please contact the director at mariosalinas02139@gmail.com

THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL, A MUSICAL

It is 1794 and the French revolution is at its frenzied height. Injustice, intrigue, and accusations swirl everywhere. Sir Percival Blakeney of England has just married Marguerite St. Just, a beautiful French actress. Moments after the wedding, Percy is aghast to discover that his wife could be a French spy, having provided information that led to the execution of his dear friend, the Marquis de St. Cyr. Percy persuades his friends to band together to thwart further unjust and grisly guillotine executions in France. Thus, the League of the Scarlet Pimpernel is born!

Meanwhile, back in England, the League's foppish presence renders them least suspected of the daring rescues from Madame Guillotine. They are pursued by French Citizen Chauvelin, who will stop at nothing to stop these seemingly supernatural occurrences and capture the Scarlet Pimpernel. Does Chauvelin suspect Blakeney is in league with the Pimpernel? Did Blakeney's wife really betray his friend the Marquis de St. Cyr? Will sheer cunning and masterful disguise save the Pimpernel from an almost certain fate?

The setting of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, The French Revolution, was a time of passion, as reflected in the show's music, some of the most moving and passionate in the modern Broadway repertoire. It was composed by Frank Wildhorn. This, along with Baroness Orczy's captivating tale of a superhero, and Nan Knighton's extremely witty book and lyrics, combine for an evening of action and adventure that will delight you.

The Scarlet Pimpernel is The Concord Players' musical for this coming season. There has been some confusion that there wasn't a musical this season, but to be sure, this musical will be the musical of musicals. Corey Jackson directs, and Mario Cruz, musical director for the Players production of *Chicago*, is back for this swashbuckling adventure, threaded with mystery, intrigue and romance.

There are 20-plus scene changes and a few special effects that will make this the most challenging production The Concord Players has undertaken. This is a must see for many reasons. See you there!

Reminder: Until September 1, 2009, a season subscription is \$44 (saving you almost 30% on regular box office prices). After September 1, a season subscription is \$50 (saving you almost 20% on regular box office prices). Last season's subscribers must renew by September 15th to keep their seats.

Visit the website at www.concordplayers.org
for more detailed information.

The newsletter deadline is the third Friday of each month.

Send us your news to news@concordplayers.org

Archived Newsletters are available at
<http://www.concordplayers.org/Newsletter/archives.html>