

StD Guild

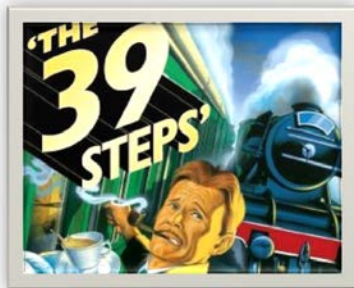
ST. DUNSTAN'S GUILD OF CRANBROOK



FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

Open House Sept. 11
MAC Sept. 13

SEPTEMBER 2011



The 39 Steps

In 38 wildly imaginative scenes, the four players: Charming, poised and self-assured Richard Hannay, will be played by Alan Canning; the mysterious Annabella Schmidt/ the oh-so-proper English woman Pamela/ shy Scottish housewife Margaret will be played by Julie Spittle; the two clowns (cast of thousands) will be played by Jake Zinke and John Rutherford using a variety of Scottish, English, Cockney accents and gender attitudes. Performance dates are Oct. 14, 15, 21-23 and 28, 29. Mark your calendars and make your reservations now to be certain you aren't wishing you could get a ticket!

PROPS NEEDED FOR 39 STEPS

A life-sized dummy is needed. Didn't we have one for Sweeny Todd? We also need a scythe (sometimes called a sickle)—long handled or short. Contact Paul Dorset by email, if you have a lead on either item.



Drawing for the set of *The 39 Steps*.

NEW PATRONS FOR 39 STEPS

Ruth Bennett wants the Guild to know that a group of very lively, theatre-loving senior citizens from Livingston County is planning to purchase up to 30 tickets for opening night of "39 Steps."

This organization does dinner and a play once a month between May and October, and have enjoyed shows at most of the small theatres in the area, from the Purple Rose to Farmington Players, but this will be their first time at St. Dunstan's. They are very excited to see "*The 39 Steps*." The organizer, Nancy Enireht, is working to arrange for the group to have dinner prior to the show.

Member Leslie Ann Pilling has again created a masterpiece and Tom Edson and crew are building it!

Opening night is when a lot of our members attend, but having 30 enthusiastic newcomers there will be a great addition.

PATRON PARKING--BEWARE

Members and patrons need to be aware that Goodhue (the residential street that intersects with Lone Pine Rd.) is now posted "No Parking at Any Time." We used to be able to park there, but now we risk being ticketed.

Parking on both sides of the boulevard is fine, but remember to stay within the limits at each end. Some patrons were ticketed during "Joseph" because their vehicles were parked beyond the "No Parking Here to Corner" limit. That's a fire lane, and police were

enforcing it that night. Sometimes it is Cranbrook police and sometimes it is the Bloomfield Hills PD.

HOT FROM THE ARCHIVES

Committee Chair of Archives, Jim Luzenski, is pleased to announce that the move of St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook Archives to climate-controlled storage has been completed. Many thanks to Wes Meyers for collecting the materials and to Mary Sue Meyers for storing them. Thank yous are also extended to Nancy Brassert, Kathy Brooks Burch, Sally Garrison, Barb Gowans, Besty Bobo Todd, and many others for their donations to the archives. There is plenty of room in the Archives, so if anyone has items pertaining to St. Dunstan's history which they would like to donate, especially Board and Committee Chair-related papers, please contact Jim.

Feeling left out? There are still a lot of materials that need to be organized and identified so please consider this your personal invitation—senior members in particular—but also to anyone interested in helping with this project. Join our Archives committee and we will plan some organizational meetings. Jim can be reached at jamesluz@aol.com or his cell phone at 248-797-0509. Avoid the rush! Call Jimmy TODAY!

ANTSY AARDVARK AARRIVES

What kind of socks does a pirate wear?

----AAAargyle, of course!

Watch your mailings for the audition notice for this year's Theatre for Children production of "The Ansty Aardvark!" Kids of all ages are in for barrels of fun. Aabigail the Aardvark wants to explore the world outside her quiet little aardvark village. She ventures out and finds adventure with Captain Messy Ned and One

Eye the Pirate. So much fun and silliness -- you'll be doin' the Ansty dance!

Why does it take so long for pirates to learn their alphabet? cuz they spend years at C !!

MEMBER TIX EXPANDED!

This year, member tickets will include all six shows--the four main stage ones, plus Stage 2 and Children's Theatre.

AND SPEAKING OF TICKETS...

Last season during "Joseph," St. Dunstan's switched to a service called ShowClix and stopped using PayPal for online ticket purchases. Since it was less confusing and very easy to use, both our patrons and ticket staff were happy with it. To purchase tickets, just go to www.ShowClix.com and type in St. Dunstan's Theatre, or simply click on the ticket link on our own website.

Patrons may also telephone **1-888-71-TICKETS** from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday to order tickets or ask questions. A real, live human being is there to help!

Ticket prices this year have been adjusted slightly to cover credit card fees and service fees. Non-musicals are \$20 general admission, \$18 for seniors and students. For musicals, the charge is \$22 general admission, \$20 for seniors and students. These prices **include** all fees and are the **same** whether purchased online, by phone, or at the Box Office. Just a little reminder: considerable savings if you sell your friends and family SEASON TICKETS!

MISS DAISY: WHERE ARE YOU?

Each of us knows how to drive. Would you be willing to share your driving skill shuttling our patrons to and from the parking lot for a couple shows during this year's season? Anyone who's willing to help, or get a driving lesson, could contact Nat and Mairo Towle, the

co-chairs of Producers or Ruth Bennett, Ticket chair.

YOU'LL LOVE "SHE LOVES ME"

Don't miss the fun! Jeff Davison is thrilled to be directing the charming musical "She Loves Me," slated to open Feb. 3.

The movies "You've Got Mail" and "Shop Around The Corner" are based on "She Loves Me." The show opened on Broadway at the same time as "Hello Dolly", "Fiddler on the Roof", "Oliver", "My Fair Lady" and "West Side Story", so it had some stiff competition! But it's sweet, creative and beautifully written, so it is still delightful to audiences today. The piece takes place in Budapest in 1939—a love story between two people who don't like each other. As co-workers in a department store, each is unaware that they are the other's secret love interest in a Lonely Hearts Club. Mix in some quirky fellow salespeople, a grouchy boss and several over-zealous customers, and the result is a touching, funny, and charmingly corny love story. Each character has at least one show-stopping song.

Many great roles are available for men and women of all ages. So come out and be a part of the fun. Auditions are Oct. 16 & 17 at 7 p.m. Check in: 6:30 p.m., auditions at 7. Call-backs: Monday, Oct. 17 at 8. Performance dates: Jan. 20, 21, 27, 28, 29; Feb 2 & 3, 2012. Each character has at least one show stopping song.

Audition and music cuts can be obtained either at St. D's or by e-mailing Jeff Davison at tonyjeff@comcast.net

The directing team is:

Director, Jeff Davison; Music Director, Paul Abbott; Choreographer, Valerie Mould; Assistant Director, Kathy Brooks; Producer, Apprentice Director, Mairo Towle

Roles

Ages listed are flexible. In 1939, people looked older than they were. Depending on turn out, we may cast older or younger and relative to each other.

Sipos. (Baritone) 30-50. A content, somewhat nerdy salesman, who always does things by the book, but makes us wonder what's really going on in his head.

Arpad. (Baritone) 15-20. An overzealous, passionate and somewhat clumsy delivery boy who desperately wants to become a salesman.

Ilona Ritter. (Alto) 30's. An attractive woman who's been around and always falls for the wrong man. She is slightly naïve, worldly innocent and the audience loves her.

Kodaly. (Tenor) 25-40. Handsome and he knows it. The stereo-typical ladies man who's very impressed by himself. Charismatic, engaging and specializes in romance.

Georg. (Baritone) 25-40. A stiff, hard working, very dependable man. Once he falls in love, all that changes and we see a playful, much more liberated side.

Maraczek. (Baritone) 50-65. The controlling boss who is reluctantly close to retiring. He loves sharing his memories of "days gone by".

Amalia. (Soprano) 25-40. An average, hard working salesgirl. She is likable, slightly nerdy and borders on pushy. She's in love with love.

Waiter. (Baritone) Any age. Dry, pretentious and very funny. This role will be a blast and have the potential to steal the show. The waiter will also be in other scenes.

Customers. (Various ranges). Any age. We will cast three strong female character actors who are on stage throughout much of the show. Highlighted in many musical numbers and guaranteed to have a lot of fun.

Gentlemen. (Various ranges). Any age. We will cast two or three great actors/singers that don't blend in.

Mark, Mark, Married President

St. Dunstan's President, Mark Walters tied the knot on June 25. The new Mrs. Walters, Mary, has costuming experience, and Mark thinks he might have some influence in getting her to join St. D's.

NEW MAC MEMBERS SOUGHT

Our governing documents note that any long-term member can participate as a member of the Membership Advisory Committee (MAC). What about you? If interested or if you want more

information, contact Sally Garrison. MAC members are responsible for new member orientation which means that we often meet, greet, and befriend our newest members before they get involved in our Guild. Try it, you'll LOVE it. You'd be a perfect addition to the MAC team. Meetings will be Sept. 13 ; Oct. 4; Nov. 1; Jan. 3; Feb. 7; Mar. 6; Apr. 3 (all Tuesdays) at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Room.

Contact MAC Chairman to set up an appointment any time. Sally Garrison (248-540-3762 or WSARAHSALLY@aol.com).

A STANDING OVATION TO...

All of you who have sponsored or opened your arms in welcome to a new member. That continuing support of new members keeps our Guild growing and strong. Keep up the good work!

CAROL SING COMING SOON!

Mark your calendars NOW for Dec. 3, at 3 p.m., Christ Church Cranbrook for the 2011 Carol Sing. This year's guest choir is the renowned Detroit Children's Youth Choir. What a very special Christmas present for us! Matt Horn is hard at work selecting the music for the St. Dunstan's ensemble and perhaps some additional surprises. Tentative rehearsal plans for the ensemble are the four Sundays in November. More information will be available in the October Guilder. Connie McEwan writes, "This is my fifth year of producing this wonderful, heart-warming event and I will be turning it over to another interested party for 2012. Might that be you? It is not difficult and mainly consists of phone calls/emails to make arrangements and coordinate timing. It's pretty much a formula at this point in time, but always open-ended for new ideas. Please think about it as Connie would love to have the new coordinator work with her this year, so next year will have a small learning curve for the newbie. Contact Connie at conniemcewan@sbcglobal.net

ON OTHER STAGES

St. Dunstan members Sue Mancuso, Lauren DePorre, and Chris Steinmayer are all in Follies at Village Players. Let's order tickets NOW to support our fellow members as they share their talents on other stages. Follis runs Sept. 16 thru Oct. 2.

JOSEPH: A FEEL-GOOD STORY

A St. D's patron and chiropractor, Dr. Tom Kopsch, won the 50-50 raffle at a Friday night show of "Joseph." He's been a supporter of St.D's for some time. This year, he bought a season-long ad for the program. He's been bringing his little daughter, Ireland Rose, to Children's Theatre. After he brought her to "Joseph" on June 10, she liked it so much and had so many questions (like, "Why is Joseph's father crying?" etc.), he brought her back again the following week, along with his parents. They all loved show, and bought the CD of the music afterwards. And Ireland is only 3 1/2 years old! We are inspiring young people to love theatre!

LEARN FROM COMPETITORS!

Village Player's "The Prompter" featured an article about season tickets in its Aug. 2011 edition. The Marketing Committee at VP bought a coupon to be included in VALPAK for the purchase of season tickets. They urge their membership to pass along the coupon to friends, neighbors, colleagues and relatives to use in buying their tickets. "Only by working together will we be able to increase ticket sales," wrote President Bill Haycock. "Just think if each of us sold just one season ticket, we would increase our annual sales by more than 50%! Please do your part." There is a fine lesson to be learned by studying the best practices of others in the same line of business. See what you can do about selling just one season ticket—but for St. Dunstan's season!

OBITUARIES

Long-time St. Dunstan's member, Jeanne Kenyon died May 15. We mourn her loss. Jeanne always had a kind word and a smile for all those she touched while a member of St. Dunstan's.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I hope your summer was spectacular and we are now rested and ready to go for a great, new season, our 80th! We have some awesome shows and events planned, starting with our Open House on Sept. 11. Plan to show up sometime that afternoon, bring a dish to share if you can, and bring your non-member friends to share in the fun. We'd LOVE to bring in new members, and the Open House is a terrific time to show off the building—cuz there have been some spiffy changes! We've painted the lobby and stairway, and the Pavilion floor will be cleaned, buffed and polished before we open the doors. Cranbrook is redesigning the stair railings, so hopefully it will be easier for everyone to navigate their way up to the Pavilion.



Editor: Pam Richards
Contributors:
Kathy Burch
Jeff Davison
Kathleen Lietz
Connie McEwan
Mairo Towle
Mark Walters

By the way, we have been working on updating the Roster, and all members will receive a copy, available at the opening punch. All paid members can pickup their copy on the 11th, (and you can always pay your dues then—cash and checks happily accepted). Then we'll have them available for others in town during the next few weeks. Please consider picking them up to save us the cost of mailing. If you have ANY changes, PLEASE, PLEASE get them to Barb Gowans or me ASAP so we can get them included and the rosters printed in time for Sept. 11.

Advertising for the show programs is underway. If you have a business, please consider purchasing advertising. It's a great way to get your message out to more than 2,000 people over the course of the season. And, these are people who will be happy to use your product, because they enjoy theatre. (So what if it isn't logical?) Plus, now that the lobby painting is completed, we'll be putting up the lobby monitor. Alan Canning will create material highlighting the current show and cast, upcoming shows and events, and, certain program ads will also get an electronic version as an added bonus!

The 39 Steps, directed by Kathleen Lietz, a new member, opens Oct. 14 and the cast and crew is already hard at work building set, and rehearsing this tremendously funny, physical show. Remember that your paid dues entitle you to a ticket to each of our shows. October also brings our first auditions of the year, for the Theater for Children, *Aantsy Aardvark*, directed by Kathy Brooks, as well as our indoor musical *She Loves Me*, directed by Jeff Davison. Watch your e-mail for specific information. See you Sept. 11!

St. Dunstan's
Open House

Sunday, Sept. 11
3-6 p.m.

Bring a friend like
yourself.

Bring fun, silliness
Bring a dish to pass!

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

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