

# SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the  
Schenectady Light Opera Company  
Volume 41-3  
November 2007

## Leapin' Lizards! *Annie's* Back at SLOC!

Performed here previously in 1972, 1984 and 1990, *Annie* is returning to SLOC after 17 years. This classic has Suzanne Rayome (Miss Hannigan) showing "Little Girls" Annie (Emily Franklin and Jessica Carrozzi sharing the role) and the other orphans, played by Allyson B. Bullock, Abigail Dunn, Eliza Figueroa, Maureen Gallagher, Julianna E. Kopa, Anna Lichorat, Raya Malcolm, Grace McCarthy and Gabrielle Straight, that living at the orphanage can be a "Hard Knock Life" time and time again.

In an attempt to escape the orphanage, Annie meets up with Sandy (Ginger Oliver) and they instantly become friends. Annie is returned to the orphanage, but is given a chance to experience kindness when Grace Farrell, played by Erin Waterhouse, wishes to bring her to the home of the ultra-rich Oliver Warbucks, played by Robert Hegeman, where she is greeted by the friendly staff. Settling in is not hard but all she can think of is her real parents. "Maybe" they will come.

Enter Sev Morro and Caledonia Gordon (Rooster and Lily St. Regis), as they plot their way into the "Easy Street" reward money. Rounding out the multi-talented cast is Melissa Beatrice, Samuel Cravatas, Claudia DeMartino, Emmett Ferris, Kay Koch, Ashley Markellos, Nick Musctaiello, Michael O'Brien, Keith Searles and Victoria Sheehan,

Supporting this exciting cast behind the scenes is a talented production team, including: Matthew T. Teichner (Director, Set Design and Stage Manager), Cathy Mele (Music Director), Therese Peck (Choreographer), Stephanie Insogna (Assistant Director), Brett Putnam and Donna Z. Baxter (Co-Producers), Melanie Frye and Kim Gittens (Costumes); Beth Bullock and Anne Sylvester (Props), Diane C. Demeo (Hair Design), Jo Hepinstall and Julie Massaroni (Scene Artists); Rebecca Berringer (Make-up Design), Dave Dixon (Publicity Assistant) and last but not least Rich Lenehan and Tyler Marrone (Construction Chiefs).

Don't wait until "Tomorrow" to order your tickets, order them today by contacting Jennifer S. Depew at 1-877-350-7378 or log on to [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org) and experience our amazing new ticket system by clicking on *Annie!* (Emily Franklin: 12/1, 12/7, 12/8, 12/14, 12/15 and Jessica Carrozzi: 11/29 (Preview), 12/2, 12/6, 12/9, 12/16). Performance Dates: November 30, December 1-2; December 6-9; December 14-16, 2007 (Thursday-Saturday at 8pm; Sundays at 2pm). Ticket prices are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under the age of 13. Group rates are also available.

If you are also interested in helping in ANY capacity (cast, sound, stage crew, painting, costumes etc) please contact the web ([www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org)) and sign up now.

### WANTED:

#### SLOC PLAYBILL EDITOR - Will Train!

For 81 seasons SLOC has been so fortunate to have an amazing group of talented volunteers. We find over the years that many wish to even learn a new task or duty & continue to contribute to the successes SLOC has achieved. The position of PLAYBILL EDITOR (for our remaining 4 productions) is now open to new candidates!!

You can be involved with the shows and still do the work at home. How easy can it be? For more information on the job requirements, please contact Donna Z. Baxter at [dzbaxter@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dzbaxter@nycap.rr.com).



826 State St.  
Schenectady, NY 12307  
393-5732

Web Site:  
[www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org)

#### 2007-2008 Season

KISS OF THE  
SPIDER WOMAN  
September 28-30,

October 4-7

MUSIC MAN

(Youth Prod. @ Proctor's)

November 15-18

ANNIE

November 30,

December 1-2, 6-9, 14-16

BEGUILED AGAIN

January 11-13, 18-20

BAT BOY

March 7-9, 13-16

ANYTHING GOES

May 2-4, 8-11



Bob Farquharson  
President

Board of Directors  
Regina Baker  
Donna Z. Baxter  
Marlene Countermine  
Mary Kozlowski  
Brett Putnam  
Michelle Sausa-Gatta  
Eric Shovah  
Ross Snyder

Next Newsletter  
Deadline:  
November 26, 2007

Spotlight on...

*The Music Man*  
Opens at the  
GE Black Box Theater  
(see article on page 3)

## President's Notes...by Robert Farquharson

Kiss - What a way to start SLOC's 81<sup>st</sup> season. Kiss of the Spider Woman was a class act-both I & II. Congratulations go to the production team, cast and crew for an exceptional show. A season subscriber and his wife sent an email and it speaks for a lot of us. Here are some key statements. "We thought *Spider Woman* was the best production we have seen in our limited history as season subscribers." "This is not the type of production we would associate with SLOC, but one of the reasons we subscribe to an entire season instead of picking and choosing individual shows is so our horizons get broadened a little. This show certainly did that." "Once again we think this was a spectacular production and really raises the bar for regional theater. You are to be applauded for presenting a show that made us think a little." This is from a couple not involved in the company, but who support us as subscribers. We always need more subscribers and point out a good reason to be one.

It is no secret that we have a very busy season with six productions. The Opera House is busy most of the time with rehearsals, auditions, and numerous meetings. I think it generates wonderful energy and enthusiasm. We have just held auditions for *Beguiled Again* (see this month's article for some partial cast announcements) and *Bat Boy* auditions will be over by the time you read this. I hope you are involved in some way to support our 81<sup>st</sup> season.

Staffing changes: The sad news is that Dave Dixon felt he needed to resign from both the Board of Directors and CO-VP for Public Relations, but he would welcome these opportunities during another future season. The good news is that he is still doing a lot as the PR point person for several shows and as editor of the Newsletter. The other good news is that Regina Baker accepted our offer to fill Dave's seat on the Board. Another sad piece of news is that Eunice Chouffi has decided not to continue as Auditions Chairperson after doing this job for decades. Thanks Eunice for your many years of handling this job and doing it so well. The good news is that Jodi Gilman wanted to take on this position. She even found a relative newcomer to SLOC operations, Becky Straight, to take her Ushers Chairperson position. So, we have experienced SLOC'ers moving around to new positions and encouraging others to become involved in company operations. All this is very good for the health of our company.

Don't forget to pay your membership dues so you can vote and so you can be eligible to run for the Board of Directors. You need to be a dues paying member for two consecutive years to be eligible for the Board. There is a membership form enclosed in this newsletter.

Any good painters out there? We would like to paint the Lobby on both levels and the "green" room. They really need it. I know we are busy, but I bet there are some good painters available for this kind of project.

A big thank you to Tom Gatta and Ted Vickery for doing major repairs to the furnace plus cleaning the furnace room. We hope to all be nice and toasty for the winter. Another big thank you to Richard Lenahan for our Set Facility which looks so neat and organized. All of these things help us in many ways. They give us comfort, and the ease to find items helps save time and money while reducing frustration. This way we can all have more FUN!

## Beguiling News!



### Casting Couch

At printing time for this newsletter the production team for our Rodgers and Hart Review, *Beguiled Again*, were diligently making their final casting decisions. A complete cast and crew list will be printed in the next issue of the SPOTLIGHT (December 2007) but please visit our SLOC website ([www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org)) within the next few weeks to review the cast list! Don't wait until this winter to buy tickets for the second premiere in SLOC's 81<sup>st</sup> season. Call 1-877-350-7378 or on our website.

### Life is a Cabaret

Our January 11-13; 18-20, 2008 production, *Beguiled Again*, will be staged in a cabaret style! CABARET VOLUNTEERS are needed! (Volunteers will set up, serve food & beverage, clean up, etc.). To volunteer, please call Jodi Gilman, 869-4074, and sign up now for 1, 2 or all 6 production dates. Join in on the Fun!!

## SLOC Spotlight

SLOC Spotlight is a newsletter of the Schenectady Light Opera Company, P. O. Box 1006, Schenectady, NY 12301. SLOC is a community volunteer musical and theatre arts incorporated, nonprofit organization. Governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership, SLOC's purpose is to present quality musical theater to the people in and around Schenectady County, NY.

Newsletter Staff: Dave Dixon, Eric Shovah, Donna Z. Baxter, and Joe and Marianne Condra. Subscription Rates: \$5 per year, check payable to SLOC. Send subscription inquiries and address changes to the address listed above.

**DEADLINE** for submissions to **Vol. 41 Issue No. 4** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT will be Monday, November 26, 2007. Issue No. 4 will be mailed by December 12, 2007.

Please submit articles to Dave Dixon at [luvsbabs@yahoo.com](mailto:luvsbabs@yahoo.com) or 4 Hall Pl., Apt B, Albany, NY 12210

# *The Music Man* Marches Into Proctors!!!

Meredith Willson's TONY AWARD Winning Classic, *The Music Man* opens at Proctor's new, state-of-the-art GE/Black Box Theatre. Confidence Man, "Harold Hill" (portrayed by Christopher Parker) arrives at River City to equip and train a boy's marching band while he also falls for "Marion, the Librarian" (played by Sara Smigen).

The five performance dates are: Nov 15, 16, 17 at 7:30pm; Nov 17 & 18 at 2pm. For Tickets call: the Proctor's Box Office ONLY (General Seating ONLY): 346-6204 or at [www.proctors.org](http://www.proctors.org). NOTE: Both SLOC's box office number and SLOC website are now closed for *The Music Man* ticket sales!)

Co-Directors, Joe Fava and Jeffrey Scott, Co-Producers, Marlene Countermine and Ross Snyder, and Musical Director, Andrea Merrill have cast some of the Capital Region's best elementary through high school students to portray some of the best roles from this Broadway classic. For a complete list of this stellar cast & their roles, please visit SLOC's web: [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org). Rounding out the seasoned production staff are: Jeffrey Scott(Choreographer), Regina Baker(Stage Manager), Bob Farquharson(Set Designer), Petrina Frederick(Costume Designer), Nick Webb(Lighting), Michael Jegabbi(Makeup), John Fowler(Hair), Dave Dixon(Publicity) and Michele Sausa-Gatta(Board Liason).

Tickets are selling fast! Join us as we listen to some of Broadway's favorites: "Seventy-Six Trombones" and "Til there was You." Don't miss this historical event as SLOC becomes the first community theatre to produce a show at Proctor's New Theatre.



The cast of *Music Man* working hard at rehearsal.

## *Get Me to the Church on Time!*



Best Wishes to Heather D'Arcy and Eric Shovah as they say their "I do's" to each other on Saturday November 3rd. Heather and Eric met at SLOC during the production of *Jekyll and Hyde* and later that year the two starred opposite one another in *Triumph of Love*. The two also worked together on *Nine*, *Oliver*, *Hello Dolly* and *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. And, as Susan Birkenhead wrote in *Triumph of Love*, "Then let the world be told, how sweet it is to fall, with heart and mind at last entwined, a triumph of love for all!" Congratulations and best wishes!

## Don't Forget the Rest...

### BAT BOY



Why go "BATTY" this season & wait til the last minute to order tickets for our March production of *Bat Boy: the musical*? Preferred seating & specific seating are "FYLING" by! ORDER NOW! 1-877-350-7378 or at [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org).

## Anything Goes!



The SS American sets sail from State St. on May 2-11, 2008! *Anything Goes*, our final production for the '07-'08 season still has "deck chairs" available!

Call SLOC's "travel agents" at 1-877-350-7378 to reserve your spot now! A ticket is all you'll need! Don't miss the boat!

Have you invited a friend  
to a SLOC production this season?

First time audience members can become long-term audience members. Why not share your SLOC enthusiasm with others today?

## *Grease is the Word: ...even in China!*

Congratulations to Richard Gatta, a 10 year SLOC member, performer & lighting booth assistant as he accepted a 3 week tour in China(October 2007). He'll be performing with Phoenix Entertainment in the cast of *Grease*. The Troupe will be performing at the Macau International Music Festival. The Macau Resort is a 45 minute ferry ride from Hong Kong. For more info, visit [www.phoenix-ent.com](http://www.phoenix-ent.com).





P.O. Box 1006  
Schenectady, NY 12301-1006

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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*The Music Man @ GE Theater at Proctors*  
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Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
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Schenectady, NY  
Permit No. 120

## 2007-2008 New Membership/Membership Renewal Form

Please return by February 1, 2008 to:

Jenny Depew 3 Delafield Drive, Albany NY 12205-2407

Direct questions regarding membership to Jenny at the address above, or call 456-5504.

\*\*\* PLEASE PRINT Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address, incl. 9-digit zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

My/Our last show involvement was \_\_\_\_\_

(Membership requires participation in some aspect of a recent production.)

I/We have enclosed my/our \$10 membership fee *per person*.

Dues paid now will make me/us a member through June 2008.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ payable to SLOC.

\*\*\* Checks Only Please.

Thank you for your support.

# Ad for Ads!!!

Do you (or anyone you know) own your own business?

Looking for some extra advertising? If so, SLOC is looking for ad patrons for our playbill. We have a variety of sizes and prices to fit any company or business needs.

In addition, most packages include complimentary tickets. Advertise for your business and enjoy quality musical theatre. If interested, please contact:

Heather D'Arcy at  
hdarcy78@hotmail.com or by  
phone at 248-2618.