

SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the
Schenectady Light Opera Company
Volume 41-6
April 2008

All Aboard! *Anything Goes* Sets Sail!

The final show of SLOC's 81st season, *Anything Goes*, will soon be setting sail, departing from the Opera House with a destination for a great night of theater! This classic piece of musical theater boasts an extremely memorable Cole Porter score with hits like "You're the Top," "DeLovely," "All Through the Night," and "Blow Gabriel, Blow." Along with these classic numbers there are a host of large tap numbers and unforgettable characters. Leading this talented cast are Michael C. Mensching (Billy Crocker), Laurie Burns (Reno Sweeny), Adam Coons (Moonface Martin), Casey Dinkin (Hope Harcourt), Bob Hegeman (Evelyn Oakleigh), Heather D'Arcy (Bonnie), Bill Hickman (Elisha J. Whitney), and Rita Russell (Mrs. Harcourt). The Angels, sailors, and ensemble are composed of Melissa Beatrice, Laura Smith, Victoria Sheehan, Andrea Burger, Joel Shapiro, Casey Larkin, Kody Carpenter, Ray Burns, Joe Malone, Keith Searles, Jim D'Arcy, Michael McDermott, Hollie Wilkie, Laurel Burns, Patricia Keister, and Rachel Newman. The crew of the boat and this fine production are Director Eric Shovah, Producer and Assistant to the Directors Marlene Counterline, Musical Director Cathy Mele, Choreographer Heather D'Arcy, Assistant Director Ross Synder, Stage Manager Regina Baker, Set Designers Michael C. Mensching and Michael McDermott, Light Designer Greg Rucinski, Sound Designer Joel Lord, Costume Designer Connie Rauhauser, Make-Up Designer Marcia Lenehan, Publicity Provider Michael McDermott, Hair and Wig Designer John Fowler, and Properties Manager Adam Coons.

The show is filled with mistaken identity, humor, and instantly recognizable music as Billy Crocker stows away on the boat, the S.S. American. Billy is helped in hiding by his friend, the evangelist turned nightclub singer, Reno Sweeney and fellow stowaway, public enemy number thirteen, Moonface Martin who is disguised as a priest. Billy is stows away to get closer to the love of his life, Hope Harcourt, who is sailing to be married to Sir Evelyn Oakleigh. Not only is Billy running from the ship's crew, but is also trying to hide from his boss, Elisha Whitney. Throw in a ditzzy gun maul, an overbearing mother, some sailors and beautiful girls and you have one of America's favorite musicals!

Performances run May 2-4 and May 8-11, with the evening performance starting at 8:00pm and the Sunday matinees starting at 2:00pm. Tickets are selling fast, so buy them ahead of time! To do so, please call 1-877-350-7378 or visit us on the web at www.sloctheater.org. Grab your passport, your suitcase, and your boarding pass and we will see you at the Opera House this May!



826 State St.
Schenectady, NY 12307
393-5732

Web Site:
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 Counterline
Mary Kozlowski
Brett Putnam
Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Eric Shovah
Ross Snyder

Next Newsletter
Deadline:
May 9, 2008

Mark Your Calendar Now Annual PotLuck Dinner/Meeting Saturday, June 7th:

"SLOC Members Elect Board Members; Strategic Plan is presented; Potential Relocation Updates; President/VP Annual reports"; Lots of Fun & Laughs—Detailed RSVP/ Sign-Up info provided in our May newsletter."

Spotlight on...
**Thoroughly Modern
Millie Auditions**
(see article on page 3)
Board Nominations
(see article on page 3)

President's Notes...by Robert Farquharson

President Bob

It really is Spring, and SLOC's 81st Season is almost over! Our final production, *Anything Goes*, is in full rehearsal mode. I am sure you won't want to miss this one. It has the wonderfully uplifting music and lyrics composed by Cole Porter. It is one of my favorite musicals and word has it that this will be a top flight production. Make sure you invite your friends. Also, many thanks to Tom Heckert and the cast and crew of *Bat Boy: the Musical* for a successful run.

Our 81st Season has been a very busy one, bringing you six quality productions. This could not have been achieved without the numerous dedicated people that devoted their time and talents this past year. My heartfelt thanks to each of you. SLOC also could not exist without your dedicated financial support. Your purchasing tickets, promoting our productions and donating gifts as benefactors provide the financial resources for SLOC's continued "performance." We have also been named as a recipient in Gwen Fraser's will. She enjoyed SLOC so much that she wanted the company to benefit in several ways. She left us her collection of musical scores as well as financial assets.

Please continue your support into our 82nd Season. We have a wonderful mix of musical theater planned for you. The five scheduled productions are: *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Seussical: the Musical*, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, *Assassins*, and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. You can order tickets on line via SLOC's website (sloctheater.org) or by telephone (1-877-350-7378). You can become a season subscriber and save money, plus have the option of changing your reservations when needed.

The SLOC Board and officers have worked extra hard this year. We've had several meetings to create a strategic plan for the company as well as to plan a potential relocation. Jon Samatulski, our consultant from Urban Initiatives, has been guiding us through the strategic planning. While it has been time consuming, it has been rewarding and insightful. We'll be sharing this plan with the membership at our **annual meeting on June 7th**. I hope members will be there so we have the quorum needed to elect members to the open Board seats.

A lot of effort has gone into the process of relocation. We have taken one step at a time and hopefully, I will have more information at our annual meeting.

In line with these insights from our strategic planning and relocation efforts, we realized that the company needed someone to lead us in fundraising. I am very happy to announce that Robert Harrison has accepted the newly created office of Vice President for Development. Bob's career included development for St Clare's Hospital, he has been on several governing boards, plus he has been active in SLOC since 1976. One of his first shows was "George M" and he was recently in our 80th Anniversary Concert. This is a strategic step we are taking for SLOC's future. Welcome Bob.

I feel very honored to lead our company at this pivotal time. Thank you for your support.

Robert C. Farquharson, President

Calling All Volunteers!



WANTED - SLOC MARQUEE COORDINATOR

Duties: Responsible for changing/updating each production title and performance dates on the theater's marquee. This duty requires immediate marquee updates following the closing date of a production. Volunteer duties will begin following the close of "Thoroughly Modern Millie" (mid October). Questions? Interested? Contact Donna Z Baxter, VP/PR: 472-8189 or dzbxter@nycap.rr.com. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED - PROVIDE A HUGE CONTRIBUTION TO SLOC'S SUCCESS.

WANTED - TICKET SALE VOLUNTEERS

Enjoy talking to people? Comfortable with computers? Then SLOC has the perfect volunteer opportunity for you! This season, SLOC upgraded to an electronic ticket sales system & has welcomed some new ticket sales volunteers. But we can still use more help taking and processing ticket orders. Basic duties include: answering phone calls (received via our #877 number); processing ticket sales using your home computer and/or the box office computer; staffing the box office during performances. Requirements: A computer with Internet access. Cable or DSL is preferable. If interested or just want to know more about how this works, please contact Mary Kozlowski at 253-2859 or skozlow1@nycap.rr.com.

WILL TRAIN NO PRIOR TICKET SALES EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

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. 7** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT will be Friday, May 9, 2008. Issue No. 7 will be mailed by May 20, 2008.

Please submit articles to Dave Dixon at luvsbabs@yahoo.com or 4 Hall Pl., Apt B, Albany, NY 12210

Thoroughly Modern Millie Audition Notice:



AUDITION DATES: Monday, June 2 and
Wednesday, June 4th at 7pm

Dance Call Back: Thursday June 5th at 7pm

SHOW DATES

OCTOBER 3,4,10,11 2008 @ 8PM

OCTOBER 4,5,11,12 2008 @ 2PM

THIRD WEEKEND POSSIBILITY

SYNOPSIS:

Thoroughly Modern Millie tells the story of a small town girl, Millie Dillmount, who comes to NYC to marry for money instead of love - a thoroughly modern aim in 1922 when women were just entering the work force. Millie soon begins to take to delight the flapper lifestyle, but problems arise when she checks into a hotel owned by the leader of a white slavery ring in China. This comedy won the 2002 Tony for Best Musical.

PRINCIPAL ROLES (vocal range)

Millie Dillmount [age 17-25]

- small town girl hoping to marry rich; vivacious and vibrant (mezzo)

Jimmy Smith [age 16-25]

- "free and easy" young city-slicker, in love with Millie, pretends to be poor (tenor)

Mr. Trevor Graydon [age 27-40]

- Millie's boss and the object of her affection; rich, debonair, and vain (baritone)

Miss Dorothy Brown [age 20-30]

- Millie's friend and roommate; old-fashioned, prim and proper, slightly ditzzy (soprano)

Mrs. Meers [age 30+]

- sinister former actress and landlady, feigning Asian heritage; diabolical and bitter (belter)

Ching Ho and Bun Foo [ages 16-30]

- inept Chinese henchmen working for Mrs. Meers

Muzzy Van Hossmere [age 30+]

- rich and glamorous nightclub singer (alto)

Miss Flannery [age 30+]

- bossy, uptight office manager at Millie's office

CHORUS [VARIOUS AGES] 10 MEN / 10 WOMEN

All must be able to tap, have some ballroom dancing experience, and sing a variety of Roles. Audition requirements : Be prepared with 16 bars of a song in your range, and a comedic monologue. We will be reading sets from the show, and you may be asked to sing something from the show. Dancing auditions will be a separate call back on Thursday night.

CONTACT and QUESTIONS JEFFREY SCOTT - DIRECTOR 518-596-6181

MARLENE COUTNERMINE - PRODUCER 518-421-9603

The Production Team: Director - Jeffery Scott, Producers - Marlene Countermine/Melinda Zarnoch, Musical Director - Bruce A. Holden, Set Design - Duncan Morrison, Light Design - Ken Zarnoch, Costume Design - Joesph Fava, Set Construction - Varro Clarke and Bob Farquarson, Sound Design - Joel Lord, Hair Design - Michael Jegabbi, Make-Up Design - Marcia Lenehan, Dance Captain - Tyler Massaroni, Publicity - Dave Dixon, Board Liason - Michelle Sausa-Gatta

Board Positions for the 2008-2009 Season

The SLOC Nominating Committee is still at work to fill the five(5) seats that will be vacant in June. Committee chair Bonnie Williams and her team of Allan Foster and Bill McColl have contacted many members to run for the open seats. The following people's terms are up this year: Bob Farquarson, Mary Kozlowski, Brett Putnam, Donna Z. Baxter and Regina Baker (filling the first year of a two year unexpired term). All are eligible to run again, however Donna and Mary have opted not run for another term.

At press time, the committee was still in search of four additional candidates, pending responses from phone calls and emails, to add to three members who have agreed to run, to complete the slate of seven nominees needed. The committee assures the Company that a full slate will be compiled before the next newsletter mailing presented to the membership for voting at the June 7, annual meeting.

Those remaining on the Board are: Marlene Countermine, Michelle Sausa-Gatta, Ross Snyder and Eric Shovah. If there are any company members who wish to be added to the ballot, a petition with the signatures of five eligible voting company members must be submitted to the SLOC Secretary (Melinda Zarnoch) 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Her email address is sail4017@yahoo.com. Information about all the candidates will be published in the next issue of Spotlight.

Attention Board Candidates

Candidates for the Board are reminded that their biographies need to be submitted to the newsletter editor (Dave Dixon at luvsbabs@yahoo.com) by April 25.

Absentee Ballots Available

A member qualifying as a Voting Member shall be entitled to personally request one (1) absentee ballot from the Secretary. The request must be made at least two (2) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Secretary will provide the ballot and a covering envelope with instructions to vote for five (5) candidates. The ballot **must** be marked, sealed in the covering envelope which **must** be signed by the voter on the outside, and returned to the Secretary prior to the Annual Meeting. Any absentee ballots received after the voting process has commenced during the Annual Meeting, or in an unsigned covering envelope shall be declared void. Please contact Secretary Melinda Zarnoch at 382-8497 to obtain an absentee ballot.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2007-2008 Season

Kiss of the Spider Woman
September 28-30 and October 4-7
The Music Man @ GE Theater at Proctors
November 15-18
Annie Nov 30, Dec 1 and 2 and 6-9 & 14-16
Beguiled Again Jan 11-13 & 18-20
Bat Boy March 7-9 & 13-16
Anything Goes May 2-4 & 8-11

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2008 SLOC MEMBERSHIP as of February 1, 2008

* designates new member or a break in membership (cannot run for '08-09 office)

Joseph Agostine, Jr.('09)	Bill Depew	Grace Hepburn	Mary Francis Miller	Jeffrey Scott*
Alan Angelo	Jenny Depew	Alicia Hermance	Carolyn J. Mills	Argie Serras
	Dave Dixon	Myron Hermance	Ginnie Mills	Eric Shovah
Thomas Bambury	Ferne Dutkin	Philip Hermance	Jacqueline E. Mosher	Marcia Smith
Donna Z. Baxter		Bill Hickman	Debra Moyer	Ross Snyder
Ric Bello	Don Edmans	Maxine Hilderley	Howard Moyer	Janet Stasio
Frank Blum		Mimi Hilderley	Mary-Ann Muth	Jane B. Stewart
Vince Bonafede*	Bob Farquharson	Pat Hoffman	Gioia Ottaviano('09)	Joan Sticher('10)
Pat Brady	Paula Farquharson	Paul Hooker		Sherry Strichman
Jim Burns	Sally Farrell			
Kate Burns	Joseph Fava	Bill Kornrumpf('11)	Chris Pedersen	Elisa Verb('12)
Eileen Bush	Linda Fetherston	Gina Kornrumpf('11)	Larry Pedersen	Ted Vickery
	Allan Foster	Mary Kozlowski	Joe Phillips	Allan Villeneuve
Pat Casey('09)	Lois Foster	Frank Krummel*	Margot Phillips	
Eunice Chouffi	Dolores Fragomeni		Debra Pigliavento	Tom Watthews
Jean Clarke	Ron Fragomeni	Melissa Lacijan	Eleanor Pigliavento	Joanne Westervelt
Varro Clarke	Lisa Franklin	Peter Lacijan	Orlando Pigliavento	Don White('09)
Madeline Codella	Paul Franklin*	Pat LaFleur	Bill Poppino	David Wilkinson
Peter Codella		Marcia Lenehan	Brett Putnam	Bonnie Williams
Jill Coloney	Anne Gallaghers*	Richard Lenehan		Nancy Wozny
Joe Concra	Gail Garrison	Shirley Levey	Walter Raab	
MaryAnn Concra	Richard Gatta	Flora Lovell	John Rayome	Ken Zarnoch
Dale Conklin*	Tom Gatta	Jim Lovell	Suzanne Rayome	Melinda Zarnoch
Adam Coons	Art Gauvreau		Nina Rindenello	Thelma Zeh('09)
Don Countermine	Paige Gauvreau	Carol Mann	Greg Rucinski	Lillian Zola
Marlene Countermine	Della Gilman	William McColl	Sue Rucinski	
Paul Croteau	Jodi Gilman	Brendan McDermott	Ted Rucinski	
Rita Croteau		Michael McDermott	Rita Russell*	
Sue Culver	Bob Harrison	Cathy G. Mele	John W. Ryan('10)	
	Dick Harte	Joanne Mensching		
Heather D'Arcy	Donna Hatch	Michael Mensching	Ruth Salter	
Tom DellaSala('09)	Tom Heckert	Jo Ann Menzer	Kathy Sargalis*	
Gail Denisoff('09)	Charlie Hepburn	Judi Merriam	Michelle Sausa-Gatta	

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 at hdarcy78@hotmail.com.