



Sun Prairie Civic Theatre

Ramblings of the President

YIKES! It's already the middle of October! It is hard believe almost half of SPCT's 2009-2010 season has already become part of our history.



First, I'd like to comment on the first show of the season. For those of you who missed it, you really missed one outstanding production. **Always...Patsy Cline** played to sold out audiences for almost every performance, and those that weren't sold out were mighty close. Our thanks go out to **Lori Gryttr-Erdman** and **Amy Snyder** for their magnificent performances they have each and every night. Much credit also goes to the fine "country" band assembled for the show and the directors, **Tim Olmstead** and **Andrew Estervig**. Although some SPCT members had misgivings when the show was selected, opinions have sure changed with the success of the show. Many audience members commented on the professional quality of this performance. One even asked Lori when she was returning to Nashville! The talent of our SPCT members never ceases to amaze us and the community. The Colonial Club's auditorium provided us with an intimate setting for this nostalgic, exciting, and upbeat show.

Without even taking time for a deep breath, we undertook the task of mounting **Alice in Wonderland**. Under the skilled direction of **Livia Goff**, with assistance from **Collin Loeffler**, a cast of more than seventy people of all ages was assembled to recreate the Lewis Carroll classic tale of Alice's adventures in Wonderland. **Denise Utter** was the stage manager. All of the usual characters were present — the White Rabbit, the March Hare, the Queen of Hearts, Tweedledum & Tweedledee, the Dormouse, the Mad Hatter, the Knave of Hearts, the Mock Turtle, the Duchess Wiley Willey and Wally, the Caterpillar, and an almost complete deck of cards, including two jokers! A Jabberwocky even made a brief appearance in this production. One wonderful aspect of this show was the range of ages in the cast. Even though a majority of the cast was young, we did find many adults participating in this production. It is exciting to see this many young people and adults working together to create the fantasy and fun of Wonderland. Having attended several rehearsals, I could easily see that this is going to be an exciting, whimsical, fun-filled show. Having seen the show, it was just that! Thanks also go out to **the many parents** who are contributing numerous hours helping their children make this show a success by creating props, sets, costumes, and the unique setting that will be Alice's Wonderland. It was another delightful SPCT production.

On a less happy note, we need to pause to remember our faithful friend and loyal SPCT member **Wayne Zeman**, who passed away on August 30, 2009. Wayne was one of the "founding fathers" of Sun Prairie Civic Theatre forty years ago. He appeared in many shows, served on the board of directors, and was a faithful audience member. I don't think he ever missed one of our shows. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Wayne's family.

For those of you who are wondering where SPCT stands as far as the use of the new auditorium in the new high school, no decisions have been made at this time. A group from the Board of Directors will be meeting with the school district in the near future to discuss the possibilities. From information gathered at this meeting, we will be making a decision as to our possible use of the new Performing Arts Center. What we do know at this time is that the new facility will be a completely up-to-date, modern facility with full fly lines, digital sound and light systems, follow spot positions, a trap door in the stage floor, and a full orchestra pit accessible from beneath and behind the stage itself. There will be approximately eleven hundred seats in this auditorium, along with a spacious lobby, concession stand, and much larger restrooms. There are many things to be considered when it comes to the use of this space. The Board of Directors will be weighing everything very carefully and keeping everyone informed as to the progress being made.

Frank

The Foreigner



The Board of Directors is happy to announce the selection of **Sandy Kintner** as director of *The Foreigner*. Sandy has been involved with SPCT for the last five years. He has been on stage in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *She Loves Me*, *Big*, and *Working*. Now Sandy will try his hand at directing. He has worked backstage and was the stage manager for *All Shook Up*.

Auditions are scheduled for **Monday and Tuesday, November 23 and 24, 2009 from 7—9 PM at the Barn**. Show dates are **January 29, 30; February 5,6,7, 2010**. Information may also be found on our Web site at www.sunprairiecivictheatre.com.



The Spring Show

The Board of Directors is also pleased to announce the selection of **Josh Swalheim** and **Livia Goff** as co-directors of *Children of Eden*. More information will be forthcoming. The show is scheduled for production in April-May 2010.

New Board of Directors

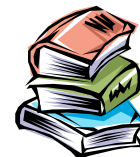
At the General Membership meeting after our 40th Anniversary Celebration in June, the following positions were taken by those elected to the 2009-2010 Board.

- **Frank Peot**, President
- **Darrel Snyder**, Vice President
- **Livia Goff**, Treasurer
- **Todd Winterrowd**, Secretary
- **Brian Goff**, Member at Large
- **Karl Grimm**, Member at Large
- **Kayse Grimm**, Member at Large
- **Paul Hildebrand**, Member at Large
- **Tim Olmstead**, Member at Large
- **Rex Owens**, Member at Large
- **Michael Truman**, Member at Large
- **Denise Utter**, Member at Large

Thank you for your creativity, time & service!

Play Reading Committee Begins Work for 2011-2012

This year, **Rex Owens** has accepted the chairman-ship of the Play Reading Committee. Their work will begin soon. If you are interested in being a part of this important committee or have any suggestions of plays they should be reading, please contact Rex via E-mail at rexowens@earthlink.net. This very important SPCT committee reads many plays, discusses their pros and cons, and then makes recommendations to the Board of Directors and the membership to consider. The membership will receive a list of suggested plays along with summaries and other information on possibilities. The membership then votes their recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Board makes the final decision for a balanced season. Please consider serving on this committee or sending your suggestions for future SPCT shows.



Another Award for Our President



Frank Peot has been honored with an award from the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT), which was presented at the awards ceremony prior to performances at AACTFest '09 in Tacoma, Washington, June 26, 2009.

The Art Cole Award honors a lifetime of leadership in community theatre by members of AACT who have provided leadership at the national level, in addition to local and regional levels.

Frank is a retired fifth grade teacher and presently serves as technical director of Sun Prairie High School. He has extensive experience as an adjudicator, director, writer, and designer.

He has been involved with the Sun Prairie Civic Theatre since 1975. Frank has chaired state and regional festivals and is a frequent workshop leader. He has served as secretary for AACT since 1990, and is secretary of Region III AACT, and secretary for AACT Endowment Trustees.



Peot award info continued...

Frank serves as an AACT Festival Commission Representative and on the International Committee. He is the North American representative to the governing Council of the International Amateur Theatre Association.

Frank's past service includes Region III Representative to the AACT Board, President of the Wisconsin Theatre Association, and President of the Sun Prairie Civic Theatre. He has been recognized by AACT as a Fellow and received AACT's Special Recognition Award.

AACT represents the interests of more than 7,000 theatres, large and small, across the United States and its territories, as well as theatre companies with our Armed Services overseas.

This includes more than 1.5 million volunteers, combined annual budgets of well over \$980 million, more than 46,000 productions per year, entertaining a total audience of 86 million people, providing education and community outreach programs for children, seniors, and underserved populations.

Congratulations, Frank!



Letters Home!

Meghan Deese

Meghan was a part of SPCT when we did *Suessical, the Musical*. She played the part of Gertrude. She also starred in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* as Lucy. Meghan was with the Kids from Wisconsin for over two years. Currently, Meghan "Deese" Dahl is back in Seattle, Washington after the perfect wedding day on August 8, 2009, with incredible family and friends, a lovely honeymoon with her amazing husband, **Andrew**, who surprised her with a newly furnished apartment. The couple met in an acting class at UW-Madison and both continue careers in theater — Meghan as an actress and Andrew as the Digital Assets Manager for

the Seattle Repertory Theatre. Meghan recently had a call back with a huge musical theatre company in Seattle. She says life is pretty great! She can be reached at madeese@gmail.com.

Kellie Kohler Jorgenson

"Hi! So glad to get in contact with SPCT people. John and I are married and living in Cedar Rapids, IA. We have two beautiful little girls. We are currently in Rochester, MN at Mayo Clinic. John is in need of a kidney and we are up here doing his annual check-up. Although it's a lot of poking and prodding, we enjoy having some time to spend alone together. We don't get it too often! I am a stay-at-home Mom and I'm homeschooling Isabelle this year. She's only six, but reads at a 2nd grade level. And since none of the schools would accept her for 1st grade (due to her birthday), we decided to keep her home this year and try again for 2nd grade next year. Sounds like SPCT's is going strong! I'm so happy to hear it! I have a soft spot for the group. Especially since John and I wouldn't have met if it hadn't been for *Meet Me in St. Louis!*"



SPCT 2009-10 Season



The Foreigner (Winter) - January 29 & 30; February 5, 6 & 7, 2010

While visiting a fishing lodge in rural Georgia, "Froggy" Laseuer learns some damaging revelations about the occupants of the house in this uproariously funny show in which good triumphs over evil.

AUDITIONS: Monday, 11/23 & Tuesday, 11/24/09 from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Barn

Children of Eden (Spring) - April-May 2010

This musical is based on the story of Genesis. It is a frank, heartfelt, and often humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents & children.



Is there an event, show, message, or reminder that you'd like to share with the SPCT Membership in this newsletter? If so, please call **Carrie McCann** at 608-577-4751 or e-mail her at carrieimccann@att.net.
Thank you!

Enjoy the colors!



Visit us at

The Barn
500 South Bird Street
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Call us at 608-837-8217

Write us at

SPCT
P.O. Box 132
Sun Prairie, WI 53590-0132

Web site: www.sunprairiecivictheatre.com

Do you want to become a member of SPCT?

Contact President **Frank Peot** at 608-837-9179 for details!



SPCT MISSION STATEMENT

Sun Prairie Civic Theatre is a community of volunteers, sharing their resources of time, talent and finances to give as many people as possible an opportunity to experience live theatre on stage, back stage and in the audience.