



# SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the  
Schenectady Light Opera Company  
Volume 37-7  
June 2004

## Jekyll & Hyde Auditions Set

SLOC will be holding auditions for the first show of the 2004 – 2005 season, *Jekyll & Hyde*, on Tuesday, June 8 and Wednesday, June 9 at the Opera House, with sign in at 7:00 p.m.

The show's Director/Choreographer is Thomas D. Bambury, Dave Cash is Musical Director, and Jodi Gilman is Producer.

Based on the 1886 novella *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson, the musical tells the story of Dr. Jekyll's experiment to prove that good and evil exist in every person.



The main characters include:

**Dr. Henry Jekyll/Edward Hyde:** a dual role. Must have extensive vocal range, and be able to go from an intelligent, compassionate Dr. Jekyll to a sinister and enraged Hyde without missing a beat. Casting 30-50ish.

**Emma Carew:** betrothed fiancée of Dr. Jekyll; strong, kind, will do anything to help Dr. Jekyll. Higher register range. Those with 'formal' vocal training are encouraged. 25-45ish

**Lucy Harris:** most famous 'attraction' of the Red Rat, the local brothel, where she first meets Dr. Jekyll, and is immediately taken. She is sensual and exhilarating. Must be able to move well. Must have extensive range. 25-40ish.

**Utterson:** Dr. Jekyll's confidante and trusted friend. Baritone. 30ish

**Sir Danvers:** Emma's Father. Strong, aristocratic. Cares more for his daughter than anyone. Baritone. 45-60ish.

Besides the aforementioned Londoners, there are also many various featured roles, from the Board of Directors (Bishops, Ladies, etc. Very Aristocratic) to townspersons (servants, street peddlers, prostitutes, etc.).

In addition to the minimum 16 bars you will be required to sing, there will be sets to read. An accompanist will be provided.

For more information please contact Thomas Bambury at 436-8295.

### *Victor/Victoria*

#### Wins TANY Awards

Congratulations to the creative team of *Victor/Victoria* for their two TANY Awards:

**Outstanding Set Design:**  
Ken Zarnoch

**Outstanding Costume Design:**  
Chris Persans

## Spotlight on...

### Annual Meeting

Friday, June 4  
7:00 p.m. at the Opera House  
*Absentee ballots must  
be in before the start  
of the meeting!*

826 State St.  
Schenectady, NY 12307  
393-5732

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



#### 2003-2004 Season

Jane Eyre  
October 17-19, 23-26  
Babes in Arms  
December 5-7, 11-14  
Drood  
March 5-7, 11-14  
Victor/Victoria  
April 30, May 1-2, 6-9



Tom Heckert  
President

Board of Directors  
Alan Angelo  
Mary Kozlowski  
Richard Lenehan  
Brett Putnam  
Michelle Sausa-Gatta  
Ted Vickery  
Deb Weiskopf  
Bonnie Williams  
Ken Zarnoch



Next Newsletter  
Deadline:  
**August 10**



# President's Notes...by Tom Heckert



## 🎵 **Victor/Victoria A Success**

Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Victor/Victoria* for a smashing good show! First time SLOC Director Laura Andruski, Producers Melinda Zarnoch and Michelle Sausa-Gatta, Musical Director Dave Cash, Choreographer Heather D'Arcy and the rest of the production team made the cast sparkle on stage. What a great way to end the season! Congratulations to Melissa Lacijan, the production's winner of a gift certificate to a Schenectady restaurant for selling the highest amount of tickets to the production.

## 🎵 **Annual Meeting and Board Nominees**

I encourage everyone to attend the Annual Meeting on June 4, 2004. In order to conduct Company business, we need a quorum of 25% of the total voting membership [34 people]. Without a quorum, we cannot elect the new Board members or conduct any official business. Unfortunately, the bylaws do not allow absentee ballots to count towards the quorum. The meeting is very informative - we outline the accomplishments of the year and set the goals for the next year. It's the members' chance to voice their opinions and concerns to the Board of Directors and have a say in the direction of the Company with the voting for candidates for the Board of Directors that best represent their values and ideas for the future. And best of all, there is dessert after the meeting!

## 🎵 **Board Nominations**

There have been some changes to the slate of candidates. Ted Vickery and Melissa Lacijan have withdrawn their names from consideration. I would like to thank them for considering serving on the Board of Directors. Both are valued members of the company and I am sure the opportunity and time will come again when they are able to be a part of the Board. We have one additional nomination from the membership to add to the slate of candidates - Mary Ann Muth. You can read her bio as well as the other candidates' bios on page three in this newsletter.

## 🎵 **Departing Board Members**

I want to personally thank the current Board members finishing their terms who are not eligible for re-election or have chosen not to run again - Brett Putnam, Michelle Sausa-Gatta, and Ted Vickery. Each has given substantial amounts of their time and effort. I know each will continue to support the Company in other ways in the future. Kudos to all!

## 🎵 **SLOC Bus Trip a Success!**

The SLOC sponsored bus trip to New York City on April 17, 2004 took 44 members and friends to the Big Apple for a day of theater and sightseeing. Shows that people saw included *Assassins*, *Gypsy*, *The Boy from Oz*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *Wonderful Town*, to name a few. Others took in the Rockefeller Plaza Tour, the New York Orchid Show, the Macy's Flower Show, the Circle Line Sightseeing Tour, and dinner in Little Italy. From the feedback received, everyone was pleased with the way the trip went and would like to see it happen again. Anyone up for another trip in early November? If so, come to the Annual Meeting to voice your support!

## 🎵 **Closure**

As my second term as President comes to a close, I would like to thank everyone in the Company who has been supportive of my efforts to keep SLOC moving forward. It is with some sadness that I leave my second term as President - we have accomplished many things over the past few years. I would like to personally thank all the elected Board members and appointed Vice Presidents over the last five years who went above the call of duty with any task presented to them. Without dedicated people like these, we could not have accomplished everything we did. Change is difficult and not without some pain. What makes SLOC strong is each member's conviction to do what is best for the Company. Even though we all may not agree on each issue, our diversity and willingness to share ideas and listen to other points of view will keep SLOC a strong and vibrant organization moving boldly into the future. A new group of Board members is on the brink of election and a new President is waiting somewhere in the wings. I wish them as much success and support that was shown to me. I'll be there supporting their ideas and, of course, still voicing my opinion.

## 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 foster light opera and related arts for the people in and around Schenectady County, NY.

Newsletter Staff: Jill Coloney, Tom Heckert, Jackie Mosher, and Greg Rucinski.

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. 38 Issue No. 1** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is **Tuesday, August 10, 2004**. Issue No. 1 will be mailed by August 27.

Please submit articles to Jill Coloney at jac12661@aol.com or 92 Cooks Court, Waterford, NY 12188.

# Candidates for Election to the Board of Directors

## **Peter J. Codella**

Peter is a Ph.D. Chemist for GE Global Research and has been part of SLOC for over 20 years. His theatrical training began in Las Vegas and climaxed at the Utah Shakespearean Festival. At the festival he started in the technical area and ended up as Business Manager. Peter has directed four SLOC shows, designed and lighted numerous others, served as SLOC President, board member, business manager, and VP of Technical and Public Relations. He and his wife were recipients of SLOC's Etta Moore Award.

## **Jennifer S. Depew**

I am running for the Board at SLOC because I would like to be part of the inner workings of the Company again. There are many issues I'd like to address and believe that with a new Board and President, we can work together to get things done. In the past, I have held the positions of VP Company and VP Artistic as well as been a board member for several years. My history with the Company spans over 24 years. I have produced seven shows and worked as stage manager, assistant director, props, set construction and make up on many, many more. This season I was honored to direct my first full-length show at SLOC - *Babes in Arms*. This Company means a lot to me and I'd like to help direct its future by becoming a Board member once again.

## **Jodi Gilman**

My name is Jodi Gilman and I am pleased to be running for the Board of SLOC again. I have been involved in many aspects of SLOC over the years, having done props, stage crew, a little chorus work, ushering, and bartending. I have served as VP Company, been a Board member and have most recently added producing to my repertoire. Having served on the Board before, I am aware of the hard work and dedication that it takes to be an active and viable member of the Board and I am ready and willing to take on that responsibility. SLOC is composed of leaders and workers alike and I believe that I bring a combination of both those qualities to the Company. I love being a part of this Company and look forward to being able to contribute to it for years to come. Thank you!

## **Michael Mensching**

Mike has both acted and directed with Schenectady Light Opera. He most recently directed *Jane Eyre* for SLOC and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way To the Forum* last season. This year he also served as chairman of the Play Selection committee and will be producing *Gypsy* in the fall.

## **Mary Ann Muth**

I have been actively involved with SLOC since assisting with costumes and props for *Camelot* in 2001. Since then, I have assisted with costumes for at least one show a season, and was co-costume designer for this season's *Babes in Arms*. This year, I successfully took on the role of Playbill Editor.

During the day, I work as a software engineer for a local consulting company. Through my work, I have come to appreciate the value of differing views and experiences when working on a team. My strengths include the ability to accomplish whatever I set out to do, and the persistence to finish tasks which I take on. I will bring fresh eyes to the Board, which I believe will help the Company to find new solutions to issues, and I will follow through to help make these solutions a success. Thank you for your consideration.

## **Joe Phillips**

Joe has been a member of SLOC for more than two decades as an actor, director, props master and crew member of numerous productions — and literally hundreds of productions elsewhere. This is the first time Joe has stood as a candidate for Board membership at SLOC, although he did serve as a non-voting board member (overseeing publicity) for one term many moons ago. He has years of experience as a board member at Albany Civic Theater, Steamer No. 10 Theatre and with the Theater Voices staged reading troupe. He and his wife Margot live in Colonie — and met performing at SLOC.

## **Bonnie Williams**

I am running for a second two-year term on the SLOC Board of Directors. Even though the Board can be a challenge at times, I believe it is an important job. I think it takes a year or two to become familiar with the Board and how it functions. I hope to continue to contribute my time and talents to SLOC by serving for another term.



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

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#### **Season Brochures To Be Mailed in June**

The season subscription brochures for SLOC's 2004 – 2005 season will be mailed in June. At that time, you will have the opportunity to choose your dates and request tickets for the entire season. In addition to the convenience, benefits include a special offer of the fourth ticket for *free* when you subscribe to the other three shows, the best seats available before they go on sale to the general public, and the ability to exchange your tickets should that become necessary. So, take a look at your calendars and mark your dates for this exciting season!! As a reminder, the shows are as follows:

*Jekyll & Hyde* – October 15 – 17 and 21 – 24

*Gypsy* – December 3 – 5 and 9 – 12

*Triumph of Love* – March 4 – 6 and 10 – 13

*Grease* – May 6 – 8 and 12 – 15

If you require additional information regarding the season subscription brochure, contact Paige [377-5101].

#### **Producer/Director's Meeting**

The annual Producer/Directors' meeting was set for Thursday, May 27, 2004. We reviewed current company policies and brought everyone up to date on any changes. If you were unable to attend and would like the information, contact Tom Heckert [877-6777].

**Congratulations to  
Orlando  
School of Dance  
on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!!**



#### **SLOC Archives**

SLOC is looking to add to our archives collection. Now is your chance to weed out any clippings, pictures, memorabilia, etc. that you no longer want to keep. We are renovating a room in the Opera House to store and display our treasured memories. Please contact Sally Farrell at 393-2206 or Deb Weiskopf at 373-0975 for further information.