



SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the
Schenectady Light Opera Company
Volume 38-4
January 2005

Casting Announced for *Triumph of Love*

826 State St.
Schenectady, NY 12307
393-5732

Web Site:
www.sloctheater.com



2004-2005 Season
Jekyll & Hyde
October 15-17, 21-24
Gypsy
December 3-5, 9-12
Triumph of Love
March 4-6, 10-13
Grease
May 6-8, 12-15



Michael Mensching
President

Board of Directors
Alan Angelo
Jennifer S. Depew
Jodi Gilman
Mary Kozlowski
Richard Lenehan
Joe Phillips
Deb Weiskopf
Bonnie Williams
Ken Zarnoch



Next Newsletter
Deadline:
February 9

Eros and Cupid call all lovers to come and see *Triumph of Love*, a frolicking fable of mistaken identity and emotional awakening. Producer Ted Vickery, Director Tom Heckert, Musical Director Theresa Fitzmaurice, and the *Triumph of Love* crew have assembled a handsome cast.

Cast members include: Heather D'Arcy [Princess Leonide], Eric Shovah [Agis], Colin A. McCarty [Hermacrates], Joan Horgan [Hesione], Kristen Olochnowicz [Corine], Tim Orcutt [Harlequin], and Ross Snyder [Dimas].

Also working on the production are Mary Kozlowski [Set Designer], Ken and Melinda Zarnoch [Lighting Designers], Pat Casey [Costume Designer] assisted by Nancy Ginsberg, Marcia Lenehan, [Makeup Designer], Kathy Friscic [Properties], John Fowler [Hair and Wigs], Joe and Mary Ann Concra [Publicity], and Deb Weiskopf [Opening Night Party].

The production is in need of additional help, specifically a Stage Manager, Sound Designer, and people to work on the show. If you are interested in lending your time and skills to this talented group, please call Ted Vickery at 346-6927.

Opening night is March 4, 2005. Extend Valentine's Day into March and bring your sweetheart to enjoy a tale where love triumphs over all! Call Paige at 377 - 5101 now to reserve the best seats in the house.



Costumers Pat Casey and Nancy Ginsberg share a laugh with cast member Eric Shovah.

Grease Audition Dates Are Set

Auditions for SLOC's fourth production of the season, *Grease*, are scheduled for January 25 and 27. Sign-in will be at 7:00 pm at the Opera House. The show will be directed by Matthew T. Teichner and produced by Brett Putnam, with Dave Cash as Musical Director and Joanne Lapitsky as Choreographer. Performances are set for May 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, and 15, and rehearsals will begin in February, specific date to be announced.

Auditioners should prepare at least 16 bars of any Broadway song. Please bring your own sheet music. Music on hand for those who come unprepared will be extremely limited. A capella or self-accompanied auditions are discouraged. Approximate vocal ranges are listed for each character below. There will be readings of selected scenes, and a movement/dance audition. [Dancing in the show involves 1950's jazz styles.] Actors may be taught a brief selection and dance number from the show. Dress appropriately.

[continued on page three]

Spotlight on...

Potluck Dinner/ Semi-Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 29
6:30 pm at the Opera House



President's Notes...by Mike Mensching



🎵 Feeling Lucky?

The Semi-Annual Pot Luck Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 29th, at 6:30PM at the Opera House. We look forward to presenting the new season at this meeting. Please bring a covered dish to share (non-alcoholic drinks will be provided; otherwise, BYOB). This is always a great night for the SLOC family to get together for fun and good company. Please call Deb Weiskopf at 373-0975 if you are planning to attend.

🎵 Let's talk about *Triumph of Love* . . .

SLOC has a reputation for occasionally choosing shows that are a little "off the beaten path". Recent past examples, such as *Ruthless*, *Zombie Prom*, and *The Melody Lingers On*, proved to be artistic and financial successes, despite the fact that they were unknown by many audience members. I believe *Triumph of Love* is no exception, and I am asking the help of the SLOC general membership in spreading the word about our season's third show, directed by Tom Heckert. This is a great little show, full of farcical humor, romance, mistaken identify and it also boasts a great score. We are hoping you will all "talk it up" so we can again fill the house. This could, in fact, be the area community theater premiere of this show [anyone want to check on that?], which is always an exciting experience.

🎵 Everything Came Up Roses for *Gypsy!*

Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Gypsy!* The production had a very successful run, playing to packed houses almost every performance. This production also featured many new faces on the SLOC stage, as well as showcasing SLOC veterans. Our own Bonnie Williams was lauded by the local press for her powerful performance of Mama Rose. Thanks to all involved in making this show both an artistic and financial success!

🎵 Featured Player - Della Gilman

It all started in 1972 when a friend, Jean Louis, sold her a ticket to *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*. Della and her husband, Ira, went to see this SLOC production together. Della noticed that Ira was singing along with the show in the audience and asked him, "What are you doing here? You should be up there!". Ira auditioned for the next show, *Annie Get Your Gun*, and the couple's entry into SLOC history was born. Della's first responsibility came when Jean Clarke asked her to do tickets for a production at Niskayuna High School. Della has had many responsibilities since that time including Secretary to the Board of Directors and VP of Audience Services. A lot of the friends that Della has made over the years have been a result of SLOC. Her daughter, Jodi, and son, Jeff, have been raised around Light Opera productions. It seems that Jodi is now following in her parents' footsteps. Della and Ira received the Etta Moore Award in 2001. One of Della's recent contributions to SLOC has been her support for the ALD system for the hearing impaired. She will be doing tickets for *Grease* this spring. Even though you will not find Della herself on stage, there has been one Gilman gracing the SLOC boards this season - her dog, Sample, who assumed the role of "Chowsie" in our most recent production, *Gypsy*.

Triumph of Love Factoids

* *Triumph of Love* was adapted from Pierre Marivaux's 1732 French comedy *The Triumph of Love*.

*It is considered to be in the style of commedia dell'arte, which is a type of comedy popular in the Italian theaters in the 16th to 18th centuries. The style relies heavily on improvisation and expressive physical comedy.

*The original Broadway cast included Susan Egan, Betty Buckley, F. Murray Abraham, and Roger Bart, before he found fame in *The Producers*.

*According to New York theater critic Clive Barnes, *Triumph of Love* has the best closing line he remembers in musical theater. No, we're not telling you what it is...come hear it for yourself!

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. 5** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is **Wednesday, February 9, 2005**. Issue No. 5 will be mailed by February 22.

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

Grease Auditions continued

The plot revolves primarily around the attraction between greaser Danny Zuko and the virtuous Sandy Dumbrowski. Casting requirements call for eight women, nine men, and a chorus.

Women:

Sandy Dumbrowski - Soprano [low A to high B]; Part Size: Lead; Dancing: Medium Difficulty; Age Range: 17 - 24; Character Description: The attractive, new, wholesome, and innocent girl in town.

Marty - Mezzo Soprano [low C to Db]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 16 - 22; Character Description: Immature but most attractive member of the Pink Ladies gang.

Frenchy - Mezzo [F# to B]; Part Size: Supporting; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 17 - 25; Character Description: A Pink Lady who eventually drops out of school to enter Beauty School. She is extremely attentive to her appearance, well meaning, and an air-head.

Jan - Mezzo Soprano [F to C#]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 16 - 22; Character Description: Loud and overweight member of the Pink Ladies gang.

Betty Rizzo - Soprano [A to high C]; Part Size: Supporting; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 18 - 25; Character Description: The tough and sarcastic leader of the Pink Ladies.

Cha-Cha - Soprano [low B to G]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Intense; Age Range: 18 - 25; Character Description: A great dancer who is also loud-mouthed.

Patty Honeywell - N/A; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 16 - 20; Character Description: A typical, attractive, confident cheerleader.

Miss Lynch - N/A; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: N/A; Age Range: 40 - 60; Character Description: A grumpy English teacher.

Pink Ladies - N/A; Part Size: Chorus; Dancing: Intense; Age Range: 16 - 25; Character Descriptions: Teen gang members.

Men:

Danny Zuko - Tenor [low Eb to high B]; Part Size: Lead; Dancing: Medium Difficulty; Age Range: 18 - 25; Character Description: The macho, handsome leader of the Burger Palace Boys.

Roger - Tenor [low A to high A]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium to Intense; Age Range: 17 - 25; Character Description: A jolly member of the Burger Palace Boys who enjoys 'mooning' people.

Kenickie - Baritone [low A to high F#]; Part Size: Supporting; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 18 - 25; Character Description: A tough member of the Burger Palace Boys and a car fanatic.

Sonny - Baritone [G to C]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 16 - 22; Character Description: A big-talking member of the Burger Palace Boys.

Doody - Tenor [E to high E]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium; Age Range: 16 - 20; Character Description: The youngest member of the Burger Palace Boys who worships the older members.

Johnny Casino - Baritone [G to E]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: N/A; Age Range: 16 - 22; Character Description: A student at Rydell High School who leads a rock 'n' roll band.

Teen Angel - Tenor [E to high E]; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: N/A; Age Range: 27 - 35; Character Description: An extremely attractive singer.

Eugene Florczyk - N/A; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: Medium to intense; Age Range: 16 - 22; Character Description: A pompous but gullible nerd.

2005 MEMBERSHIP LIST

[as of December 31, 2004]

[72 members] * designates a new member

Alan Angelo	Pat LaFleur
	Marcia Lenehan
	Richard Lenehan
Donna Baxter*	
Edwin Brown*	
Judith Brown*	Debbie May
Kate Burns*	Brendan McDermott
	Michael McDermott
Eunice Chouffi	Joanne Mensching
Madeline Codella	Michael Mensching
Peter Codella	Judi Merriam
Joe Concra	Carolyn J. Mills*
MaryAnn Concra	Drew Mills
Dale Conklin	Ginnie Mills
	Jackie Mosher
Tom DellaSala	Debra Moyer
Bill Depew	Howard Moyer
Jenny Depew	
Debra Ann Draper	Joe Phillips
	Margot Phillips
Sally Farrell	Eleanor Pigliavento
Linda Fetherston	Orlando Pigliavento
Allan Foster	Brett Putnam
Dolores Fragomeni	
Ron Fragomeni	Walter Raab
	Greg Rucinski
Art Gauvreau	Sue Rucinski
Paige Gauvreau	Ted Rucinski
Della Gilman	
Jodi Gilman	Kathryn Sargalis
	Florence
Tom Heckert	Springstead*
Charlie Hepburn	Joan Sticher
Grace Hepburn	
Bill Hickman	Elisa Verb
Maxine Hilderley	Ted Vickery
Mimi Hilderley	
Robert Kamp*	Debra Weiskopf
Frances Kamp*	Eric Weiskopf
Bill Kornrumpf	David Wilkinson
Gina Kornrumpf	Bonnie Williams
Mary Kozlowski	Nancy Wozny
	Ken Zarnoch
	Melinda Zarnoch
	Thelma Zeh

Vince Fontaine - N/A; Part Size: Cameo; Dancing: N/A; Age Range: 35 - 50; Character Description: An egotistical radio disk jockey who is attracted to teenage girls.

Burger Palace Boys - N/A; Part Size: Chorus; Dancing: Intense; Age Range: 16 - 25; Character Descriptions: Teen gang members.

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Teichner at 383-5423 or e-mail at mschner1@aol.com.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Triumph of Love

March 4-6 and 10-13

Thursday, Friday, and
Saturday at 8:00 PM
Sunday at 2:00 PM

TICKETS: 377-5101

Adults: \$18; Children under 13: \$9
Group rates available! Call for information.

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
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It's
time to **RENEW**
your membership!



Congratulations to the casts and crews of both *Jekyll & Hyde* and *Gypsy* on being named to "The Daily Gazette's" Top 10 list of theater performances in 2004!!!

2004 - 2005 New Membership/Membership Renewal Form

Please return by **February 1, 2005** to:
Jenny Depew • 3 Delafield Drive, Albany, NY 12205-2407

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 2005**.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ Check # _____ payable to **SLOC**.
Credit Card number _____ MC/Visa Exp.date _____

Signature (Charges only) _____

"Spotlight" Needs a Helping Hand

The editors of "Spotlight" are in need of someone to help with mailing each issue. Duties would involve coordinating the label pick-up, getting the newsletter from the printer, applying the labels, and dropping the newsletter off at the Post Office. This is a minimal time commitment, but would be a great help in getting the newsletter to everyone in a timely fashion. If you are interested, please contact Tom Heckert (877-6777) for further details.