



# SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the  
Schenectady Light Opera Company  
Volume 40-4  
January 2007

## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Takes the Stage in January

SLOC is offering the perfect escape from the post-holiday, winter blues join us the weekend of January 19-21 for the dazzling 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, directed by SLOC veteran Orlando Pigiavento. Producer Allan D. Foster helms the cast and crew of over 50 performers. Music Director Vince Bonafede has been working with the 21 accomplished singers comprising the Concert Chorus since November, and they sound wonderful! These talented individuals who have been working so hard include Jackie Bee, John Burke, Sally Burke, Joyce Cowin, Sue Culver, Bill Depew, Jennifer S. Depew, Dave Dixon, Bob Farquarson, Paula Farquarson, Irene Foster, Eliana Georgelos, Millie Gittinger, Bob Harrison, Peter Hill, Christine Kuchar, Sev Moro, Debra Moyer, Joe Phillips, Margot Phillips, and Allan Villeneuve. Notice the four SLOC couples singing in the chorus? Many of these names are familiar to the Company, but we are thrilled to have some new faces singing with us.



The program also includes some wonderful solo and ensemble numbers. You may recognize names like Bonnie Williams, Pat Brady, Joan Horgan, Alan Angelo, Howard Moyer... these are only a few of the SLOC regulars taking part in this special commemorative event. We are especially happy to welcome back to the SLOC stage Bob Boggs and Marilyn Abrams a couple traveling all the way from their home in Dallas (and in the winter!) to participate. And be sure to look for our esteemed Director taking the stage with a couple of "Friends" at the opening of Act Two!

For those of you who attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash, you're sure to remember the talents of Debra Draper's fabulous dance ensemble. They're back to dazzle us with their fancy footwork. Cabaret icon Laura Roth will perform, as will Broadway veteran Michele Pigiavento and noted Opera Director Helena Binder, all of whom began their careers performing on SLOC's own stage.

Broadway show tunes cover such a wide spectrum of emotion whether romantic, comedic, inspiring or just plain fun, there's sure to be something for everyone. There are only three performances of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert: Friday, January 19 at 8:00 pm, Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm and a matinee on Sunday at 2:00 pm. Ticket prices are \$15; \$12 for subscribers and benefactors, so please call Della soon at 280-8076 to reserve your tickets!

### Spotlight on...

Semi-Annual Meeting

Saturday, February 3  
6:30 PM  
at the Opera House

826 State St.  
Schenectady, NY  
12307  
393-5732

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



2006-2007 Season  
The Full Monty  
October 13-15, 19-22  
Oliver!

December 1-3, 7-10  
Once On This Island  
March 9-11, 15-18  
Hello Dolly  
May 4-6, 10-13



Bonnie Williams  
President

Board of Directors  
Donna Z. Baxter  
Peter Codella  
Marlene Counterline  
Bob Farquharson  
Mary Kozlowski  
Brett Putnam  
Michelle Sausa-Gatta  
Ross Snyder  
Ken Zarnoch



Next Newsletter  
Deadline:  
February 8





## President's Notes...by Bonnie Williams



### OOM-PAH-PAH for Oliver!

Congrats to all involved in Oliver!. A great time was had by all who came to see this wonderful production. It was both an artistic and financial success. First-time SLOC director Eric Shovah, Heather D'Arcy, Joel Lord and Cathy Mele all received TANYs recognition for their efforts.



### Pot-Luck Update

Because the Opera House will be busy in January with the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert [see related article on page one], the Board decided to push the semi-annual pot-luck dinner and meeting back a week to Saturday, February 3 at 6:30. Plan on making your best covered dish entree, appetizer or dessert and call Michelle Sausa-Gatta at 377-1905 to let her know how many are coming. At the meeting, we'll announce next year's show selections, update the membership on current SLOC "stuff" and bestow the Etta Moore Award to a worthy recipient. Come join in the fun!



### A Rose by Any Other Name.....Part 2

After many submissions, emails, phone calls and conversations...your voice has been heard. An overwhelming majority of those who voted were not in favor of any name change. So, at the November meeting the Board decided not to change the name of the Company. We will remain Schenectady Light Opera Company. However, we will be developing a new logo using SLOC Musical Theatre as a tag line. We will try to refer to ourselves as SLOC Musical Theatre in press releases and any other signage or advertising we do for the 2007-2008 season.



### Money Makes the World Go 'Round

Any body out there interested in fundraising? I'm not talking about bake sales or garage sales, but big-time fund raising: corporate sponsorship, underwriting, and other ideas that you may have. If anyone is interested, please call me at 459-4985. Joe Fava and I will be heading up a sub-committee to investigate possibilities.



### Back By Popular Demand

After a very successful SLOC Outreach program in June, we were asked to make a return engagement to the Glen Eddy, in Niskayuna in November. Due to Oliver! commitments, the cast of characters had to be changed, but Kate Burns assembled another wonderful cast to provide after-dinner entertainment. Thanks to Maria Lally Clark, Joanne Menshing, Ed Graham, and Bill Harrison for pitching in at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour!

#### Missing Tools

Would the person(s) who borrowed the following tools, please return them to the tool room as soon as possible: two 25' measuring tapes, one 4' T-square, the shop brush, and the dust pan. Thank you.

### Opera House Factoids

- \* Over the course of its history, SLOC has produced over 200 shows!
- \* One current member, while not participating in all of them, has continuously been active in some capacity for the past 50 seasons. Do you know who it is?
- \* The original name of our Company was the Bellevue Young People's Chorus; the name was changed to Schenectady Light Opera Company in 1936.
- \* Did you know that our web site ([www.sloctheater.com](http://www.sloctheater.com)) has an extensive history of our Company? Check it out!!

### 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: Jill Coloney, Tom Heckert, Greg Rucinski, and Carole Mann. 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. 40 Issue No. 5 of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is Thursday, February 8, 2007. Issue No. 5 will be mailed by February 22.

Please submit articles to Jill Coloney at [jac12661@aol.com](mailto:jac12661@aol.com) or 92 Cooks Court,

# Audition Notice for SLOC's fourth and final show of it's 80<sup>th</sup> year - Hello Dolly!

Batten down the hatches...Dolly's back where she belongs...on the SLOC stage! Auditions for the classic musical, Hello Dolly!, will be held at the Schenectady Light Opera House, 826 State Street, Schenectady, on January 30 and 31, 2007 at 7pm. Please prepare 16 bars of a song from the show or bring your own sheet music. An accompanist will be provided. No a cappella auditions will be allowed. Bring your calendars to check out needed future rehearsal dates. All auditioners will read from the script and participate in a dance audition. If you have any questions, please call the director Suzanne Rayome at (518) 209-1127 or email her at [guyanddoll@hotmail.com](mailto:guyanddoll@hotmail.com).

## AVAILABLE ROLES:

### Principal Roles:

Dolly Gallagher Levi - a middle age widowed matchmaker. [Alto/Mezzo]

Horace Vandergelder - a middle age feed-store owner and client of Mrs. Levi's. [Baritone]

Cornelius Hackl Vandergelder's chief clerk, in his 30's. [Baritone/Tenor]

Barnaby Tucker - an assistant to Cornelius, in his late teens. [Baritone/Tenor]

Irene Molloy - owner of a hat shop, in her 30s. [Mezzo]

Minnie Fay - an assistant who works in Irene's hat shop, in her late teens. [Mezzo]

### Supporting Roles: [some speaking, singing, or dancing]:

Ermengarde - 17 year old niece of Vandergelder.

Ambrose Kemper - young artist seeking to marry Ermengarde.

Ernestina - friend of Dolly's.

Ensemble: chorus of speaking and non-speaking roles and dancers. [8-10 men/8 - 10 women]

Hello Dolly! is the story of the widowed matchmaker Dolly Gallagher Levi who travels to Yonkers, New York to visit Horace Vandergelder, a prominent, wealthy bachelor who has decided he needs a wife to tend to himself and his home. Dolly convinces Horace - and his two stock clerks, Cornelius Hackl and Barnaby Tucker, his niece Ermengarde, and her beau Ambrose Kemper - to go to New York City. While there, Dolly, who has decided to nab Vandergelder for herself, arranges a match between the two clerks and the woman Vandergelder had been courting, Irene Molloy, and her shop assistant, Minnie Fay. A web of complicated romantic entanglements ensues, culminating in a free-for-all at the Harmonia Gardens restaurant and a trip to night court. As the final curtain falls, each character is matched with his ideal partner.

The main production staff [Director Suzanne Rayome; Co-Producers Amy Clark and Jenny Depew; Music Director Andrea Merrill; and Choreographer Heather D'Arcy] is looking forward to auditioners making their decision a hard one - for all roles. We'll see you at the Gardens!



# Sail away with us to our "Island" !

Despite the chilly weather, the cast



and crew is busy creating a tropical paradise inside the SLOC opera house with Once on This Island. Production dates are March 9-11 and 15-18, 2007. Based on the novel, My Love, My Love by

Rosa Guy, Once on This Island has book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and music by Stephen Flaherty.

The ensemble cast includes established SLOC performers as well as many new faces: Kate Kaufman Burns, Jessica Crisci, Richard Damaso, Patrick Doyle, Kathleen Dunham, Bradley Lamoureux, Shanna Malasco, Liana D. Martino, Jade McClenahan, Sev Moro, Alana Sangiacomo, Drew Van Genderen, Christine Verderese, Tom Warner, Jalisa Watson, and Tiffany Westendorf.

Director Laura W. Andruski, Musical Director Pat Douglass, and Stage Manager/Assistant Director Kara DiCaterino [the same winning combo that brought you Victor/Victoria], head up the production team, which also includes Choreographer Melissa Lacijan, Set Designer Mary Kozlowski, Lighting Designer Ken Zarnoch, Costume Designer Pat Casey, Co-Sound Designers Joel Lord and Justin Opotzner, and Make-up Supervisor Marcia Lenahan. Once on This Island is co-produced by Donna Baxter and Jodi Gilman.

The age-old story of star-crossed lovers gets a shot of Calypso rhythm and Caribbean heat in this bittersweet musical romance. Set against the backdrop of class differences in Haiti, Once on This Island uses soaring melodies and sultry dances to tell the story of Ti Moune, an orphan living among the island's poor peasants and praying for a future that seems impossible. But when divine intervention puts Ti Moune face to face with her true love, a young aristocrat, she begins a journey to find herself and reclaim her heart.

Get your tickets early and avoid the rush to see Once on This Island by calling Jenny Depew at (518) 456-5504.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## 80th Anniversary Concert

January 19, 20, 21  
Friday and Saturday at 8:00 PM  
Sunday at 2:00 PM

TICKETS: \$15;  
\$12 for subscribers and benefactors

Call 280-8076

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Schenectady, NY  
Permit #120

## 2007 SLOC MEMBERSHIP

as of December 10, 2006

\* - designates up-to-date membership dues

Joseph Agostine, Jr.['09]*	Sue Culver*	Paige Gauvreau	Melissa Lacijan*	Michael O'Brien	Jane B. Stewart
Alan Angelo		Charlotte Gerstenberger	Peter Lacijan*	Suzi O'Brien	Joan Sticher*['09]
Regina Baker*	Gail D'Arcy	Della Gilman*	Pat LaFleur	Gioia Ottaviano	Nancy Stone
Thomas Bambury*	Heather D'Arcy	Jodi Gilman*	Marcia Lenehan*		Sherry Strichman
Donna Z. Baxter*	Jim D'Arcy		Richard Lenehan['08]*	Chris Pedersen*	
John M. Baxter, Jr.*	Tom DellaSala*	Elisa Harrington-Verb*	Shirley Levey	Larry Pedersen*	Eli Taub
Ric Bello	Lorraine DellaVilla*	Dick Harte*	Flora Lovell	Joe Phillips	Meg Tedesco
Frank Blum	Gail Denisoff	Donna Hatch*	Jim Lovell	Margot Phillips	
Pat Brady	Bill Depew*	Laurel Hayes	Carole Mann	Christina Nicotina	Ted Vickery
Jim Burns	Jenny Depew*	Tom Heckert	William McColl	Pickreign	Allan Villeneuve*
Kate Burns	Dave Dixon*	Charlie Hepburn*	Brendan McDermott	Eleanor Pigliavento	
Eileen Bush	Ferne Dutkin	Grace Hepburn*	Michael McDermott	Orlando Pigliavento	Tom Watthews
		Alicia Hermance	Cathy G. Mele*	Bill Poppino*	Dave Weinstock
Pat Casey*	Allison Fagan*	Myron Hermance	Joanne Mensching*	Brett Putnam*	Debra Weiskopf
Eunice Chouffi	Bob Farquharson	Philip Hermance	Michael Mensching*		Eric Weiskopf
Jean Clarke*	Paula Farquharson	Bill Hickman*	Jo Ann Menzer	Walter Raab*	J o a n n e
Varro Clarke*	Sally Farrell*	Maxine Hilderley ['08]*	Judi Merriam*	Nina Rindenello	Westervelt
Madeline Codella*	Joseph Fava	Mimi Hilderley ['08]*	Mary Francis Miller	Greg Rucinski	Don White*
Peter Codella*	Linda Fetherston*	Jeffrey Hocking	Carolyn J. Mills*	Sue Rucinski	David Wilkinson*
Jill Coloney	Allan Foster*	Pat Hoffman	Drew Mills*	Ted Rucinski*	Bonnie Williams*
Joe Concra*	Lois Foster*	Paul Hooker	Ginnie Mills*	John W. Ryan	Nancy Wozny
MaryAnn Concra*	Dolores Fragomeni*	Joan Horgan	Jacqueline E. Mosher*		
Dale Conklin	Ron Fragomeni*		Debra Moyer*	Kathryn Sargalis	Ken Zarnoch*
Don Countermine*	Gwen Fraser	Bill Kornrumpf	Howard Moyer*	Michelle Sausa-Gatta*	Melinda Zarnoch*
Marlene Countermine*	Richard Gatta*	Gina Kornrumpf	Marguerite Murtagh	Argie Serras*	Thelma Zeh*
Paul Croteau	Tom Gatta*	Mary Kozlowski	Pat Murtagh	Eric Shovah	Lillian Zola
Rita Croteau	Art Gauvreau		Mary-Ann Muth	Ross Snyder*	
				Janet Stasio*	

\$10 membership fee per person is due by February 1, 2007. Membership is good through June 2007 for dues paid now.  
Direct questions regarding membership to Jenny Depew at 456-5504 or e-mail jensiss@logical.net  
or mail a check payable to SLOC to Jenny at: 3 Delafield Drive, Albany, NY 12205-2407.