



# SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of  
SLOC Musical Theater  
Volume 45-6 85th Season  
March 2012

## "TO LIFE!"

**"Fiddler on the Roof" returns to our  
mainstage after a 25 year hiatus!**

**\*\*March 16-25, 2012\*\* \*\*Tickets on Sale Now!\*\***

WHERE DID THE TIME GO? In 1987, 25 years ago, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF last graced our stage! It was SLOC's 60th Anniversary Season. This March, 2012 we welcome back the TONY AWARD WINNING musical classic and recognize our 85th Anniversary Season.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF is a musical with music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, and book by Joseph Stein, set in Tsarist Russia in 1905. It is based on "Tevye and his Daughters" (or "Tevye the Milkman and other Tales") by Sholem Aleichem. The story centers on Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his attempts to maintain his family and Jewish religious traditions while outside influences encroach upon their lives.

Tevye the milkman (Joe Phillips) and his wife Golde (Amy Birchler), reside in Anatevka, a small Jewish settlement in Russia. It is 1905 and the first rumblings of the Russian Revolution are brewing. Life in Anatevka is hard, and governed by the traditions of the Jewish way of life, with marriages arranged by the village matchmaker Yente (Debbie May). She has been to see Golde, to arrange a marriage for Tzeitel (Amanda Contrupi), the oldest daughter, with the rich but elderly Lazar Wolf (Rick Reed), the village butcher, disregarding her true feelings for Motel (David DiPaola) the tailor. Tzeitel, Hodel (Meighan Carivan-Esmond) and Chava (Virginia Reed), the three sisters, search for their perfect husbands. Enter Perchick (Paul Dederick), a student from Kiev University and Fyedka (Jimmy Pierce), a Russian.

Rounding out this talented cast are: Shprintze (Anna Stoneman), Bielke (Stefani DeFronzo), Rabbi (Ray Burns), Grandma Tzeitel (Sherry Strichtman), Fruma-Sarah (Judi Merriam), Sasha (Jake Rafferty), Russian Priest (Bill Sanderson), Constable (Marc Destefano), Russian Soloist (Bobby Ruggles) and Shanidel (Melissa Putterman-Hoffman).

Residents of Anatevka are: PAPAS: Bill Depew, John Birchler, John Fowler, Bill McColl and Jonathan Riven; MAMAS: Mary Beth Hampshire, Anne Gallagher, Margot Phillips and Kara DiCaterino; SONS: Henry DiMaria, Eric Morte, Zach Hecht-Levitt, Chad Miller, Jackie Smith and Carly Anders and as DAUGHTERS: Julie Singer, Heather Swallow, Maureen Gallagher, Lauren Dicoco and Kayla Wheeler.

Working hard behind the scenes of "Fiddler on the Roof" are: Director - Laura W. Andruski, Music Director Elizabeth Sears, Producer/Choreographer - Sara E. Fittizzi, Production Stage Manager - Elise Charlebois, Assistant Stage Manager - Jill Ross, Costume Designer - Debbie Lummis, Scenic Designer - Peter Kantor, Lighting Designer - Nick Webb, Lighting Operator - Robert Healey, Sound Operator - Jonathan Janssen, Make-up Designer - Marcia Lenehan and Board Liaison - Kate Kaufman Burns.

Tickets for "Fiddler on the Roof" are \$22 and \$28 and are on sale now at the Box Office, or by calling 1-877-350-7378. Tickets may also be purchased, online, at [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org)

So, why not come back to SLOC and see this company revival since it graced our stage 25 years ago!! Don't miss out on this fabulous late winter/early spring production.

Come listen to some of Broadway's most finest & beautiful songs: "If I Were a Rich Man"; "Sunrise, Sunset"; "Do You Love Me?"; "To Life" and "Tradition".

427 Franklin St.  
Schenectady, NY  
1-877-350-7378

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

2011-2012 Season

Ragtime  
Oct 14-16, 20-23  
Directed by Joe Fava

Aida  
Dec 2-4, 8-11  
Directed by  
Michael Mensching

Baby  
Feb 10-12, 16-19  
Directed by Sev Moro

Fiddler on the Roof  
Mar 16-18, 22-25  
Directed by Laura Andruski

Hairspray  
May 11-13, 17-20  
Directed by  
Michael Gatzendorfer

Kate Kaufman Burns  
President

Board of Directors  
Kate Kaufman Burns  
Tom Della Sala  
Robert Farquharson  
Jane Figueroa  
Michael Gatzendorfer  
Sev Moro  
Doug Peek  
Brett Putnam  
Nancy Stone

Next Newsletter  
Deadline:  
Wednesday,  
April 11, 2012

## President's Notes... by Kate Kaufman Burns

Dear Friends,

Change is never easy. We are at a very delicate time in our 86 year history – one that is marked by a monumental transition that has demanded more time, energy, and resources from our volunteers and administration than ever before. I continue to be pleased and proud of our efforts to increase effectiveness and efficiency in our operational systems including finance, marketing, and fundraising; however, the reality is that managing this great organization comes at a cost. The costs are physical, emotional, and financial in nature and are ever-evolving.

Thankfully for me and for our organization, one of the new systems that was put in place this fall and is working very successfully is the establishment of our Executive Committee that functions as a subset of the Board of Directors and works to problem-solve and make recommendations to the full Board as various obstacles and challenges arise. The most recent meeting of this Committee identified several areas that require immediate attention and resolution.

**Communication.** This is not a new challenge at SLOC. Most recently, we are working diligently on a plan to increase the quality and effectiveness of our internal communications, with our membership, and with the community at large. We plan to participate in trainings to encourage thorough and timely communications, to nurture an ability to listen more attentively, and to make conscious decisions to always respond according to our Code of Conduct: with the utmost respect, civility, and decorum at all times. There is no doubt that the administration and key leaders in our organization are devoted members of SLOC who will continue to lead by example as we work to improve our overall communication as an organization.

**Proper Recognition.** At a time where volunteers and leaders are asked to give more time than ever to SLOC to ensure its success, it is imperative that we work to develop systems that regularly recognize and acknowledge — in a full and proper manner — the efforts of our volunteers, committee chairs, directors, production team members, leaders and administrators. One recommendation was to implement a **Volunteer Appreciation Night** during which time we might properly and genuinely validate and celebrate the efforts of the volunteers that are the heart and soul of this organization. Although I feel great pride in the tireless work and devotion of our Executive Director, John Samatulski, SLOC is different from some non-profit organizations in that we are otherwise primarily volunteer led and managed. In order to continue to preserve the wellness of our critical volunteers, the Board plans to work to create opportunities to show proper recognition for the financial, physical, emotional, administrative, and artistic efforts of others.

**Prevention of Burn Out.** In order to prevent burn out from our much needed volunteers who have taken on a great deal of responsibility to ease us through this time of exciting change and transition, we plan to focus our efforts on the recruitment of a Coordinator of Volunteers, and we are discussing the relationship between this function and that of Membership Services. Finding a leader or team who can help train, recruit, mentor, and engage our volunteers in order to spread the giving of time and talents evenly amongst others will help us to prevent the burn out and support the administration's efforts to increase a spirit of personal and company-wide morale.

As always, I welcome your ideas, feedback and suggestions. I welcome your gifts of time and energy. I welcome your donations. I welcome names of new or returning volunteers. I welcome your support in inspiring and growing this great company during a new phase of growth and development that we hope will be the foundation for another 100 years of quality musical theater.

## Welcome to: "Archives Avenue"

*Created by Alan Angelo*

Who directed the 1991 production of Baby?

Who was the assistant director?

Who was involved in both the 1991 production and the Feb. 2012 production?

Answers in our next issue.

Here are the answers to last issue's TRIVIA question:

Question 1: Who played Marion Paroo in SLOC's 1983 version of The Music Man?

Answer: Marian Paroo was played by Carolee Carmello. Carolee has gone on to have a successful career on Broadway (2 Tony Award Nominations) and on TV.

Question 2: Where was this show produced (what theatre?)

Answer: Proctor's Theatre, April 1983.

## SLOC Spotlight

SLOC Spotlight is the newsletter of SLOC Musical Theater, a community volunteer musical theater arts incorporated non-profit 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, N.Y.

Newsletter Staff: Dave Dixon, Thomas Dalton Bambury and Greg Rucinski. To become a member (members receive the newsletter) please contact us: [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org); 1-877-350-7378.

**DEADLINE** for submissions to **Vol. 45, Issue #7** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is **Wednesday, April 11, 2012**. Approximate mailing date for Issue #7 is Friday, April 20, 2012.

Please submit articles to Dave Dixon at [luvsbabs@yahoo.com](mailto:luvsbabs@yahoo.com) or 4 Hall Pl., Apt B, Albany, NY 12210



## Cast Announced

**"Welcome to the 60's"**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

### **BIG, BLONDE, AND BEAUTIFUL COMING SOON!**

Director- **Michael Gatzendorfer**;  
Producers- **Jane Figueroa** and **Joanne Dame Peal**;  
Music Director- **Ming Aldrich-Gan**;  
Choreographer- **Gregory Theodore Marsh**  
Production Stage Manager- **Peter Caracappa**; Director's Intern- **Lexi Rabadi**  
*Performance Dates: May 11<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>*

**HAIRSPRAY** delighted audiences by sweeping them away to 1960's Baltimore, where the 50's are out — and change is in the air! Loveable plus-size heroine, Tracy Turnblad, has a passion for dancing, and wins a spot on the local TV dance program, "The Corny Collins Show." Overnight she finds herself transformed from outsider to teen celebrity. Can a larger-than-life adolescent manage to vanquish the program's reigning princess, integrate the television show, and find true love (singing and dancing all the while, of course!) without mussing her hair?

This show is filled with high spirit and the talents of **Ashley France** as Tracy Turnblad, a pleasantly plump teenager with a big heart who has dreams of being a dancing star ... as soon as she's out of detention for her big hair. **JJ Buechner** as Edna Turnblad, Tracy's kind, plus sized mother; runs a laundry business out of her home but hasn't been out in a while. **Gary Hoffmann** as Wilbur Turnblad, Tracy's goofy father, who owns the Har De Har Hut joke shop and is still madly in love with his wife, Edna. **Sean Carter** as Corny Collins, the exciting, confident dancing and singing host of his own TV dance show. Corny is in favor of Tracy and racial integration. **Christine Meglino** as Penny Pingleton, Tracy's slightly dorky, but lovable best friend who is often by her side (when not grounded for life by her mother, Prudy). **Emily Franklin** as Amber von Tussle, bratty, selfish resident princess of The Corny Collins Show. Her mother's daughter through and through, she is willing to do anything to win the Miss Teenage Hairspray pageant. **Lisa Franklin** as Velma von Tussle – Amber's slim and attractive but overbearing mother who pushes her daughter to seek stardom. Velma is the scheming producer of The Corny Collins Show who tries to steer it in the "white" direction.

**Nik Gatzendorfer** as Link Larkin, Teenage heartthrob, aspiring young Elvis, and male lead dancer on The Corny Collins Show. **Jahmere Holland** as Seaweed J. Stubbs, Motormouth Maybelle's son and a talented dancer on The Corny Collins Show, but only allowed on "Negro Day." **Kim Marsh** as Motormouth Maybelle, the sassy Corny Collins "Negro Day" DJ. Owner of a record store and mother to Seaweed and Little Inez.

Other Featured Roles include: **Christine Marcella** (Female Authority Figures: Matron, Prudy Pingleton, and the Gym Teacher), **Winn Huntley** (Mr. Pinky's Assistant) and **Dave Dixon** (Male Authority Figures: Mr. Spritzer; the HS Principal; the Town Flasher; Prison Guard; and Mr. Pinky).

There are many other very talented individuals, so don't miss out on what is surely going to be a fantastic performance of **HAIRSPRAY**. For ticket information please call 1-877-350-7378.

So, make a "Hair Appointment" today, contact SLOC's Box Office or website to purchase your tickets!! The cast and crew list for this company premier is quite large and so, tickets will likely sell very quickly for many performances. DON'T "Split hairs" and wait 'til the last minute--CALL NOW!

## **SLOC Board Elections - 2012**

**Four Board Positions Available**

**Board Candidate Bios Due Date: April 6, 2012**

The SLOC Nominating Committee (Chairperson, Robert L. Harrison and Committee Members, Robert Farquharson, Nancy Stone, Kate K. Burns (ex-officio), Sev Moro (ex-officio) and Jim Burns, pro bono legal counsel, are accepting & recruiting members to strongly consider submitting nominations for the Board of Directors.

**IMPORTANT:** There are four (4) Board positions up for election!

Kate Kaufman Burns and Nancy Stone will complete their appointed terms (by the Annual Meeting, 2012) & will not seek re-election.

Jane Figueroa and Michael Gatzendorfer will complete their appointed terms (by the Annual Meeting, 2012) and are eligible for re-election at the Annual Meeting, 2012.

Board Members Remaining on the Board (terms not currently expiring) are Thomas Della Sala, Robert Farquharson, Sev Moro, Brett Putnam and Doug Peek.

**ATTENTION ALL SLOC MEMBERS:** If you wish to be considered and be added to the Slate of Board Candidates, a person must have been a voting member for at least one (1) year in which the person is to serve, or by serving for one (1) year as an ex-officio Board Member. The Nominating Committee shall be at least three (3) persons to prepare a list of candidates for election to existing terms and unexpired terms.

**NOTE:** The Annual Meeting/Board Elections date will be confirmed by the SLOC Directors at their March, 2012 Board Meeting (following this newsletter mailing). Typically, the meeting has been the 1st or 2nd weekend in June. The April newsletter will confirm the actual meeting date.

**REQUIREMENTS for NOMINATIONS:** Nominations shall be: 1) Submitted in writing to SLOC Secretary (PO BOX 1006; Schenectady, NY) and 2) Signed by at least five (5) voting members and 3) Consented to by proposed nominee.

No Nominations shall be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

Please make sure you are a current, paid member (by Feb. 1, 2012) to be eligible to run for election. Please contact SLOC if you're unsure of your membership status.

Board Nomination Requirements must be mailed to SLOC Secretary; (Please reference your envelope: Attention - Board Election/Nominating Committee Chairperson; PO BOX 1006, Schenectady NY 12301-1006.

**IMPORTANT:** Board Nominee/Candidate BIOS are also required and will be published in Issue #7 (mid April) of the SPOT-LIGHT Newsletter.

**\*\*IMPORTANT:** Board Nomination Bios MUST BE submitted to Dave Dixon, Newsletter Editor, NO LATER THAN April 6, 2012!! Emailed BIOS are accepted. Forward BIOS to either: [lvsbabs@yahoo.com](mailto:lvsbabs@yahoo.com) OR Dave Dixon, 4 Hall Place; Albany NY 12210

List of Nominees will be submitted by the Board Secretary to the SLOC Membership fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**ABSENTEE BALLOT INFO - KEEP IN MIND NOW:** If you need an Absentee Ballot for the 2012 Board Elections, please contact, Robert L. Harrison; 111 Woodhaven Drive; Scotia, NY 12302; Phone: 518-399-8890; Cell: 518-894-7788

So, why not seriously consider running for the SLOC Board of Directors, an important duty and contribution to SLOC as we, together, continue to grow & prosper in our new home!



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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Don't "FIDDLE" around about  
making your "HAIR" appointment!!  
Make that appointment now!**

**Contact either the Box office or  
our website([www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org))  
NOW for tickets to "Fiddler on the  
Roof" and "Hairspray"!!**

**Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Albany, NY  
Permit #767**

## 2012-2013 Season

At the January 28, 2012 Semi-Annual Meeting, Brett Putnam (on behalf of the SHOW SELECTION COMMITTEE) officially announced the 2012-2013 Season.

SLOC will produce 3 Company Premieres and 2 revivals!

Congratulations to the following Directors and their Production Staff who will be gracing our rehearsal halls & main stage this coming season with the following shows:

**"NEXT TO NORMAL"** - Company Premier  
(Oct. 12-14; 18-21, 2012)  
Director: Michael Mensching

**"LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS" (Student Version)** - Company Premier  
Dec. 7-9; 13-16, 2012)  
Director: Sev Moro  
\*Note: SLOC produced "Little Shop of Horrors" in 1990 (all Adults)

**"DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS"** - Company Premier  
(Feb. 8-10; 14-17, 2013)  
Director: Michael Gatzendorfer

**"THE SOUND OF MUSIC"** - Company Revival  
(Mar. 15-17; 21-24, 2013)  
Director: Becky Straight  
\*Note: SLOC last produced "The Sound of Music" in 1987 (25 yrs ago!)

**"SWEET CHARITY"** - Company Revival  
(May 10-12; 16-19, 2013)  
Director: Richard Roe  
\*Note: SLOC last produced "Sweet Charity" in 1982 (30 yrs ago!)

## In Memoriam

SLOC recently learned of the unfortunate and sad passing of longtime member & dedicated volunteer, Jackie Mosher on December 18, 2011 (following a brief illness). Jackie's obituary graciously named SLOC as one of her recommended charities. If you would like to join Jackie's SLOC friends and honor her memory, memorial donations can be forwarded to: SLOC; PO BOX 1006 Schenectady NY. SLOC sends sincere sympathy to Jackie's husband, Clarence.

SLOC extends sincere sympathy to the friends and family of Sheila Bouchard. Sheila passed away on February 10, 2012 following a long illness. Sheila was an amazing artistic contributor to SLOC over many seasons & volunteered so many hours to create great makeup designs for our company actors. Her friendly smile & genuine support to SLOC and so many other community theaters will also be sorely missed.

## Former SLOC performers on National Tour!

Richard Gatta, a current SLOC member, was cast as a swing in the National Broadway Tour of *Billy Elliot, the Musical*. Richard has performed and has done technical work for many of SLOC shows. As a Niskayuna HS Senior Richard won SLOC's high school awards (Excellence in both Acting & Lighting Design). He is also a principal dancer for the Northeast Ballet.

Also on the *"BILLY ELLIOT"* tour is Chris Howard from Burnt Hills. Chris has also performed in SLOC's *"Babes in Arms"* and he and Richard performed together in SLOC's production of *"Shenandoah"* (1999). Congratulations to both!

## SLOC "WISH LIST"

Tools & Equipment - Cordless & corded drills, drill batteries, drill bits, etc; painting supplies... new brushes, roller sleeves (9"), roller handles, roller pans; new or recently purchased "Flat Latex" paints (Black, Brown, White, Red, Blue, Green, Yellow, in gallon cans.)

Lumber & Plywood - delivered to our Taurus Road facility - 2x4x8, 1x4x8, 1/4 inch luan in 4x8 or 4x4 sheets, 3/4 inch plywood in 4x8 or 4x4 sheets, 1/2 inch plywood in 4x8 or 4x4 sheets. (nominal sizes, get as close as you can).

Call Richard Lenahan, 608-5880 to arrange for delivery.