




The Wellesley Players

 Forward to a Friend

Players and Friends,

We hope you are embracing the beautiful summer months! We will be taking a short break with our newsletter for the summer, but you will hear from us again in August as we finalize our season and related Player activities.

Congratulations to Newly Elected Leaders

At our Annual Meeting on May 15, members voted enthusiastically to support our new leadership team. We are very excited that these talented folks decided to give up some time to focus on Players' activity for the next two years.

Officers and your Board of Directors for 2010-2012

President	Cathy Spear
Vice President	Steven Casolaro
Recording Secretary	Jane Brown
Treasurer	Jim Pugh
Member-at-Large	Lois Goodman
Marketing/Development	Celia Couture
Communications Director	Libby Ostrofsky
Membership Director	Leslie Weintraub
Artistic Director	David Kimmelman
Technical Director	Jessica Greenfield
Program Director	Diane Rothauser
Box Office Director	TBD

We still need someone to step up and fill the Box Office Director role. Interested members please contact cathspear@gmail.com

EMACT Festival-Groton School, Groton, MA

On the weekend of June 11th, the Players along with ten other Community theatre groups will compete for top honors in the 56th Annual EMACT Festival at the Groton School in Groton, MA. The Players' fall production of *Steel Magnolias* directed by Celia Couture featuring, Susan Rice, Valerie von Roseninge, Maureen Adduci, Sara Jones, Tracy Nygard and Marian Morrison, present a 60 minute cutting of the play. Stage Manager Alissa Palange will lead a great crew including Shelley Woods, Adam Sell, Kate Mahoney, Alan MacMillian, Frank Furnari, Diane Rothauser, Emily Berry, Emily Hart, Cathy Spear, Steve Casolaro, technical director Dick Rubinstein, set designer Doug Cooper, costume designer Andrea Goodman, lighting

Whispers

Editor Rita Ford

Darlene Howland, along with other soloists and singing groups from the Wellesley High School, performed on May 14, at the Wellesley Congregational Church to benefit an orphanage in Africa. Oprah can't be everywhere.

"Partners at the Pops"...an evening of doctors with Keith Lockhart and The Boston Symphony will showcase area Drs. including Dr. Lois Goodman...who will be a featured soloist...Fri. May 28--no patients allowed, however, those of us that go to Lois for "a leg up" will hear everything.

Other Players at "Play"...

Grace Butler was featured in the Salem Theatre Company's production of A.R. Gurney's *Later Life*...She is also enjoying new life in the form of Grandson:Cameron.

Chris Connor is in the habit of "Doubt" at Hovey Players, May 14 - 29 and will not kick the habit till after EMACT. For tickets: Hoveyplayers.org. It will be a sin to miss this.

Angela Richardson turned in her babushka for a shot gun as Annie in *Annie Get Your Gun* for Riverside Theatre group. She never missed.

Marshall Cannell, long time member and past president of the Players, is the tech director for *Hello Dolly* in Providence, R.I.

designer Eric Jacobsen, sound designer Bob Pascucci, wigs and make-up designer Richard Repetta, and producer David Giagrando.

Our performance slot is on Saturday, June 12 and the session start time is at noon. For ticket information, please visit the EMACT website at: www.emact.org. It's a lovely ride out to Groton and we certainly appreciate the support.

New Structure passes at Annual Meeting!

Led by Lois Goodman and the Nominating Committee, the members present at the annual meeting on Saturday evening May 15th voted unanimously to support the temporary suspension of our Constitution related to Articles V, VI and VII and experiment with a new Officer and Board of Director structure for the next 24 months. The new structure creates some new positions, clarifies job responsibilities for others and hopefully streamlines decision making. Many theatre groups are challenged by similar issues as the Players. How do we increase member participation? How do we grow our audience base? How do we continue to attract strong performers and artists? How do we stay afloat despite the soaring costs of both rehearsal and performance space? How do we market the Players to achieve a stronger foothold in the community? These are some of the questions our newly appointed Officers and Board of Directors will be tackling. We wish them well.

We also want to thank David Giagrando for his strong leadership to the Players over the past two years. David has brought common sense and business acumen to his role and we hope to build on David's vision by focusing our efforts on this new structure. David was presented with a lovely clock at the meeting with our heartfelt thanks.

Officer and Board Meeting--June 2, 2010

The newly elected officers and Board Members will be meeting on June 2 at the home of President Cathy Spear. Before we break for the summer, we will be kicking off plans to support our season. We also want to thank those members who have agreed to support the new organizational structure by volunteering to serve as committee members.

Thanks the following members who have volunteered to serve on committees.

Marketing/Development

Alicia Gordon (PR)
Amy Veza (Wiki)
Adam Sell (PR)
Steve San Soucie (Web)
Darlene Howland

Communications

*Marian Morrison (phone, EMACT/AACT)
Rita Ford (Whispers)

Membership

Barbara Tarlin
Darlene Howland
Frank Funari

Artistic Director

Children's Theatre- Wil Breden & Barbara Tarlin
Alissa Palange
Valerie vonRosenvinge
Lee Carter Browne
Allison Rourke

Bob Barker and Peter West, both past presidents of the Players are still acting up and out in olde Cape Cod for The Falmouth Theatre Guild and The Cotuit Center for The Arts. Surely wives Evie and Betty continue to prop their men as they did for Wellesley.

As you know, our "Fiddler" went through the roof, garnering kudos, the welcome return of Players past and a plethora of Players new, Celia Couture directed all 43 of them in what was, for her and all, a most moving experience.

"Fiddler" continues to play, this time with our just past pres., David Giagrando as Tevye at The Norton Singers in the Weber theatre at Wheaton College. June 18 thru 27 in Norton MA. For ticket info call 508-286-8200. We know he horse breaks a leg...Let's go see David "break a geg: "On the other hand"...

Richard Repetta, *director of Cabaret, La Cage*, etc. director and Adam Barrett warmed their new home with a party for Richard's 50th. The house is gorgeous...so are Richard and Adam.

In 2002, Chris Howlonia was the Players recipient of a cash award for excellence in theatre arts while a senior at Wellesley High School. Chris was seen as Motel in our *Fiddler* and will be Music Director for our Spring show, *Annie*. Sometimes, it pays to invest.

"Toys R Her"...Billie Thelander, our set artist par no one can touch her, is set to open her second location of her adorable "Lil Bits" toy store in Natick. Guess who is doing the painting. ...May the opening be grand. She loves to be patronized.

Bill and Rita Ford hosted the WP Annual meeting. ...They had the piano tuned... something they do regularly every 20 years or so....the weather was terrific as was the evening...a fitting finale to a special season. Thanks to Diane R and her elves...Diane is "back" after surgery and better than ever.

Congrats to the "GRAD" Mothers...Robby Levy, Marian Morrison, Judith Strand Waldau, Billie Thelander....whose lovely daughters, Ali, Julliana, Victoria, Emmy graduated from various college campuses. We wish them well...they all come from designer genes.

Condolences to the Morrison family who recently lost a loved family member.

Our thoughts go out to Karen Pugh as she recovers from an accident.

TILL NEXT TIME

"The only reason to see a bad play twice...you know it will end" Robert Benchley

Angela Richardson
Rita Ford

Technical Director

Dick Rubinstein
Bob Pascucci
Eric Jacobsen
Andrea Goodman
Billy Thelander
Emily Hart

Box Office

Steve San Soucie-
Playbill Production

Program Director

Liz Dugan
Valerie Gates
Diana Pompeu

About Us

THE WELLESLEY PLAYERS, one of New England's oldest community theatre groups, was founded in 1925 as "THE WELLESLEY VILLAGE PLAYERS". Their first meeting and single yearly production was held in the Community Hall of The Village Church which was their home and sponsor. They have gone on to produce over 150 productions during the past 81 seasons.

Today THE WELLESLEY PLAYERS present two plays a year utilizing the facilities of Sorenson Center for the Arts at Babson College. Its membership includes many Wellesley residents and also draws from 22 communities throughout metropolitan Boston and New Hampshire.

GOT A SUGGESTION?

If you have questions, concerns or suggestions for the Players, please feel free to drop us a line at TheWellesleyPlayers@rcn.com

An appropriate member of the Board of Directors will contact you.



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