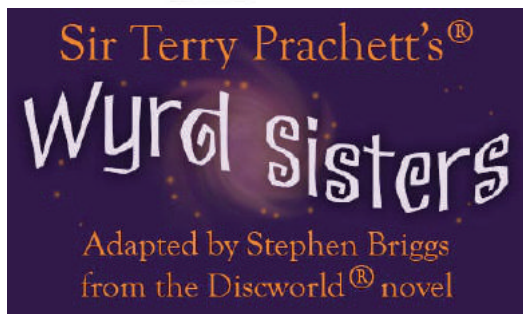




the PROMPTER

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE PRINT JUNE 2024



Coming August 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25

by Barbara Wilson

As summer opens, it stretches long with possibility, anticipation and plans. Actors are spending happy hours at the theater, bringing their 34 zany characters to life for the late August performances of *Sir Terry Pratchett's® Wyrd Sisters*. But what about you? Here are Summer 2024's Top Summer Activities for Village Players:

Summer Reading: Do you sing, "School's out for summer...I'm bored to pieces"? Hit the beach with Pratchett's® complete 41-book Discworld® fantasy series, or maybe just one: "Wyrd Sisters." You will not be required to write a five paragraph summary in September. It's optional.

The Bard Has It: Take Kathleen Hill and Barbara Wilson's advice and "Brush Up Your Shakespeare." While not required reading, a refresher on "Hamlet" and "Macbeth" will let you chuckle knowingly at the show.

Set of Dreams: Are you ready for some hands-on learning? The set crew can use your hands. We've heard that if you build it they WILL come. Contact Russ Ellis for more information. (ram2sak@aol.com)

A Spoonful of Sugar: There will be a theater clean up day. We encourage everyone to help "and hence, they'll find, their job is not a grind." Usually this day is the Saturday before the first performance, but there will be more information on this in the August issue of The Prompter.

"Be Our Guest, Be Our Guest": Our house manager, Dawn Alie, will be looking for ushers August 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25. (dawnalie1023@gmail.com),

The Village Players' production of "Wyrd Sisters" is generously sponsored by Bruce and Kris Gurall and KeithMurrayLoans.com

Clean Up Day at the Theater

by Carol Light

On Saturday June 8 from 9 to 12 we will be doing a general cleanup at the theater. We will have a dumpster at the ready, and Matt Johnson and Russ Ellis will be there to oversee and direct. We will be going through the Poo Bah Room and thinning out some of the hundreds of set pieces and furnishings we have accumulated over the years, with the long term goal of organizing that room to make it more user-friendly.

We can use all the help we can get, particularly strong sure-footed folks to handle the larger items. But even if you aren't strong and sure-footed, we can use your help. This is a chance to spring clean! Joyce Plummer Wood and Carol Light have already worked on the props room; it looks great.

If you have the morning free, or even if you only have an hour, please come and help us out. It's a great chance to do a good deed and to visit with your fellow VPer!



by Kathleen Hill

The Village Players are pleased to announce auditions for the November 2024 musical, *Bye Bye Birdie*. Director, Kathleen Hill, is very excited to bring this happy musical to the Village Players stage, "This show, set in the time of bobby socks, poodle skirts and innocence, has great music, a fun plot, and lively dances. You will go home humming the songs and tapping your toes."

Use the form on the Village Players website to register to audition.

Performances: November 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10

Auditions: August 20 and 21, 6:00 PM at the Village Players Theater

Rehearsals begin: September 8

Bye bye cont. on pg3

News from your Board of Directors

by Rosemary Lounsbury

In an effort to keep the membership up to date on what's going on "behind the scenes," we will report in The Prompter what has been discussed at recent meetings of the Board.

All members are invited to attend any board meeting. If you would like to speak, please let Paul Stewart know so that he can add you to the agenda. Due to some conflicts, a few of our meeting dates have changed, so this is the new list of upcoming meetings: July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, and December 2. The annual membership meeting is usually the Sunday after the first matinee of the musical (should be November this year.)

New this year: We are hoping that going forward we will be able to announce the shows selected for the coming year a little earlier than at the annual membership meeting. In the past, proposals were requested for presentation at our September board meeting, and then during the September meeting (and October if necessary) we would vote on the season, and then announce it in November. We'd like to have that information made public in the summer, so we have moved up the "proposal date" to our June and July meetings. This gives potential directors more time to get a plan in place for staffing, and we can have more time to advertise the coming attractions. This means that your next issue of The Prompter might include the shows planned for 2025, so stay tuned!

Performance Opportunity

by Kathleen Hill

The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction will hold the third annual theatre fundraising event, An Evening of Theatre, on Wednesday August 14 at 7PM at The Colonial Theatre Laconia.

The Village Players have been invited to participate in this fun show to raise funds for children's charities throughout the Lakes Region. I, Kathleen Hill, am looking for anyone from the Village Players who would like to participate.

The organizers are looking for three musical numbers. They would like at least one to include kids. If you are interested in performing on the big Colonial stage, please go to the VP web site and register by June 6. We will decide what to do when we know who would like to participate. I am thinking we could do something from Joseph (Go Go Joe?) or Oliver (Consider Yourself?) but you can register even if you weren't in one of those shows.

Want to know more about the Children's Auction? Click here <https://www.childrensauction.org/glrcamissionandstory>

Questions? Contact me, Kathleen Hill, at teacheractress@gmail.com



VP Bits

As many of you know, **Jay Sydow** has undergone an operation on his spine to correct several problems which were causing him great pain. Needless to say, he will be out of commission for some time. He will spend six weeks in a brace. It will be tough to get along without him but all indications are that this operation was successful and he will be back with us in September.

Proposals for Plays 2025

The Village Players Board is excited to hear people's suggestions and ideas for productions. If you are considering a proposal as a director, or would like to give a detailed proposal as an interested member, please email VP Board President Paul Stewart, stewart.l.paul@gmail.com, as soon as possible—by the end of June .

Either include the following information in your email or plan to bring 9 copies of it with you to a Board meeting.

- Your name and your "credentials" (What have you Directed or Assistant Directed in the past, for VP or other organization?)

- Name of show, and author/composer-lyricist

- Dates you are proposing, for auditions and for performances? Are you flexible with these?

- Who is currently on your "team"? (Who will serve as Producer, Assistant Director, Musical Director, Stage Manager, Choreographer, lighting technician? (And add any other roles you feel are filled)

- Is the show available for production in Wolfeboro on those dates? (Find out by checking with licensing company)

- Preliminary budget: INCOME: How much will this show generate? (Ticket price, # of seats, # of performances) Why do you think this is a good estimate? Is it based on previous shows done at this time of year? Is it because of its universal appeal?) EXPENSES: What are the costs? License? Score rental? Scripts, programs, poster, banner, sets, costumes, ads, etc. On what factors did you base these projections? (Past shows? Contacted licensing agent? etc.)

- Why is this show appropriate for the Village Players at this particular time?

- Any challenges that you think you want to share? ("I can answer everything except I would need guidance on this particular thing: _____") Don't decide that you won't propose just because there is one link in the chain you can't fill...the Board may have a remedy you haven't considered. Please bring proposal anyway. Even if we ask you for modifications, it's good to know your interest.

If you're not a director, please send us your suggestions and any other ideas you have for upcoming productions. As always, the Village Players Board of Directors is free to accept or reject any proposal based on their judgement of what will best represent and develop the talents of the membership.

Bye bye cont. from pg1

Audition Requirements

Vocal Audition:

Please prepare a musical selection that shows off the character of your voice; please bring sheet music (pianist provided) or a backing track (no voices); you may bluetooth to our stereo or bring a CD. Please do not plan to sing acapella.

Dance Audition:

Please watch the Village Players website for a video of the dance audition in early August.

Acting Audition:

The acting audition will consist of readings from the script. Sides will be posted on the Village Players website in early August.

Characters:

Albert- President of the Almaelou Music Corporation, and Conrad Birdie's agent. He is a nervous, excitable man who spends most of his time trying to control the uncontrollable, with quite comic results. Great singer, great comic timing.

Rosie- Albert's girlfriend and secretary at Almaelou Music Corporation. She is frustrated with Albert's inability to commit to her, and is willing to do anything it takes to get Albert to give up the music business and settle down. Headstrong and confident, strong actress and great singer, alto.

Mrs. Mae Peterson- Albert's controlling mother. She loves her son, despite her disapproval of the way he runs the family business. She does not approve of Rosie. She is always parenting Albert and provides much comic relief during the show. Non-singing role, strong actress with great comic timing.

Conrad Birdie- teen heartthrob who has been drafted into the army. Think Elvis Presley. He says little, but conveys much with his body language, swagger, and music. He knows that good looks and a killer smile will get him more than his personality. Must be a great singer/dancer with an over-the-top character.

Kim MacAfee- A self-confident young member of Conrad's fan club who is chosen to receive a kiss from Conrad before he leaves for the army. She sees herself as more mature than the average teenager. Great singer, soprano.

Hugo Peabody- Kim's devoted steady boyfriend who is jealous that Conrad is getting so much attention from Kim. Nonsinging, comic role, a bit nerdy.

Mr. Harry MacAfee- Kim's father, thinks he is in control of his family (but isn't). Great actor, good singer, must be able to find the comedy in his character's frustration and irritability.

Mrs. Doris MacAfee- Kim's loving mother who knows just how to handle her husband and her household. Good actor/singer.

Ursula Merkle- Kim's best friend and the hyper-enthusiastic

teenager who leads the girls in screaming for Conrad. A unique character with a one of a kind voice.

Randolph MacAfee- Kim's younger brother, fun young character.

The Mayor- Head figure of Sweet Apple, Ohio who welcomes Conrad Birdie to town. A bit naïve to the effect Conrad has on the girls of the town. Comic actor.

The Mayor's Wife, Edna- one of the adults of the show who cannot resist the charms of Conrad Birdie.

Gloria Rasputin- Dreamy, ambitious knockout who Mrs. Peterson chooses to replace Rosie. She is looking for her big break in show business and hopes Albert can help her. A ditzzy chorus girl, larger than life character. Great dancer.

Mrs. Merkle- Ursula's overbearing mother who also gets a touch of Conrad Birdie fever.

Harvey Johnson- a typical nerdy teenager.

Mr. Johnson- Harvey's father and one of the many parents in Sweet Apple desperate to keep control of their children as Conrad Birdie comes to town.

Ensemble- teens and adults

Questions? Contact Kathleen at teacheractress@gmail.com

A few photos from *W;t* in case you missed it.



The cast



Diagnosis



Rounds



Nurses comfort the patient



Code Blue

CONTACT US...

Mail: PO Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894 **Voice-mail:** 603-569-9656

Web site: www.village-players.com

Email: info@village-players.com

2024 Village Players Board

- President - Paul Stewart 603-866-9445
- Vice President - Kathleen Hill 603-520-1372
- Secretary - Rosemary Lounsbury 603-569-2599
- Treasurer - Stefanie Marsh 603-569-6382
- Past President - Matt Johnson 781-437-7007
- Members at Large
- Dawn Alie (2yrs) 603-767-0379
- Jeannie LeGrow (2yrs) 603-366-6529
- Mandy Ferriman (1yr) 603-986-6178
- Carol Light (1yr) 603-393-4277

Board meetings are scheduled for the first Monday evening of each month. All dues-paying members are also welcome to attend. Be sure your membership is current to receive your newsletter and notice of special events. Contact info@village-players.com or call 603-569-9656 if you are unsure of your membership status.

Newsletter Committee

Carol Bense, Cathy Fraser
Jay Sydow, Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler
Art Production
Carol Bense, Cathy Fraser



P.O. Box 770 Wolfeboro, NH 03894



Big Repairs Required on our Front Patio and Stairs

Our summer fundraising focus is the repair of our front entrance steps and patio. As you know, we've been working with architects and engineers to finalize the plans and will get details to you in the coming months. But in the meantime, would you STEP UP and make a donation to help pay for this project? This is work which must be done for the safety of anyone entering the building and even folks passing by.

Donate on our website, village-players.com or send a check to
PO Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.