

ENCORE
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE OF WAUWATOSA
P.O. BOX 13095 Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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HOMELESS BUT NOT HOPELESS

The VPW remains without a home. However, there are some interesting possibilities on the horizon for next season.

The Plankroad School is officially part of the Milwaukee County Mothball Fleet. There are no plans to renovate, rip-down or re-open the building. Conversations with County officials begun in summer and continued through the fall were frustrating, futile and furtive. For example, when I talked to my County Board Supervisor, he had no idea that the Plankroad School existed or who it was that decided to close it down. After a couple of days "checking into the situation", I received from him a completely unsatisfactory reply. The VPW Board

did receive a very nice letter from County Executive Tom Amendt explaining as best he could how this decision was made and who made it. Okay. The county has co-operated with us in allowing our stock of costumes, props and set pieces to remain in the school basement until a final disposition of the building is rendered.

In the meantime, the VPW learned of a group called the Wauwatosa Landmark Commission and that this commission had the Plankroad School into the the National Registry as a historical building. It took several months, but this week we finally tracked down this commission. The Wauwatosa Landmark Commission has a great interest in preserving the Plankroad School, however they don't have the funding it would take. What they are looking for is someone to champion the cause of the building and become an organizer and leader in creating a coalition of concerned private citizens, businesses and a political will to keep the county from eventually tearing down the school (and surrounding buildings) and selling the land off to developers. The Landmark Commissions meeting are open to the public. Their next meeting is in March and the subject of the Plankroad School is not on the agenda. This newsletter will keep you posted of further meetings and what is happening along those lines. In the meantime, the search for a new home continues. Over the past months several places have been dismissed for reasons like cost, availability, technical feasibility. These include, the Wauwatosa Women's Club, Tosa East High School and Longfellow Middle School to mention a few. We thought of moving from the Wauwatosa area perhaps to a city where the school system would be more co-operative. Well, it looks like we a solution. I can't mention any names right now as certain details need to be finalized. However, you will be thrilled when it becomes official as a whole new era for VPW will open. I hope the final arrangements will be settled by the next newsletter. In the meantime, if you have any comments you have to write us. We had our hotline number disconnected since it was not cost-effective. The next newsletter will be out in March. Keep your fingers crossed, your horseshoes upright and don't name that quaint Scottish play.

VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE OF WAUWATOSA
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL
WISCONSIN PLAYWRIGHTS
ORIGINAL ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL

THE TRADITION CONTINUES

Buildings may come and buildings may go but the VPW ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL survives. Our lone production this season is perhaps our groups proudest accomplishment. The VPW is the longest on-going One-Act Play Festival for Wisconsin Playwrights in the State.

Enclosed you'll find a submission form for your play(s). The details for this festival are still being worked-out so watch in March for location, dates and times. Just know that sometime in June we'll be producing the festival, auditions will be in April.

If you'd like to be considered for DIRECTING a one-act, please send a resume' to ONE-ACT DIRECTORS at our P.O. Box by March 15, so we can have directors in place as we select our scripts.

Victor-charles Scafati is producer for this festival and he'll be happy to answer any questions- his number is on the flyer

AACTFEST

The VPW will again be entering the bi-annual AACT State wide theatre festival. Our entry is the highly acclaimed South African play
DOGS OF THE BLUE GODS by Ian Fraser.

A special showing of the play is scheduled for
Saturday February 28th
at the new Miramar Theatre Center
2820 N. OAKLAND (Oakland and Locust) 8PM.

This renovated performance space was the first home of the Milwaukee Rep (The Fred Miller Theatre).

This showing will benefit our effort in the theatre competition in Eau Claire on March 5. Call TOM at 744-5212 for ticket info.

TOM ZUEHLKE is directing a cast of TONY BREITRICK, TIM KLEINSCHMIDT, ERICO ORTIZ and BRIAN ROLOFF

STAGE DUST

By AFRA BEAN the GOSSIP QUEEN

Hello and Happy New Year! I've been busy sweeping the corners and stirring up some delightful dirt.

There's more than meets the eye to this NANCY and JOHN thing. They've been doing it so long they're ready for SOCIAL SECURITY. The impeachment fairy made an appearance at JANE'S halloween party looking a lot like TOM and looking out for interns. He was the heads- hands down winner of the cutest cigar ash award.

Dating!- that ancient rite of passage. In the 50's it was blueberry hill, 60's made love not war, disco (AGGGG!), the 80's gave us- lunch- and, would you like to see my portfolio. The 90's have personal ads and E-Mail. But for the new millennium comes something revolutionary to the dating world- something only the dating mistress of the VPW, CHERYL could envision. For Cheryl has seen the future of dating and it is called- aluminum foil!

Now I'd like to introduce DIANA, a newcomer to this column who(m) I believe will become a frequent subject of inuendo and intrigue. At the New Years Eve Party Diana and Clara the cow had quite an affair going till JJ the bull horned onto her lap and assumed the milking position.

JOHN and JENNIFER returned from vacation to find TIM on their roof. Strange? Well Tim wanted to host a Nitro Party and through the roof seemed the best way to break into the house. Those of us who attended the party would like to thank John and Jenny for their hospitality, and KEVIN for procuring MONIQUE and BAMBI on such short notice. Diana and Cheryl were unfortunately unavailable.

You really need to hear the story about the guy in the Santa Barbara restaurant from EVVIE or JUDY.

KING BRIAN insists he will abdicate this summer to PRINCE TODD, yet no one has seen Todd in several months worth of meetings. Brian says he's working but few who know Todd are falling for that tale.

The ROXX residence hosted an 80's retro New Years Eve party that turned into Wrestle Mania when the Z-MAN was savagely beaten with a phone by JOHNNY ROXX and VON RYANS EXPRESS. The Z-Man seemed lost without his valet, the lovely HEARTBREAKER. Z-Man managed to somehow summon enough strength and, in keeping with the spirit of the evening, he eventually got Roxx in the Miami Vice.

STU SAVAGE made a guest appearance at the Bay View Players production of CABARET. It was great seeing Stu who over a period of some time has passed on several quality roles. His distant cousin DAVID came out of retirement for CABARET and we're hoping to lure Stu out for the one-act festival.

Rumor around the word-processor is that JULIE is working on the further adventures of McDuctape for the one-acts. This is noted to lure not only Stu, but the reclusive PAUL as well.

(now for the TOM section)

A few good men, especially TOM, were in A FEW GOOD MEN, which left quite a few good men with questions about Tom.

TOM and DONNA had a delightful house warming party in November. The looped tape of a fireplace playing on the VCR was one of the strangest things TOM has ever seen Donna do. Except for that OUR TOWN party at ROSIE'S house.

TOM almost had a date in December. Unluckily the INS caught her the day before the date and now certain segments of the Hispanic community are blaming a recent rash of deportations on Tom.

No one has seen TOM for several years yet we heard MARY had his child.

TOM forgot JENNIFER's birthday on October 3rd.