



ENCORE

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VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES 2003-2004 SEASON

The Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa is pleased to announce the upcoming 2003-2004 season. After a short hiatus, we are once again calling the theatre at Wauwatosa West High School our home for the next year.

Our season opens with “**One Flew Over The Cuckoos Nest**”, on the weekends of October 10-11 And October 17-18. Cuckoos Nest is being directed by **Laura La Pinske**, a long time veteran of Oak Creek Community Theatre. The play written by **Dale Wasserman** is based on the novel by **Ken Kesey**. Fans of the movie will not want to miss this show.

December and January will bring three performances of our children’s theatre production “**The Kings Rabbits**“. **Donna Kay Kohls** has written an original script for us based on a Norwegian Folk Tale. Once again VPW is providing a play for the Wauwatosa Recreation Department’s Children’s Theatre Program. The show will be directed by **James Lentz Jr.** who directed our children’s show 3 years ago (Greensleeves Magic). The performances are scheduled for December 13, at Wauwatosa East High

School, December 20, at Wauwatosa West High School and January 11 at Nathan Hale High School in West Allis.

Our Spring Production slated for March 12-13 and March 19-20, 2004 is “**Comic Potential**” by Alan Ayckbourn. This British Comedy is being directed by Jerry Steggenborg, theatre director at Milwaukee School of the Arts. Jerry directed last year’s VPW production of **Love, Sex, and the IRS**.

Rounding out the season on April 30, May 1, May 7-8 is our **19th Annual Original One Act Play Festival**. This festival is VPW’s unique contribution to original theatre in Wisconsin. Authors sharpen your pencils and fire up the word processors. Submission information will be available in September.



NEW BOARD ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING

The Village Playhouse annual meeting and Encore Awards ceremony was held on Saturday, July 13th at Serafino Square.

Along with some great socializing, fantastic food and dance music provided by Larry Beckley, VPW held it’s annual board elections.

Barbara Lynch ascended to the throne as President. Rounding out the officers were Vice President – Cheryl Ann Lisowski, Secretary– Tom Zuehlke, Perennial Treasurer – Lloyd Dreger. Affirmed as Members at Large were Larry Beckley, Tina Davis, Fran Panek, Rosie Peterson, Judi Tarbox. Mark Steimle was affirmed as President Elect..

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2002-03 YEAR IN REVIEW

In November VPW got the season off to a great start with 3 performances of the hit comedy, **Love Sex & The IRS** at Longfellow Jr. High. Directed by Jerry Steggenborg, the show featured a cast of 8. Attendance was a modest 250+ people but the show made a profit.

January saw two performances of our Children's show **The Pied Piper** from an original script by **Donna Kay Kohls**. Produced for the Wauwatosa Recreation Department, this show featured a cast of 26 adults, teens and children. **Barbara Lynch** produced; co-directed (with **Evvie Smith**,) costumed, and fell down the stairs for this show. VPW gets a whopping \$500 to put this show together and believe it or not Barb brought the show in under budget.

This was an **ACCFEST** year. **ACCTFEST** is a National competition for community theatre groups. This year, the state competition was held in Platteville. Ten theatre companies from around the state competed. The VPW entry was "**The Laramie Project**" Tom Zuehlke, Bob Kafka & Co landed us a 2nd place finish in the semi annual state contest. Our friends from the Brookfield Players won the Wisconsin competition, earning the right to move on to the five state regional competition which was held in Fort Atkinson. Our Fundraising performance at Walkers Point center for the Arts more than covered the costs of taking the show to competi-

tion.

The month of May brought the **18th Annual Wisconsin Playwrights One Act Play Festival**. Five Directors assembled a cast of 20 for 5 shows at the Walkers point center for the Arts. **Mary Breitrick** – directed "**Cocktails for 3**" written by **Carol Thomas**
Jeff Berezinski directed "**Rehearsing "Afternoon Lust" in Grace Dent's Basement**", written by, **Donna Kay Kohls**
Beth Shippert directed "**Rhinelanders Circus**", written by **Donna Kay Kohls**
TJ Little directed "**Cold Calls**" written by **Christian Williams**
Victor White directed "**This Is Heaven**", written by **Donna Kay Kohls**

Congratulations to all who worked hard to make this a successful season artistically and financially

Opportunities

AUDITIONS

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest -August 18-19, 2003
7:00 PM at Divine Word Church (55th & Lloyd)
Cast: 11 men & 4 women – For more info call Mark Steimle 774-0175 or msteimle@wi.rr.com

The King's Rabbits (Children's Show) - Oct 20-21, 2003
7:00 PM at Divine Word Church (55th & Lloyd)
Cast: 12 speaking roles for various ages (5 women, 3 men, 3 children & 1 adult to play animals) plus extras – For more info call Barb Lynch 425-2076 or mblynch3@execpc.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings VPW members and friends,
We have an exciting year ahead of us and are also looking ahead to next season as well. Plans are in the works to collaborate with Brookfield Players in a number of ways. Although it is too early to make an announcement, we do hope that we will be doing a summer musical. We are working on an inventory of VPW resources. This will include not just property but people who can be called on to usher, build sets, sew costumes, post flyers, and work on committees such as play reading and publicity. We always need technical help as

VPW is looking for the following folks to help us towards a successful season:

Technical Director – Someone to coordinate the technical aspect of all shows this season.

Technical Help – We have a **BIG** need for help with Set Design & Construction, Lighting operation n & Stage Crew for Cuckoo's Nest

Producer – For the Spring Production **Comic Potential**

Marketing – We always need help promoting Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa

well. It takes a lot of people working behind the scenes to keep a theatre group running and to produce shows. Please volunteer for something this year. Let us know what you are willing and able to do. A number of local groups have folded due to lack of backstage support. We all want to be "on stage" but without those who work so hard behind the scenes, there can not be any shows. Please call, email, or just show up at auditions. We greatly need your help. Thanks!

Barbara Lynch – VPW President