

The OP Happening

May 2009

From the
Desk of.....



Spring has sprung, and we are now rehearsing for our next Orange Players Production entitled "A Grand Night for Singing." It promises to be a lovely production, and we hope many of you and your friends will support us by attending. The show dates are Friday, June 5th and Saturday June 6th at 8:00 p.m., with a final matinee on Sunday, June 7 at 2:00 p.m. For tickets call our new OP ticket phone number (203) 824-1335. You will want to keep this phone number, as it will be our regular ticket phone number in the future. Thanks to Bob Rich for setting this up for us.

Co-producers Christine Gill, Rich Moran and I have been very busy with the many tasks involved in mounting the show. The Town decided to begin a rehabilitation project on the lobby and bathrooms at High Plains, which will make some areas off limits during the show if the project is not completed by show opening. The performances will go on thanks to the help of the Town of Orange, with a special thanks to our Fire Marshall Tim Smith and Craig Toth.

Director Chris Mahn and music director Judy Webber are rehearsing with a talented cast, consisting of some old and some new OP actors: OP regulars Christine Gill, Suzanne Powers, and Rich Moran will be joined by Ralph Buonocore and newcomer Susan Kulp. Robin Lewis and Bob Rich will be taking care of ticket sales and calls. Donna Wesolowski is serving as house manager, and set construction is being managed by Pietro Spagnulo with help by our assets manager, John Miller. Thank you, Patt Brotschul, for pinch-hitting as producer during production week and performances, and thanks to all who have and will be helping us with this wonderful musical!

OP's original production, "Ages and Stages" recently had a repeat performance at the Orange Congregational Church for as a fundraiser for their church organ restoration. Many thanks to Pat Miller, Bob and Marian Drobish, Siobhan Macre, David Ortoleva, David Byrne and other OP members for keeping this lively show going.

The OP board of directors has almost completed its work this year, and nominations are under way for a new board beginning next September. A few vacancies exist. If you are interested in serving on next year's board, please let me or incoming co-president Suzanne Powers know.

At this time, I would also like to thank my co-president, Christine Gill for continuing to make the 2008-2009 a very accomplished year for Orange Players. Have a great time attending our cabaret-style seating performance of "A Grand Night for Singing." Enjoy your summer and don't forget to keep our new phone number handy for tickets now and for future shows. Continue to visit our website at www.orangeplayers.net!

Sincerely,

Marianne Miller

Co-President Orange Players



PRODUCER'S



The *Grand Night* cast, production team, and creative staff are hustling and busting! Lights are being designed, set pieces assembled, songs blocked, music refined, costumes procured, etc., etc. While we're accomplishing plenty, we're enjoying some fun and laughs along the way as well. It does feel good for O.P. to be mounting a musical production once again. Some three years have elapsed since our last one. As co-president, I couldn't feel more pleased and proud that we find ourselves healthy enough financially to be producing a musical which, as we are all aware, requires a substantially bigger budget than your average non-musical.

This brings me handily to my next point. Although we find ourselves in great shape from a technical and creative standpoint, we need assistance from our membership to make this production a true success. The producers and cast are doing the best we can to publicize the show, but we could use your help in selling tickets. Please buy your own tickets early. Hopefully most of you received your e-mail blast about contacting our Box Office Managers, Robin Lewis and Bob Rich. The specifics about the show can be found on our website at: <http://www.orangeplayers.net/shows.htm>

And our ticket order form at:

http://www.orangeplayers.net/Grand_night_ticket_form.pdf

However, we'd also appreciate you doing a little marketing on your own. Please drop an e-mail to your friends and family about the show. If you know of any social groups who might be interested in attending, kindly have them contact Rich Moran (rich.moranjr@mtmfinancialgroup.com). We offer group rates for groups of 20 or more.

I must shamelessly say that you can feel very good about promoting this production. We couldn't have a more talented cast, creative staff and production team. Despite a shoestring budget, I am confident this is going to be a highly successful production artistically. With a little help from our membership, we can also make it financially successful. Allow me to thank you in advance for making it a reality.

Now that I've gotten the business part of our message out of the way, it's time to introduce you to our team. First, our cast:

Ralph Buonocore
Christine Gill
Susan Kulp
Rich Moran
Suzanne Powers

Our creative staff consists of our director, Chris Mahn, and our music director, Judy Webber. Lest I repeat too much of what our President has mentioned in her letter, it's been a delight to join forces with long time Opers (Rich and Suzanne and Judy), some blasts from the past (Ralph and Chris), and to welcome a new friend (Susan) to our ranks.

Last but not least, there are so many people to thank. At the top of the list, my brilliant and talented co-producers, Rich Moran and Marianne Miller. I could not imagine producing this show without their expertise. Second, our technical gurus, Pietro Spagnulo and John Miller. I could not be more thrilled to have these gifted and creative gentlemen ensuring that the stage looks as good as the gowns and tuxes. To our Box Office Managers, Robin Lewis and Bob Rich, and our House Manager, Donna Wesolowski, I also send out a hearty thank you. You all spend a great deal of time behind the scenes to ensure we have an audience each night. Needless to say, we couldn't do it without you. Bruce Spiewak and Vicki Blake join us for the show as stage manager and for makeup/costume assistance respectively. I'm so grateful to you both for volunteering for these important roles.

I fear I may be forgetting some of you who are quietly toiling without fanfare. Allow me to apologize for neglecting to name you individually, and to extend my gratitude. It takes many hands to mount a successful production and I thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Don't let all of these thank you's fool you, however. There's still room to pitch in if you'd like to join us. Please get in touch with one of the producers if you've got a little time to help us out. If not, I look forward to seeing you at the show.

Christine G.

Your producers may be reached as follows:

Marianne Miller: Marianne_miller@sbcglobal.net
Rich Moran: Rich.moranjr@mtmfinancialgroup.com
Christine Gill: bullmastiff98@yahoo.com

OP MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your membership dollars do make a difference. If you haven't paid for 2008-2009, won't you kindly take a moment to send us a check? Please complete this membership form and include it with your payment.

Please check your membership type:

Regular \$15

Sponsor \$25

Angel \$50

Add \$1.00 for each additional household member on the membership you selected.

First Name (s): _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail this form including your check made payable to Orange Players to:

Brenda Jacobson

OP Membership Chairperson

32 Westwood Road, #2

New Haven, CT 06515



Music by

Richard Rodgers

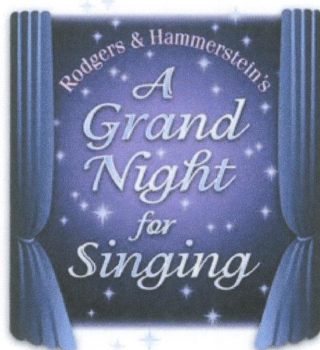
Directed by

Chris Mahn

Musical Direction by

Judy Webber

Orange Players Presents



Lyrics by

Oscar Hammerstein II

Performances by

Ralph Buonocore

Christine Gill

Susan Kulp

Rich Moran

Suzanne Powers

Conceived By Walter Bobbie

Musical Arrangements By Fred Wells

Orchestration By Michael Gibson and Jonathan Tunick

Originally produced by the Roundabout Theater Company, NYC, in 1993

June 5 & 6, 2009 8:00 p.m.

June 7, 2009 2:00 p.m.

Tickets \$20.00 Cabaret Seating

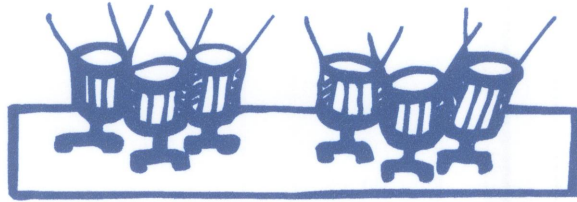
High Plains Community Center

525 Orange Center Road

Orange, CT

Call the Orange Players Box Office at (203) 824-1335

The OP Happenings



The OP Happening
55 Raynham Road
New Haven, CT 06512-5016

Performances - A Grand Night for Singing

Friday June 5, Saturday June 6 2009 8:00 PM

Sunday June 7, 2009 2:00 PM

High Plains Community Center, Orange Center Road

Box Office (203) 824-1335