



BACKSTAGE



INSIDE

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| RIDGEDALE ROSES | 1 |
| GENE EWALD REMEMBERED | 2 |
| RELAY FOR LIFE | 3 |
| NEXT YEARS SLATE | 4 |
| MEMBER NEWS | 4 |
| AUDITION NOTICE | 5 |
| TAR NEWS | 5 |
| MARK YOUR CALENDAR | Back Page |



CONTEST PAGE 2!!



Ridgedale Roses:

To Greg Bowman and crew for a fantastic fundraiser in January. The Radio Show was as much fun to be in as it was to watch! (or should I say listen?).

Ridgedale Roses also go to Tom Arwady and Rick Haines for their hard work on *The One Acts Party!* See page 4

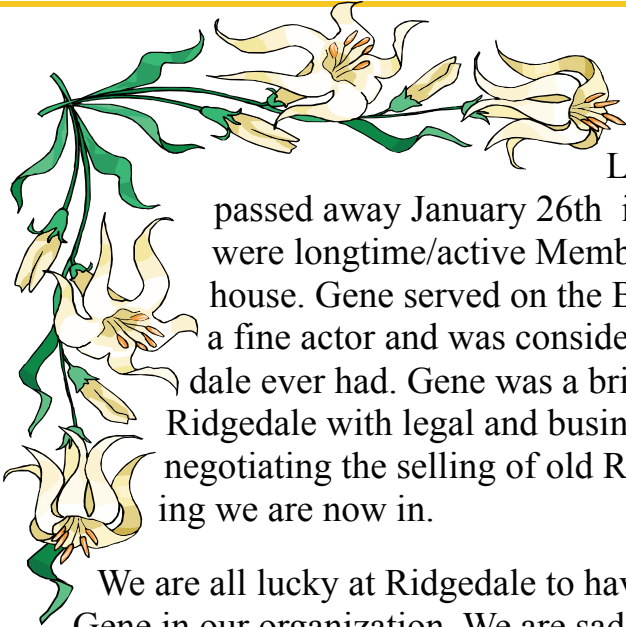
More Ridgedale Roses to our wonderful PR&C committee. Their hard work paid off in the form of a great season next year! See page 4

**Contact your favorite organization and help them plan a benefit today!
We sell blocks of seats to our shows at a reduced rate!**

For benefit information for any of our shows

**please contact:
Tom Arwady
586 344-6343**





Longtime Ridgedaler', Gene Ewald, passed away January 26th in Florida. Gene, and his wife Jo, were longtime/active Members and friends to many at the playhouse. Gene served on the Board of Directors several times, was a fine actor and was considered one of the best directors' Ridgedale ever had. Gene was a brilliant attorney and often helped Ridgedale with legal and business advice. He was very helpful in negotiating the selling of old Ridgedale and purchasing the building we are now in.

We are all lucky at Ridgedale to have kind and talented people like Gene in our organization. We are sad that Gene is gone, and our prayers are with Jo, but we very fortunate to be able to claim him as someone who represented all that is good about Ridgedale Players.

A memorial service will be held for Gene at the Village Players playhouse at 11:00 a.m. on February 23rd with a light lunch following. Jo has requested any copies of pictures you might have of shows that Gene was involved in.



BOARD BRIEFS
BAD YEAR FOR
TOMATOES CONTEST!

We have a challenge for all members!!!!

The member who sells the most tickets to our last show of the season will win a fabulous prize: A jean shirt with Ridgedale's logo on it! Who wouldn't want to sport one of those in the Spring? Don't forget to use your member ticket and bring some friends to see the show!

Start selling now!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ **Costume Room** ★
 ★ **Reminder** ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ No one is allowed in ★
 ★ the costume room ★
 ★ without the approval ★
 ★ of Julie Scott or the ★
 ★ current Director! ★
 ★ Please do not help ★
 ★ yourself or browse ★
 ★ without permission! ★
 ★ This rule will be ★
 ★ strictly enforced. ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

RELAY FOR LIFE

Dear Ridgedale Members

The Ridgedale Ranglers would like to invite you to this year's American Cancer Society's RELAY FOR LIFE/TROY. This will be the fifth year for Ridgedale to participate. We welcome back all past team members & look forward to recruiting new members.



Joe Worthington has graciously accepted the role of team captain. This year's event takes place May 31/June 1 at the Troy Community Center.

The RELAY FOR LIFE is the ACS's signature fundraiser. This 24 hour event gives us the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. During the RELAY we enjoy entertainment, activities, food & of course walk the track! The Survivor's Lap starts the event as we cheer on family & friends who have beat cancer! The Luminary Ceremony is one of the highlights of the RELAY. It's a special night event to remember & support our loved ones

Our team is already registered online. You can sign up to be a team member by following some simple steps at <http://events.cancer.org/rfltroymi> If you cannot be a team member, we would appreciate your financial support & your walking support during the event. We will have a team meeting in March, date & place to be determined.

Please contact Diane Dillard, kddillard@comcast.net or Joe Worthington youasone@hotmail.com to let us know that you are interested. Come join us and make a memory that you won't easily forget! This year's theme: (Summer Olympics in China) READY SET RELAY!

Members Appearing Elsewhere.....

Kim Cruchon in "TONY AND TINA'S WEDDING" go to www.tonitnadetroit.com

Jennifer Jones and Diane Dillard can be seen in MOMMYHOOD.

www.mommyhoodlive.com

Vanessa Grayson will be in Starbrites production of "Love Letters" 3/16, 4/6 & 5/11. Visit www.starbriteprod.com



Ever thought about directing? What does a producer do? Props? Set Deco? Hospitality? Want to join a committee? Contact a committee chair or a board member to get involved! After all, that is why you joined, isn't it???? YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES! It is not too late to jump on board for **2 by 2** or **Tomatoes**. We would love to hear from you!!!!!!



ONE ACTS PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS

Our annual One Acts Festival was a big success! We had five shows and four directors. JAR member Lauren Ruskowski directed the comedy *Sure Thing*. Marie Lee directed the touching family drama *Between the Lines*. Sarah Cooper directed the comedy/drama *Alice and Rico*. Ed Berger directed himself and Mike Jeffries in a tribute to the comedy team Bob and Ray. The evening culminated with *What Fresh Hell Is This?: A Dorothy Parker Celebration*, which was written and directed by Ed Berger and starred Holly (Hellsten) Conroy. The food was delicious and plentiful. We had approximately 100 people in attendance, including Dan See! The audience was very responsive and had many compliments for our directors and actors. An added bonus: we took in \$200.00 in donations! Thanks to all! Including Rick Haines for lights and sound!



UMBRELLAS NEEDED! If you can spare an umbrella now through the run of **TWO BY TWO** please drop it off at the theater! It will be returned! **VIKI PROMISES!!!!**



To date, Jim Rink has received over 300 e-mails from Kent reminding him of his good intention to donate to Ridgedale. If you run into Jim at the theater, ask him about it!

Super Bowl winners...Thanks to all who bought Super Bowl Squares. The Dawn Hooper JAR Scholarship fund received about \$130 as a result of this annual activity that Dawn started many years ago. Congratulations to those who had the lucky winning squares....Sue Masters won \$200, Dave Scott & Sean Loiko won \$100. Hussy Martini won \$80, Kent Martini & Marilyn Calo won \$40. Dave Scott generously donated his winning back to Ridgedale!



2008/2009 SLATE
The Odd Couple
Dracula, the Musical?
Proof
Crazy for You
Noises Off

"Start spreading the news"

PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS!

- Leslie Niederquell
- Amy Ricker
- Marilyn Smale
- Ed Berger
- Michele Colosi
- Kim Monterosso

DID YOU KNOW? Linda Martini (Hussy) is the Executive Director of MIFA! Catch the State Competitions February 15th and 16th at Avondale HS. WWW.themifa.org



TWO BY TWO
Don't miss this wonderful show!

Ridgedale Players

205 W. Long Lake Road

Troy, MI

www.ridgedaleplayers.com



Audition Notice

Monday, March 3, 2008

Registration - 6:30 – Auditions begin at 7:00

A Bad Year for Tomatoes



by John Patrick

Famous actress Myra Marlowe leases a house in a small “backwoods” town and settles down to write her autobiography. To shoo away her nosey neighbors, Myra invents a mad, homicidal sister. Complications result when the local handyman develops affection for "Sister Sadie". In desperation Myra announces that Sadie has suddenly gone away - which brings on the sheriff and the suspicion of murder! Needless to say, all is straightened out in the end, but the uproarious doings will keep audiences laughing right up to the final curtain.

Myra Marlowe 35 to 50*. Movie star who moves to Beaver Haven for privacy. Also plays her demented Sister Sadie.

Tom Lamont 35 to 50*. Myra’s agent. Wants to get her back to Hollywood and make her his wife.

Cora Gump 30 to 60*. Nosey neighbor and gossip. Cora is the model for dumb blonde jokes.

Reba Harper 30 to 60*. Socialite nosey neighbor with a heart of gold.

Willa Mae Wilcox 30 to 60*. Strange lady who reads tarot cards, and tea leaves.

Piney 30 to 60*. The local handyman who chops wood and delivers manure. His elevator doesn’t go to the top floor.

***The ages of the characters do not reflect the ages of the actors. Audition cuts are available @ www.ridgedaleplayers.com First read thru is March 4, 2008, at 7:15 PM. Any questions concerning the show can be answered by calling Director Pamela Shaw Heath @ 586-596-7782 before 10:00 P.M. or email:pheath28@wowway.com. Member’s Dress Rehearsal: Sunday, April 27, 2008. Productions: May 2,3,4,9,10,16,17,18, 2008.**



T.A.R. Meeting & Audition Notice

Meeting: Sunday, February 17th at 1pm

-We will discuss the auditions, cuts from plays selected, rehearsal schedules and the performances. If you have a favorite comedy play, come prepared to suggest it as an alternate to the 2 we currently have planned. Ages 13-18 only.

Auditions: Monday, May 19th at 7pm

-We will be reading cuts from the comedies; RUMORS & RETURN ENGAGEMENTS. For those who are interested in singing, we will do several songs from ANNIE GET YOUR GUN. The plays selected will give each person cast the ability to “showcase” their talents (i.e.: everyone will have a fair number of lines...no really small parts).

-There will also be a “Narrator” role, which will explain (set-up) the scenes we will be doing for the audiences. This part will be memorized & requires solid acting skills.

-Not everyone that auditions is assured a part. We will invite everyone who auditions to attend some of the general theatre workshop exercises that we will be doing during some rehearsals.

The Show: “Theatre at it’s Best - Laughter & Song” June 27-29th

-There will be 3 segments to the show. Two segments will be from the comedies RUMORS & RETURN ENGAGEMENTS (about 30 minutes each). We will also do 2-4 songs from ANNIE GET YOUR GUN.

Rehearsals: **days/times depending on the casts’ availability—we will be flexible as needed*

-The intent is to have specific (positive, but “honest”) direction to improve the acting skills of the TAR actors. We expect high quality acting from all those cast in the show and will provide a “theatre workshop” atmosphere to develop the skill-levels expected.

-Other seasoned Ridgedale Directors will be assisting in some of the rehearsals to help develop specific skills. We are looking to prepare everyone for leads in high school plays, help them prepare for college theatre programs or community theatre as they get older.

If you have questions before the Feb 19th meeting: email Kent Martini (the Director)

rsvpstress@wowway.com

BACKSTAGE

c/o Martine Boni
615 Lakes Edge Dr
Oxford, MI 48371



Mark Your Calendars!

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| GAME NIGHT | FEB 9th | 7:30-9:30? |
| TAR MEETING | FEB 17th | 1:00 pm |
| TWO BY TWO DRESS | FEB 24th | 2:00 pm |
| TWO BY TWO | FEB 29th - MAR 16th | |
| AUDITIONS for "TOMATOES" | MAR 3rd | 6:30 pm |
| A BAD YEAR FOR TOMATOES | MAY 2nd - MAY 18th | |
| TAR AUDITONS | MAY 19th | 7:00 pm |



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



The Board has been brainstorming on how to pick up our ticket sales. If you have any suggestions, please contact us! Better yet, do your part as a Ridgedaler and promote our theater! Put up flyers where you work and tell your friends and neighbors! They'll be glad you did and so will we! Spread the news about our great up-coming season!

See you at Ridgedale!