

BACKSTAGE

May 2011 ~ 79th Season

JAR JARGON

SCHEHERAZADE...ALAKAZAM!!!!!!!



Thank you to all who performed, helped, and came to our JAR play. It was an over the top experience!!!! With music, dance and audience participation it was a rousing success. One member commented "it was SOOOOOO beautiful with fantastic costumes, amazing voices and an inspiring story." Thank you to Dave Scott who built the set and we were able to use it. Till next year.....have a great summer—Peggy



Ridgedale Roses

~ Roses to Amy Ricker for the hard work on the Backstage over the last season—brava!
~ Roses to all the volunteers who have helped out all season in all aspects of Ridgedale.

Ticket Information



With every membership you receive a FREE ticket to an ADULT show. This ticket does not include the JAR/TAR shows.



Annual Membership Meeting

Monday, June 13, 2011
7:30p



AKA: Teen Actors of Ridgedale

TAR is on the move. The upcoming performance of *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Colosseum* (a sequel) - will have the audience rolling in the aisle with laughter.

Congratulation to the cast:

Jason LaCombe: Simplicus; Troy High School; Troy; 16
Kayla Sharpe: Julia; Royal Oak Middle School; Royal Oak; 13
Jordan Lang: Bubo/Tadius/Guard; West Utica Elementary; Utica; 13
Chantal Shaw: Divinia; Athens High School; Troy; 15
Renee Mausolf: Tullia/ Mummia; Athens High School; Troy; 15
Christina Crane: Agrippina/Suplica; Boulan Park Middle School; Troy; 13
Rachael Renaud: Euphemia; Athens High School; Troy; 15
Liah Renaud: Pompeia; Athens High School; Troy; 15
Eric Struble: General Sillius; Lahser High School; Bloomfield Hills; 15
Erin Tepatti: Drusilla; Troy High School; Troy; 15
Stephanie Saks: Vistillia; Holy Family Regional School; Rochester Hills; 14
Michael Schaeper: Publicus Piscius; Home School/Oakland Community College; Troy; 18
Blake Hughes: Terribulus; Clawson High School, Clawson; 17
David Saks: Emperor Obamicus; Notre Dame Prep High School; Rochester Hills; 16
Ellen Stachowicz: Dominatia Volencia; Royal Oak High School; Royal Oak; 16 ("sweet sixteen")

Proxies have been mailed out! Please watch your mailbox for them. As in the past it is important that we have the responses from our Membership. This year is not any different.

Please take the time to read over your ballot and proposed changes to our By-Laws.

Your attendance is requested, but if you are not able to attend, please send an email to the Secretary Amy Ricker at amy@ridgedaleplayers.com with your proxy information.

<u>In this issue:</u>	Page 2—Calendar of Events Page 3—Dawn Hooper Award Presented Page 4— there's more...don't miss out
-----------------------	--

2010—2011 Ridgedale Players Board of Directors

President—**Peggy Miller-Zelinko**
president@ridgedaleplayers.com

Vice-President—**Viki Higle**
vikihigle@hotmail.com

Secretary—**Amy K. Ricker**
amy@ridgedaleplayers.com

Treasurer—**Lori Altman**
treasurer@ridgedaleplayers.com

Members at Large

Diane Dillard—kddillard@comcast.net

Kevin Feber—klfeber@mac.com

Amber Filipski—amber@ridgedaleplayers.com

Aaron Filipski—aaron@ridgedaleplayers.com

Alexandra LaCombe—avlacombe@hotmail.com

Laura Schmitt—laura@ridgedaleplayers.com

2010-2011 Inc Board of Directors

President—**Tracy J. Altman**
tracy@ridgedaleplayers.com

Vice-President—**Dave Scott**
Dave@ridgedaleplayers.com

Secretary—**Jeff Jones**
jjones56@wowway.com

Treasurer—**Dan Fuller**
dffuller1@aol.com

Member at Large

Kent Martini—kentmartini@rsvpstress.com

2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, May 13th—8p Saturday, May 14th—8p	Show— <i>Expecting Isabel</i>
Sunday, May 15th—2p	Show— <i>Expecting Isabel</i>
Friday, May 20th—8p Saturday, May 21st—8p	Show— <i>Expecting Isabel</i>
Sunday, May 22nd—2p	<i>Closing Show—Expecting Isabel</i>
Saturday, June 4th Sunday, June 5th	ACS Relay for Life/Troy
Saturday, June 11th	Golf Outing Fundraiser
Monday, June 13th—7:30p	Annual Meeting
Sunday, June 19th—2p	TAR—Dress Rehearsal
Friday, June 24th—7p Saturday, June 25th—7p	TAR Show—A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Colosseum
Sunday, June 26th—2p	TAR Show—A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Colosseum

Backstage Staff

Editor.....Amy K. Ricker
Assistant Editors.....Diane Dillard
Viki Higle
Contributors.....Kent Martini
Photography.....Lori Altman,
Kevin Feber, Peggy Miller-Zelinko, Amy K. Ricker

This is the official newsletter of Ridgedale Players Theatre, issued on a monthly basis during the theatrical season to all individual members on record. An occasional e-mail information update is sent to all members with e-mail addresses on record. Correspondences to the Backstage should be sent to the Editor at backstage@ridgedaleplayers.com.

Updated e-mail and postal addresses are maintained by the Membership Chairperson and should be sent to membership@ridgedaleplayers.com

Members: Please be sure to check the Ridgedale calendar on our website. It is under Calendar Of Events and is a great resource for knowing what is scheduled in the theater. Laura Schmitt is the "keeper" and does an excellent job of keeping the calendar super current. If you would like to add any events please contact Laura and be sure to check out the calendar regularly to know what's going on!

A Word from our President

Peggy Miller-Zelinko—president@ridgedaleplayers.com



Do you have ideas for Ridgedale??? Do you like some of the new changes??? Do you want a voice in your theatre??? Then, be sure to come to the Annual June meeting to hear reports and most importantly to vote for your New Board. Your voice counts....Monday, June 13th...social time, too. You may also send a proxy if you can't come. Looking forward to a prosperous time and end of the year event.

Clean Living

On Saturday, April 30th, we had our (first ever) mini-CleanUp Day. The original idea was to make sure the outside of the theatre was in good shape going into Spring. We did have a few things to clean on the theatre grounds, but were surprised how clean things actually were. Because of this we were able to focus most people on the much needed storage shed!

A huge thanks to all those who came and helped: Jenn Murray (she cleaned the small garden area inside the circle drive); Jim West, Stan Iobst & Laura Schmitt (they cleared out garbage & trimmed trees on the outside edge of the parking lot area); and Peggy Miller-Zelinko (with her kids Rachel & Dylan), Dave & Julie Scott, Jeff Jones and Kent Martini (focused on reorganizing the shed).

We got a lot done, and even had time left over to go inside the theatre and do a little cleaning! Thanks to all who participated and we hope to see everyone at our BIG CleanUp Day in August (we'll send details later)!



“At Ridgedale, you are family”

At the end of every season, if there is a deserving graduating JAR-TAR student, a scholarship is awarded in memory of long-time Ridgedaler (and JAR enthusiast) Dawn E. Hooper.

To be eligible for the Dawn E Hooper scholarship, a High School Senior must be recommended by a few people who know the JAR-TAR kids. Those kids are sent a questionnaire about themselves, their experiences at Ridgedale (and with theatre) and their future plans. Kent Martini (Dawn's son) reviews the questionnaires, discusses them with his boys and the Ridgedalers who made the nominations. A winner is then chosen (some years several kids are given scholarships).

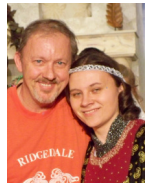
Some years it has been a difficult choice to pick a winner, with many deserving high school senior candidates. This year, it was easy to pick a winner.




Rachel Miller-Zelinko was the clear winner. Rachel has been in about 40 JAR-TAR shows, has helped on many Ridgedale activities (she was even helping at our recent clean-up day!) and her questionnaire showed a true appreciation of Ridgedale. Rachel also sang at Dawn's memorial service, held at the theatre, so she held a special place in the heart of the Martini family. But, most of all, she was given the scholarship because of one sentence she wrote that truly embodied what the JAR-TAR program tries to make all the kids feel. Rachel wrote: *“at Ridgedale, you are family.”*



Rachel was presented the scholarship money at the end of a recent JAR show (where she was the lead) and we wish her nothing but success in the coming years! Congratulations Rachel...we are proud of you!



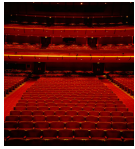
The ACS RELAY FOR LIFE on June 4/5 at the Troy Community Center is close at hand. Thank you to those who have joined the Ridgedale Players team for 2011. You can still join us by logging on to www.relayforlife.org/troymi If unable to join as a team member, please consider making a donation. Also, we'd love to see you on Sat. June 4 to walk a few laps with us & participate in some of the ceremonies. Ladies, remember Bonnie Haines is hosting a Lia Sophia Jewelry Party as a fundraiser on May 11. 25% of the sales will be going to the American Cancer Society. Let's celebrate more birthdays by finding a cure for cancer.

Dear Kent,

Thank you so much for a wonderful surprise at my very last show. I proudly accept the scholarship in Dawn's name. I couldn't have been more shocked then to receive this on stage with my friends and family and the Ridgedale family there. Dawn gave me my first experience on stage as a rabbit and not I am leaving with great sadness, but happy memories, that will forever be a part of me. The scholarship will be used to further my singing in Music Education & Performance at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids. I am excited to continue on but I leave Ridgedale with a heavy heart. Goodbye...and thank you.



Fondly,
Rachel Miller-Zelinko



Around the Aisle— Member News

~Congrats to **Shelley Fager Bajorek** and hubby Joseph Aaron Bajorek on the birth of their son, Rowan Scott Bajorek, born on March 30, 2011 at 8:48 p.m. at Troy Beaumont. He weighed in at 8lbs. 15 ozs. and 20 1/2 inches long. Although Shelley had to have a C-section, unexpectedly, Mom and baby are doing just fine!!! Nice way to celebrate a birthday, Shelley's birthday was the 31st.

~ **Julie Fuller, Lauren Fuller**, and past member **Meghan Applegate** can be seen performing in *Steel Magnolias* at The Box Theatre in Mt. Clemens. Directed by **Michele Colosi** and Assistant Directed by **Amy K. Ricker**. Show opens May 13th and runs through June 5th.

~Maureen Cook can be seen in *Gray Gardens* at Stagecrafters in Royal Oak. Show dates are May 5-8, 13 & 14. Maureen says that it's really a fabulous show & she'd love to have you come & see it. Call the ticket line at 248-541-6430.

~ Tom Arwady is at Avon Players in their performance of *Into The Woods*. Performance dates: May 20-22, 27-29, June 3-4



Better Communications of Important Personal Events

We are trying to make sure our current, and former members, are aware of important personal events (weddings, new babies, illnesses or deaths) on a more consistent and timely basis. We have done a good job in the past, but have had a few personal events of ex-members that (unintentionally) were not known about. We want to try to stop this kind of thing from happening in the future...we will never be perfect, but we can always try to improve!

To do this, we are going to have one member be the "point person to contact" if you have anything you think the membership should know, or if you hear about something important going on with a current or ex-member. This "point person" will determine if the information should wait until the next newsletter, or if it is something that needs to be emailed to everyone right away (because someone's in the hospital, a funeral, etc).

Kent Martini has volunteered to do this. So, if you have any news about a member, or ex-member, please email or call Kent with the information. His cell is: 248-219-4442 and his email is: kentmartini@rsvpstress.com

Having one consistent "point person," instead of giving it to a random Board Member, or someone else you think "might know what to do," will hopefully make our communications more timely on important personal issue. Please let Kent know if you know of something we should tell others about!



Bravo to those remembering to recycle when you are at the playhouse. Water bottles & pop cans are being placed in the hallway behind the kitchen at a good percent. However, we should be doing a much better job at recycling other items such as plastic containers, cans, cardboard of all types and printed material. So before throwing an item in the garbage, stop and think about whether it can be placed in the hallway. The City of Troy does recycle. Let's all do our part to help!

Ridgedale Players
we put the community in community theater

AUDITIONS "LOVE, SEX, AND THE IRS"

Auditions: Monday July, 18, 2011-
Registration @ 6:30pm-Will begin at 7:00pm



By Billy Van Zandt and Jane Millmore

Performance Dates:
September 9-25, 2011

Cast of Characters

Ages of all characters range from 25 to 60

Jon Trachtman—Good looking young man
Leslie Athur—Gawky young man
Kate Dennis—Pretty young woman, Jon's fiancé
Mr. Jansen—Beer-bellied drunk of a landlord
Floyd Spinner—IRS agent
Vivian Trachtman—Jon's mom, stoic woman
Connie—Attractive young woman, Leslie's girlfriend
Arnold Grunion—A Shady character

Here is a wild farce with twists of fate, sight gags, mistaken identities and hilarious comic lines. Jon Trachtman and Leslie Arthur are out of work musicians who room together in New York City. To save money, Jon has been filing tax returns listing the pair as married. The day of reckoning comes when the Internal Revenue Service informs the "couple" they're going to be investigated by a Mr. Spinner. Leslie masquerades as a housewife, aided by Jon's fiancé, Kate. Complicating matters further Leslie and Kate are having an affair behind Jon's back, Jon's mother drops in unexpectedly to meet her son's fiancé, and Leslie's ex girlfriend shows up demanding to know why Leslie has "changed" and won't see her anymore.

Director: Laura Schmitt Assistant Director: Jennifer Ward Producer: Victoria Hagle

For more information go to www.ridgedaleplayers.com or
contact the Director at laura@ridgedaleplayers.com



BEN NYE PERSONAL MAKE-UP KITS

Now Available for Purchase through Ridgedale Players!

To purchase a kit or for more information contact:
Amber Filipski (586)258-6090 • makeup@ridgedaleplayers.com

Kits are offered in a variety of shades and include the following items:

Foundation
Highlight/Shadow/Lip/Cheek Palette
Detail Brush
Eyeliner
Stipple Sponge
Loose Setting Powder
Powder Puff
Foundation Sponge

\$22