

Attic WINDOW

Official newsletter of Attic Theatre, Inc.

FALL 2012



Mark these Dates

December 2 & 3
Auditions for Feb. play

January 2
Ticket sales begin for Feb. play

February 8-17
Performances of Feb. play

March 9
Children's Theatre Workshop

April 1
Mail Order Ticket Sales Open

May 1
Phone/Online Ticket Sales Open

June 13
Box Office Opens 4-7 p.m.

June 19-22 & 25-30
"Lombardi"
OR
"On Golden Pond"

July 10-13 & 17-21
"Meet Me in St. Louis"
(the play)

**July 24-27, 30-31 and
Aug. 1-4**
"The Fox on the Fairway"

Aug. 7-10 & 14-18
"How to Succeed in Business
Without Really Trying"

Comedy at Thompson Center in February

Attic Theatre is pleased to present a winter show at the Thompson Center again this year.



Three one-act plays from "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running" will be presented at 7 p.m. Feb. 8, 9, 16 and 17, with a 2 p.m. matinee on February 10.

Auditions will be held at All Saints Episcopal Church at the corner of Drew St. and College Ave. on **Sun. Dec. 2, 1-4 p.m.** and **Mon. Dec. 3, 6-9 p.m.**

Actors needed are up to 6 men and 4 women.

The Shock of Recognition features an earnest young dramatist eager to stretch the bounds of theatre by having a male character appear nude for just an instant onstage. As he argues with the producer, a job-hunting actor gets involved and finally the dramatist drags the producer's secre-

tary into the fray.

The Footsteps of Doves takes place entirely in the basement of a store selling beds. A couple married for 25 years shops for a new bed and we discover that she wants twins, while he prefers a double. The story twists when a young blonde woman shows up who prefers a double bed and someone to share it with in her lonely apartment.



I'm Herbert finds two old people with fuzzy memories in rocking chairs on the porch. They recall highlights of their lives, including past marriages, but both confuse the details and each one sometimes doesn't know who the other is.

Tickets are available beginning Jan. 2 at Thompson Community Center and through Attic at 920-734-7887 or attictheatreboxoffice@gmail.com.



Attic gift certificates available for summer season

Bring joy to someone on your holiday gift list with a night—or a season—of entertainment!

Gift certificates to Attic Theatre can be purchased by the ticket or by the season. Send your request and a check payable to Attic

Theatre to: Attic Theatre, P.O. Box 41, Appleton, WI, 54912-0041.

Cost of tickets, including the 50-cent handling charge, is \$16.50 per show ticket for straight shows and \$18.50 per show ticket for musicals.

Season tickets are \$54.00 and include all 4 summer shows—a savings of \$14.00.

For more information, contact Attic at: attictheatre@gmail.com.

Coming Soon: Children's Spring Workshop

If you loved the workshop last year, you'll be happy to hear that Joe Engels and Megan Lisowe are returning to conduct this year's dynamic session!

We'll concentrate on making characters come alive. Learn to walk, talk, and gesture the way your character naturally would!

The workshop takes

place March 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. The first hour will be devoted to establishing characters physically. During the second hour, we'll help you develop characters using short skit scripts. At 11:30 you become the stars in our showcase presentation for parents.

Register by sending a check for \$20 per child,

payable to Attic Theatre, to:

Attn: Children's Workshop, Attic Theatre, P.O. Box 41, Appleton, WI 54912-0041.



Please give us your opinion by taking a short survey on our website: attictheatreinc.com.



While you're there, you can save us the cost of production and mailing by signing up to receive your copy of the newsletter by email. You'll find a prompt on the website for that purpose. Thank you for considering our pocketbook.

Successful summer day camp

Summer Day Camp attracted 45 children this year, overwhelming Joe Engels and Megan Lisowe. They did a great job stretching the available resources to fit the need. A costume shortage meant kids were free to dress as their characters or not. The final day of camp featured a skit presented for families on the Perry Hall stage at UW-Fox. Each child appeared three times, reciting lines or ad-libbing at will.



Attendance will be restricted to 35 next season, with participation filled on a first-paid registration, first-accepted basis.



Farewell to Nancy Des Marais

Attic lost a dear friend when Nancy Kimberly De Marais passed away, but her legacy will live on.

A trust established by Des Marais within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region gives Attic Theatre an endowment of \$70,000, with 5% available for annual spending according to Foundation policy. The Trust also directed a \$10,000 gift to Attic for immediate use.

Terms of the grant require Attic to use the funds "to encourage creativity, innovation, high artistic standards and production values, as well as responsible and dynamic business management."

The gift also encouraged Attic to apply some or all of the funds to commission the development of an original theatrical piece for production, ideally but not necessarily by a Fox Valley resident.

President Judy Hebbe said the Neenah native "was an ardent supporter of Attic Theatre as an actress and an Attic Angel.

"She recognized the opportunities for growth and talent development that community theatre provides. Through the generosity of her family, Nancy's influence will continue to be felt in Attic for years to come."

Thank you so very much

The Board of Directors urges our members to join us in thanking these businesses for their monetary and in-kind contributions that were essential to our 2012 season success. Next time you visit these establishments, please say thank you:

- **All Saints Episcopal Church** - audition, rehearsal and now celebration space - you are our second home!
- **AtomicKatz** - furniture for "The Art of Murder."
- **Becky Bergen of American Red Cross** - program layout and design.
- **Kris Bryan** - antique bugle and instruction for "Mame."
- **Coventry Glassworks and Art Gallery** - sculpture and painting for "Mame."
- **Linda Feldmann** - costuming assistance for "Mame."
- **Fox Valley Stone and Brick** - tile stove for "Don't Drink the Water."
- **Jeremy Hodges of Valley Camera** - head and scene shots of "Crimes of the Heart" and "Art of Murder."
- **Hysterical Productions** - fight choreographer **Patrick O'Donnell** for "The Art of Murder."
- **Krueger Hardware** - \$500 in-store credit.
- **Lawrence U. Theatre Dept.** - furniture and props for "Mame."
- **Miron Construction**— genie lift for Baehman Theatre lighting.
- **Northtown Lighting** - chandelier for "Don't Drink the Water."
- **Off-Broad Street Players - Trinity Lutheran Church, Menasha** - props.
- **Oshkosh Community Players** - flats for "The Art of Murder."
- **Oshkosh Grand Opera House** - starter pistol for "The Art of Murder."
- **Ron Parker of Appleton North HS** - furniture and props for "Mame."
- **Susan Rabideau, UW-Fox** - chandelier for "The Art of Murder."
- **Marlene Rahn Schirmacher** - clothing for "Mame."
- **RBC Wealth Management** - sponsor of summer day camp.
- **Jim Romenesko of Xavier HS** - costume assistance, backdrops, windows and staircase, etc. for "Mame."
- **Magician Rondini & Rondini's Abracadabra Magic & Costume Shop** - magic assistance for "Don't Drink the Water."
- **Diane Ryan** - clothing for "Mame."
- **Salon CTI** - wigs and styling for "Mame."
- **St. Vincent DePaul Store** - furniture for "Don't Drink the Water."
- **Ann Upchurch** - costuming assistance for "Mame."
- **Mark Wallenfang/Shooting Star Photo & Customized Framing** - head and scene shots for "Don't Drink the Water" and "Mame."
- **Todd Wegner of Kimberly HS** - twinkling star curtain for "Mame."

New officers elected by Attic Theatre Board

The Attic Theatre Board of Directors elected officers at the November board meeting.

The Board also appointed Jennifer Smith to a two-year term as a member of the Board, and Tom Bloy to a one-year term.

President — Judy Hebbe
 Vice President — Catherine McKenzie
 Secretary — Carl Wenzel
 Treasurer — Carolyn Ragusett

Annual meeting and season celebration a huge success

Volunteers, season show participants and friends of Attic cheered a successful season and Zoe Cloak Award winners at the first annual meeting, end-of-year celebration since the reorganization of Attic six years ago.

Four new members were elected to the Board of Directors. They were: **Debra Cronmiller**, District Director of Job Service and former director of the Emergency Shelter in Appleton; **Patrick James**, IT professional for the City of Menasha, who debuted in "Mame"; **Andrew Tepolt**, Attic's technical director for the 2012 season and a recent graduate of FVTC's Criminal Justice program; and **Carl Wenzel**, former member and past president of the Board of Directors.

A Zoe Cloak Award for outstanding performance and lasting contribution to Attic Theatre was presented to Carol Jegen, actress, show and choral director, and past president of Attic Theatre.



Carol Jegen accepts her Zoe Cloak Award



Jo Ann DuVall speaks while accepting the Zoe Cloak Award in honor of her late husband, Tim.

JoAnn DuVall accepted a Zoe Cloak Award honoring her late husband, Tim, who was a member of Zoe Cloak's first class, appearing in Attic Theatre's first production, and served on the Board of Directors for a number of years.

The evening closed with DJ Andrew Tepolt opening the mike for karaoke and playing a broad selection of music that drew some to the dance floor. Patrick James presented a slide show highlighting important moments in Attic Theatre's history.

Partygoers enjoyed the evening so much that it was decided the annual meeting should always be a party. Next year we hope to see an even larger crowd.

Attic offers a Wisconsin legend, an old favorite comedy, a farce, and a well-known musical for the 2013 summer season

"**Lombardi**" will open the summer season, pending Attic's receipt of licensing rights. If approval is not forthcoming, Attic will present "On Golden Pond."

"**Lombardi**" gives a glimpse of the man behind the legend through the eyes of a "Look Magazine" reporter during the 1965 season when Lombardi is trying to lead his team to the championship. When the players prove tight-lipped, reporter Michael McCormick turns to Lombardi's wife, Marie, for more insight.

"**On Golden Pond**" tells the love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer during their 48th summer of residence at Golden Pond. Visited by their divorced daughter and her fiancé, the couple ends up playing grandparents to her future

step-son before Norman suffers a slight heart attack.

Early July finds the Attic in St. Louis as the city prepares for the 1904 World's Fair. "**Meet Me in St. Louis**" follows the fortunes of the Smith family after Mr. Smith receives a promotion and a transfer to New York City. His four daughters and only son don't want to go, and the audience enjoys a lot of fun and excitement watching this comedy unfold as the sisters maneuver to rule (or ruin) their brother's love life. This charming play has been popular for more than 50 years!

From St. Louis, we travel to the Quail Valley Country Club for "**The Fox on the Fairway**," a farce first produced in 2010. A heated rivalry between two local country clubs has their

respective managers placing a dangerous bet on the outcome of a local golf tournament.

Rife with betrayal both perceived and real, this production features a nervous golfer, a ditzzy waitress, and a country club board member. Their tangled relationships provide part of the fun.

"**How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying**" tells in music the story of a young window washer who follows the advice in a book to climb the ladder. With a love struck secretary beside him, he survives various corporate snafus to rise all the way to a run for the U.S. presidency.



**PO Box 41
Appleton, WI 54912**

920-734-7887
www.attictheatreinc.com
attictheatre@gmail.com

**Attic Theatre
Board of Directors**
Laura Biskupic
Tom Bloy
Debra Cronmiller
Nancy Ernst
Brad Esquivel
Kathy Hannah
Judy Hebbe
Patrick James
Catherine McKenzie
Elizabeth Panzer
Georgia Peitsch
Kevin Plekan
Carolyn Ragusett
Jennifer Smith
Andrew Tepolt
Carl Wenzel

37 Ushers — 484 hours of service
 4 House Managers — 349 hours
 60 Actors — more than 6,000 hours
 Running Crew — 252 hours
 Asst. Directors — 100 hours
 Magic Consultant — unreported
 Asst. Stage Mgr., Hair Dresser, Makeup Advisor — 75 hours
 Total Volunteer Hours — 6,500+



**Tremendous
Volunteer
Support:**

2012 another successful year for Attic Theatre in attendance, revenue, and volunteer hours

Revenue Report for 2012:
 4,958 tickets sold — for \$92,415.50
 Over 78% of patrons from Fox Cities
 We drew remaining WI audience from:
 Oshkosh, Hortonville, Green Bay, Hilbert, Sherwood,
 Shawano, Waupaca, Larson, Winnecoonne, Shiocton,
 New London, Clintonville, and Fond du Lac.
 Attic also had visitors from:
 Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Nebraska, California,
 Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Iowa and Tennessee.
Financial support came from:
 Individuals \$18,971.94
 Corporations 2,971.44
 Sponsors 12,500.00
 Foundations & grants 5,000.00
 In-kind services 2,800.00
 In-kind material donations 1,114.10
 Restricted contributions 12,000.00
 Total \$55,357.48