



## Winter Quarterly 2014



### THE GAMES AFOOT

The Stone Arch Players' second offering of the season will be **THE GAME'S AFOOT** or **HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS** by popular author Ken Ludwig. Vice President Phyllis Johnson directs the hilarious murder mystery that will leave you shaking with laughter.

The year is 1936, and lauded actor William Gillette, known for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes, is on stage taking his final bow before the Christmas holidays. Suddenly he spots an assassin in the audience, and tries to warn everyone, but to no avail. A shot rings out, and the famous actor falls. Two weeks later, we discover that Gillette was only wounded and has planned a Christmas house party for the entire cast. All believe it to be a social engagement only, until they arrive at his sumptuous Connecticut estate and discover that he plans to use his innate Sherlockian abilities to solve the crime and apprehend the attempted murderer! Comic mayhem ensues.

Michael Cramer stars as the famed actor, William Gillette. His lovable and ditzy mother, Martha, is Anita Rishel. Bill Daup and Nikki Kahley play his best friends and fellow actors, Felix and Madge Geisel. Rob Burns as Simon Bright and Destiny Zeiders as Aggie Wheeler round out the cast of the Sherlock Holmes play. Daria Chase, a venomous gossip columnist, is played by Julie O'Conner Ufema, and the eccentric English police inspector is portrayed by Colette Hartzler.

As the evening progresses, the clues mount up, along with the bodies, and soon everyone is left wondering "Who will survive Christmas Eve?"

**THE GAME'S AFOOT** premieres February 28th and continues March 1st, 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th, and 16th. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:00 p.m. And Sunday matinees are at 2:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars now for an evening of hilarious entertainment!



Director - Colette Hartzler  
Photo by Julie O'Conner Ufema

### AUDITIONS!

Auditions for "And Evermore Shall Be So", a murder mystery written by Norman Robbins, will be held March 3rd and 4th at 7 p.m. at the Theater in the Park. Directed by Collette Hartzler, the play explores the events surrounding a murder which took place four years previously and how strangely the lyrics to the traditional song "Green Grow the Rushes O" fit the circumstances. The action focuses on the repercussions that can be felt where there is "something wrong with the village . . . a sense of evil about it. . ." When an author arrives, having been encouraged to write a book about the murder, old tensions and suspicions are brought to the surface as not everyone is in favor of raking up the past. The story twists and turns, leaving you guessing until the very end!

## Our Forty-SEVENTH Anniversary Season! 1967-2014 at the Theatre In The Park

### "THE GAME'S AFOOT"

By Ken Ludwig

A Farce/Comedy/Mystery, Directed by Phyllis Johnson

Performances: 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

February 28, March 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15

2:00 p.m. Sundays, March 9 & 16

### "AND EVERMORE SHALL BE SO"

By Norman Robbins

Comedy/Mystery, Directed by Colette Hartzler

Performances: 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

May 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31

2:00 p.m. Sundays, May 25 & June 1

Stone Arch Box Office: 717-248-2224

Newsletter Submissions: [fifthartpig@hotmail.com](mailto:fifthartpig@hotmail.com)

Color versions of the newsletter photos

are available on our web site:

[www.stonearchplayers.com](http://www.stonearchplayers.com)

Look for us on

facebook



Backstage  
Crew for  
**THE GAME'S  
AFOOT**



### STONE ARCH WEDDING!

On Saturday, January 18th, Abby Hunley and Michael Cramer were united in a small ceremony at Trinity United Church of Christ of Oak Street in Lewistown. A small reception was held following the wedding at the Main Street Café for the families.

Congrats!

Mike  
and  
Abby



PHOTO BY: BITTERSWEET STUDIO

*The Happy Couple!*

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P.O. Box 604  
Lewistown, PA 17044



**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE!**

On December 22, 2013, audiences in the Mifflin County High School Auditorium were treated to an ambitious musical re-telling of the classic 1946 film IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE. Recreating the iconic role of George Bailey, made famous by Jimmy Stewart, was SAP's own favorite leading man Robert Burns, who gave an incredible performance portraying George, aging from an optimistic teenager to a bitter adult before finding hope again- all while delivering show-stopping musical performances. Sharing the stage with Rob were SAP veterans Andy McCartle as George's goodhearted yet bumbling Uncle Billy and Ken Fultz as friendly cab driver Ernie. Congratulations to Rob, Andy, Ken, and the gifted cast and crew that made IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE an unforgettable theatrical experience!



*Director Johnson gets in the thick of the action.  
(THE GAME'S AFOOT)*



Photo Collage of Mike Cramer as William Gillette by Zack Smith

**Julie O'Conner  
Ufema Emotes**

Photo by Rachel Jones



**WILLIAM  
GILLETTE**

In SAP's latest production, THE GAME'S AFOOT OR HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS, Michael Cramer brings to life William Gillette, the legendary actor, director, playwright, novelist and inventor. Born in 1853 in Hartford, Connecticut, Gillette discovered his love of theater at an early age and by the time he was thirty he had become one of the premier "matinee idols" in America, becoming famous across the country for his minimalist acting style onstage and theatrical innovations off. However, in 1899 Gillette found worldwide fame when he worked with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to bring Sherlock Holmes to the stage. Gillette had free reign to recreate the famous detective, making him less of "a machine rather than a man", and many of Gillette's additions to the character (like Holmes' curved pipe) have become a permanent part of Holmes' iconic image. Gillette's Holmes play was a runaway hit in the United States and in 1901 Gillette became the first American actor to be invited to perform on the British stage. He went on to perform the show over 1,300 times, as well as playing Holmes in movies and on the radio. Gillette continued to act (as Holmes, as well as in many other shows) until his death in 1937. The elaborate castle Gillette designed and lived in- the setting of THE GAME'S AFOOT- still stands in East Haddam, Connecticut where it has become a state park and one of the top three tourist attractions in the state.

**FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ITEMS**



The Stone Arch Plaers are offering special items for sale to commemorate the occasion. Anniversary T Shirts are \$15.00, Sweat Shirts are \$20.00, Tote Bags are \$3.00 each, or two for \$5.00, and Buttons are only \$1.00!

*Items are available before each show and during intermission.*

*On Cue is printed by Impressions Printing of Mifflintown, PA.*