

NOT SO COMMON TIMES



Book by Peter DePietro **Music by** Galen Blum **Lyrics by** Tom Chlodo
Wayne Barker **Vinnie Martucci**

Based on the popular board game, this rousing, fun-filled musical brings the world's best-known mystery suspects to life on the stage, and invites the audience to play along to solve a mystery.

CLUE THE MUSICAL

is an international theatrical sensation, wowing both audiences and press. The suspects sing, dance and joke their way into your heart... or into suspicion, as you guess which one of the 216 possible endings, different every performance, is the answer to: who-dunit, in what room, with what weapon.



CLUE is directed by Laura W. Andruski, with musical direction by Pat Douglass.

The Cast:

- Mr. Boddy (Jeff Hocking)—The host of the game, current husband of Mrs. Peacock, victim of the impending murder.
- Detective (Tiffany Picard-Westendorf)—

Appears in order to crack the case and solve the mystery. She rebuffs Prof. Plum's amorous advances.

- Colonel Mustard (David Tinkham)—A mentally ill man, he fancies himself a triumphant war colonel. He is implicated in the death of both of Mr. Boddy's parents and he is currently having an affair with Mrs. Peacock.
- Mr. Green (Eugene Kosarovich)—Con-artist and entrepreneur, he is a former lover of Miss Scarlet.

- Mrs. Peacock (Debbie May)—Black widow and chairwoman of Peacock Enterprises, married to Mr. Boddy and cheating with Col. Mustard.

- Professor Plum (Tim Orcutt)—Super genius, author, intellect, his family fortune was ruined by Mr. Boddy.

- Miss Scarlet (Sarah Anne Chilson)—the femme fatale of the game, a former Las Vegas lounge performer, and former

lover of Mr. Green.

- Mrs. White (H. Lummis)—The chief domestic of Boddy Manor, she is virtually enslaved by Mr. Boddy.

Join us for a trip down memory lane as you play the musical version of Clue!



Do You Have A Clue?



Volume 5, Issue 2

Fall 2009

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Performances:

October 16, 17, 18,
 22, 23, 24, 25

Friday & Saturday
 8:00PM

Sunday Matinee
 2:00PM

Shenendehowa HS East
 Little Theater
 Moe Road Entrance
 Clifton Park NY

FREE
 Musical Theatre
 Sponsored by
 The Town of
 Clifton Park

Who did it?
 With What?
 Where?
 Come! Play Along!

The Magic of Theatre...The Evolution of NSCP...10th Anniversary

In less than ten years, NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS (NSCP) has grown by leaps and bounds. From a fledgling community theatre troupe that produced one summer show per year, we've become an award-winning, sought-after group producing three to four shows year-round. Throughout our history, we've been fortunate to have the continued support of the Town of Clifton Park.

In our last newsletter, the Not So Common Players described how and why we are incorporating as an independent nonprofit entity. We are pleased to report that we've achieved several milestones in this evolution!

With the help of attorney (and theatre lover) Karen Martino Valle of Tuczinski, Cavalier, Gilchrist & Collura, P.C., NSCP is in the final stages of filing for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Karen has graciously donated her legal expertise and assistance to NSCP – working with us to create by-laws, and drafting and filing our Certificate of Incorporation and Application for Exemption.

Cont'd. on Page 3





"Spotlight On" is a regular feature of our newsletter, profiling a person who has made a positive impact on NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS



Marlene Countermine and friends!



**Performances
April
Shen HS East
April 2010**

!!!Auditions!!!

**January 10 & 12, 2010
Sun.—3-5pm
Tues.—6-9pm
Shenendehowa
Senior Center
Vischer Ferry Road
At the Clifton Common**

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

**PLEASE PREPARE 16 BARS
FROM A BROADWAY SHOW**

**PREPARE TO READ FROM THE
SCRIPT**

**DRESS COMFORTABLY FOR A
A DANCE AUDITION**

GOOD LUCK!

SPOTLIGHT ON: MARLENE COUNTERMINE

You could say that variety is the spice of Marlene Countermine's life. From ghosts to dogs, lions to saints – Marlene's theatre loves span a range as wide as the art itself!

Although she is one of the newer Board members of **NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS**, Marlene is no stranger to theatre or to the Capital Region. She grew up in Schenectady, and started doing theatre with her high school drama club. A particularly memorable role playing Aunt Eller in Oklahoma whetted her appetite for more. Marlene continued doing theatre in college, where she studied accounting.

The theatre bug had bitten and taken hold for good. After college, Marlene worked with several theatre groups in the local area, including Latham Community Players and Triune Musical Company, both now defunct. Along the way, she took on many different roles and gained more experience, both on-stage and behind the scenes.

She also gained a new love: her future husband, Don Countermine. "I met Don doing theatre after college," she says. "Theatre is the thread that binds us." It seems **NOT SO COM-**

MON PLAYERS repeatedly attracts lovebird couples to its ranks!

Marlene has now been involved in community theatre for over 35 years. When asked about favorite roles she's played, it's a tough decision. She names the ghost in *Follies* at Albany Civic Theatre and Nana the Dog in *Peter Pan* at Schenectady Light Opera Company as her all-time favorites.

As far as her favorite shows of all time, Marlene cites *The Lion King* and *Godspell*. She also notes that *Godspell* is a show she's always wanted to be in, "although it will never happen." (Like the New York Lottery says: hey, you never know!) In addition to serving on the Board of **NSCP**, Marlene is a member of SLOC, and a charter member of the new group, Class Act Productions.

When she's not onstage, backstage, producing or attending board meetings, Marlene runs her father's business, Colonie Block and Supply Co., Inc. She lives with husband Don in Clifton Park, and has two sons and a step-daughter. Welcome aboard, Marlene – **NSCP** is very glad to have you!

The Fantasticks! —Directed by Debbie May

In the early 1950's Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones were students at the University of Texas. During their senior year in 1955, they became so enchanted with the works of French playwright, Edmund Rostand, that they read and re-read his three most famous plays and then began to search for others. From Rostand's biography, Schmidt and Jones learned of another play - the first ever written by Rostand when he was 26 years old in 1894. Finding no copies anywhere of the mentioned play, they sent to a rare-book dealer in Paris, who unearthed a copy in French. Their one single impulse was to turn this tender little tale into a modern musical.

They didn't get around to fulfilling their college dream until 1959, when **THE FANTASTICKS** had a tryout at Barnard College to an enthusiastic audience. A few months later the show was produced in New York and the rest is history. 17,162 performances from 1960-2002 at the Sullivan Street Playhouse, Greenwich, NY.

THE FANTASTICKS tells a simple tale of "a boy, girl, two fathers and a wall." Using theatrical techniques from many parts of the world and many periods in history, it urges the audience to use their imagination, to follow the narrator, El Gallo, as he creates for us a world of moonlight and magic, and later of honky-tonk carnivals and burning disillusion.

THE FANTASTICKS, as LIFE magazine once said, is "a sophisticated story about innocence." ...from broadway.com/the-fantasticks.

← See audition notice .

GODSPELL—“Outstanding!”—Honored With Multiple TANYS Awards

NSCP's Spring 2009 production of *Godspell* was honored with four Roving Adjudicator Merit Awards by TANYS (Theatre Association of New York State):

Outstanding Direction to Michael C. Mensching
Excellence in Choreography to Christine Marcella
Excellence in Production Design and Execution to the Entire Production Staff
Excellence in Vocal Performance to David Rossi, Dian Dippold and the Cast



TANYS Adjudicator Paul Nelson noted, “The **NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS** production of *Godspell* was an evening of theatre punctuated by an exceptionally well-conceived and designed production. This company under the inventive and creative direction of Mr. Mensching delivered to its audiences a reinvented piece of musical theatre of a quality not often seen on the non-professional level. Congrats!”

Cont'd from page 1 In addition, Board member Jeremy Noble has worked with Town of Clifton Park officials to finalize a Memorandum of Understanding that outlines our partnership moving forward. NSCP is extremely grateful that the Town of Clifton Park will still financially support the group.

Having nonprofit status will provide NSCP more flexibility in our operations, allow us to accept donations and free up the hard-working Town staff who have helped us over the years with our increasingly voluminous administrative tasks.

We are very excited to enter this new phase to position ourselves for continued growth and success. Many thanks to Karen Martino Valle, the Town of Clifton Park, and our audiences for your unwavering support!

Speaking of how we've grown... in January, NSCP will celebrate its 10th Anniversary by producing a retrospective show, highlighting the best of our work from the last decade! If you have a favorite show – or a favorite song from one of our shows – chances are you will hear it performed again. Produced by Sally Burke and Dian Dippold, former cast members (35 +/-) will return to give you a rousing start to the New Year! Marty Egan is writing a narrative and David Rossi and Dian are wrapping the music.

Join us to celebrate these past ten years together... as we look forward to many more successful years as Clifton Park's own theatre group!

The year 2009 officially marks the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Hudson Valley by Dutch explorer Henry Hudson. To join in New York State's yearlong celebrations of the *Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadracentennial*, the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library approached NSCP through local writer and actor Marty Egan.

The Library wanted to do an original piece, something that might reference local history (like NSCP's past Egan hit, *The Queen of Hearts*). Marty obliged, creating a brand-new work called

Dark Deeds on the Hudson.

The play is an old-fashioned melodrama, set in a tavern on the border between Clifton Park and Halfmoon a century ago. There's a villain to hiss at, a hero to cheer for, a fair maiden to fear for and a “lady in red” from the big city of Albany. All that, and music as well! Don Countermine directs a sharp cast including Larry Gray, Pat O'Donnell, Jeremy Noble, Nicole Galligan, Kristin and Matt Lopez.

The Town of Clifton Park Master Recreation Plan

The Town of Clifton Park's Arts & Culture Commission (see page 4) would like to encourage all supporters of the Arts to participate in the Master Recreation Plan. Please attend the next two public meetings:

Workshop #3

Date: Monday, October 26, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Social Room, St. Edward's Church, 569 Clifton Park Center Road

Workshop#4

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm – 9 pm

Location: Shenendehowa Adult Community Center at Clifton Common

Merit Awards will be presented at the 2009 TANYS Festival, which will take place November 20-22, 2009 at the Stuart Steiner Theatre, Genesee Community College, Batavia, New York..

For more information and details, contact Michael Arve at michaelarve@yahoo.com



**AN UNCOMMON
 ENCORE CELEBRATION**
 January 22, 23 (8PM)
 and 24 (2 PM)
 Clifton Park/Halfmoon
 Library, Moe Road
 Reception/Donations
 Accepted
 FREE admission

**Dark Deeds on the
 Hudson**
 a staged reading
 Sunday,
 November 8th
 2 PM
 Clifton Park-Halfmoon
 Public Library

Dates to remember:

Clue, the Musical— October 16-25

October 26th & 29th—Master Plan

November 8th — *Dark Deeds on the Hudson*

January 22, 23, 24— 10th Anniversary Show NSCP

Auditions *The Fantasticks*—

Jan 10 & 12



NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS
TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK
ONE TOWN HALL PLAZA
CLIFTON PARK, NY 12065

Not So
COMMON PLAYERS

NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS 2010

Join Us for our 10th Anniversary Show:
AN UNCOMMON ENCORE CELEBRATION
January 22nd & 23rd(8PM); 24th (mat 2PM)
at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library

	<p>Directed by <i>Sky Vogel</i> July 2010 <i>On the Clifton Common</i></p>	
<p>Directed by <i>Debbie May</i> Spring 2010 <i>Shen HS East</i></p>		<p>Directed by <i>Thomas Bambury</i> Fall 2010 <i>Shen HS East</i></p>

**NSCP Rocks and Rolls in
BYE, BYE Birdie!**

Two shows rained out, but audiences came by the 100's to hear "We Love You Conrad..." 100's of times! Directed and choreographed by Sean Carter, Freddy Ramirez and David Rossi, the show was lots of fun for audiences and cast alike. Producer Richard Lenehan and all the staff and crew had a real challenge on their hands dealing with all the rain, especially the 2 weeks prior to opening. But everyone "Put On A Happy Face" and rocked and rolled each night.



Editor:
Sally Burke
Contributors:
Cindy Nagle
Laura Andruski



**Town of Clifton Park
Arts and Culture Commission**

Thank you for your support of the Arts in Clifton Park. Many of our local arts organizations are thriving and growing, and I urge you to get involved whether your passion is drama, musical theater, drawing, painting, photography, dance, creative writing, chorus, or playing an instrument.

The Clifton Park Community Arts and Culture Commission was established by Town Ordinance in 2007 to advise and assist the Town Board in development, coordination, promotion and support of the arts in Clifton Park. (The 2006 Comprehensive Plan included quality of life and set goals to ensure a high quality level of public facilities and services be provided. Arts and Culture development is a high priority.)

We continue to be engaged in the creation of the Town's Master Recreation Plan, which includes not only sports and leisure activities, but the Arts as well.

I hope you will attend one of the two public workshops on **October 26th and 29th** (see page 3) that need your participation in order to preserve and enhance, the performing arts, visual arts and cultural resources in the Town.—

Laura W. Andruski, Chair
www.cliftonpark.org/townhall/cacc.asp

- 2009-2010
BOARD MEMBERS
NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS
- Karen Boynton**
 - Jennifer Bullington**
 - John Burke**
 - Sally Burke**
 - Marlene Counterline**
 - Dian Dippold**
 - Jim Mackenzie**
 - Jeremy Noble**
 - Cindy Nagle**
 - Pat O'Donnell**
 - Michael Silvia**

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

As NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS arrives at its goal of becoming a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, we are grateful to **Karen Valle**, an attorney and a principal in the Albany law firm of Tuczinski, Cavalier, Gilchrist & Collura, P.C. Karen has worked tirelessly and offered her services pro bono. Thank you so much!

