



## The Sudbury Savoyards Sandwich Board

Spring/Summer 2010 - Vol 15, Number 3

The Savoyards are heading up to a momentous milestone - the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Company, and we're planning on celebrating with extended activities this coming winter! Meanwhile, there's a classic Summer Show to take in, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, and a Craft Fair in the Fall. We hope your Summer leaves you time to be able to join us in the fun now, while we also look to the Fall and beyond.

### Princess Ida

*Princess Ida* is unique within the G&S canon, being the only three act piece.

One of the most exciting technical feats the Savoyards have ever executed was the transition of Act I to Act II, transforming Castle Hildebrand into Castle Adamant, in a mere 37 seconds during our February 2010 production. This transition drew gasps of wonder from the G&S fans who knew what was happening, and smoothed the progression of the show and kept the whole audience in better tune with the flow of the play without a distracting intermission. As for our finances, the Savoyards continue to fight rising costs for our large-scale productions, but our dedicated audiences and generous donors allowed the production generate a donation of \$4000 for the United Methodist Committee on Relief for use in world-wide efforts to reduce hunger. As usual, our thanks go out to all our supporters: on stage, behind the stage, and (of course!) in the audience and the community at large.



Ernest Thompson wrote the play *On Golden Pond* in 1978; it opened off-Broadway in that year, and moved to Broadway early in 1979. Many people are more familiar with the 1981 movie, also written by Thompson, marked by the casting of Hollywood superstars Henry Fonda, Katharine Hepburn, and Jane Fonda. The story is centered on the characters of Norman and Ethel Thayer, an aging couple with nearly five decades of history together in their summer cabin on Maine's Golden Pond. Norman is a curmudgeon who is feeling his

age and taking it out on those around him. Ethel suffers her spouse lovingly, though not without getting her own oars in the water as well. Their daughter, Chelsea, is a 40-something divorcee who visits her parents on the Pond, accompanied by her fiance, Bill, and his son, Billy. The three of them are planning a trip to Europe, but Ethel convinces Norman to let Billy stay with them in Maine while Chelsea and Bill go on. Norman and the boy bond, somewhat in contrast to Norman's history with his own daughter. As the summer wanes, so does their brief idyll with a deeply moving ending that brings the couple, and the whole newly extended family, closer together. Time, they know, is against them but the years have been good and, just perhaps, another summer on Golden Pond still awaits.

Our cast for *On Golden Pond* features **Don Hawkes** as Norman and **Ellen Simmons** as Ethel, with **Carolyn Cafarelli** as Chelsea, **John Gorgone** as Bill, and **Randy Wilson** as Billy, with **Cliff Blake** as Mailman Charlie Martin (a long-standing suitor of Chelsea's who still carries a torch for her). **Ellen** and **John** are well known to Savoyards audiences, both having appeared in previous Summer Shows and mainstage G&S shows. The rest of the cast are new to Savoyard roles. **Don** has long been an aficionado of Sudbury's G&S productions, and has finally taken the leap to join one of our summer shows following a series of roles on stage and behind the scenes at Vokes Theater. **Carolyn** has been hoping for a chance to play Chelsea Thayer Wayne since she first saw the movie years ago, and joins us after performing with the Medway Players, Acme Theater, and Milford Theatre Guild. **Cliff** has a long resume in stage theater and independent films produced in the area, and earned an EMACT Festival Best Supporting Actor role in 2008. **Randy** is a student of voice and dance, an avid lacrosse player, and a veteran of numerous youth and other community theater roles in the Acton area, despite not yet having attended high school.

Our play is directed by **Mary Spinosa-Wilson**. Mary has over thirty years of experience producing and directing for both adults and children. She is an adjunct professor for the theater department at Becker College and is pursuing her certification in drama therapy. Mary owns and operates *Team Theatre, Inc.*, a therapeutic theater program for individuals aged 5 to 21 with various disabilities, and is a co-founding partner of *Starz-N-Lightz*, a non-profit production company for children.

### Times, dates, and tickets...

The Savoyards are pleased to present *On Golden Pond* in six performances over two weekends from July 23 to July 31 at the **Curtis Middle School, 22 Pratt's Mill Road, Sudbury**. (Directions are available on our web site.) Our evening performances will be on **Friday, July 23; Saturday, July 24; Friday, July 30; and Saturday, July 31**, all at 7:30pm; our matinees will be on **Sunday, July 25 and Saturday, July 31**, both at 1:30pm. Note our slightly earlier than usual but hopefully family-friendly summer start times! We hope to see you there!

Tickets are **\$20 for adults**, and **\$16 for students and seniors**. **Order by mail** by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope, with your performance and ticket choices and payment, to *On Golden Pond* Tickets, 279 Captain Eames Circle, Ashland, Mass. 01721. A ticket order form is available on our web site. **Reserve by phone** by calling 978-443-8811. **Order by email** by sending a message to [tickets@sudburysavoyards.org](mailto:tickets@sudburysavoyards.org); include your ticket choices, and your name, address, and phone number, and your tickets will be held at the box office until ten minutes before show time. **Order from the web** by visiting our web site at [www.sudburysavoyards.org](http://www.sudburysavoyards.org). Click on the link to "tickets" from there or via the *On Golden Pond* page. Web ticketing uses the PayPal on-line payment system. There is a \$3 per order charge, regardless of the number of tickets purchased.

It's not too late to volunteer to help out at *On Golden Pond*. We'll need ushers, concession staff, and some backstage help, too. If you're interested, contact our producers **Donna Roessler** and **Ellen Simmons** through the Savoyards'

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message line at 978-443-8811. And it's not too late to be a playbill patron, either. Go to our web site and click on the "Playbill Advertiser/Patron" link on the *On Golden Pond* page.

**Board of Trustees** - The Sudbury Savoyards operate under the direction of a seven member Board of Trustees, each member of which serves a two year term. Trustees are chosen by the membership at the general membership meeting held during the run of the mainstage show in the Winter. Completing terms and leaving the Board this year were **Kirsten Chetwynd, Ellen Simmons, and Paul Sliney. Bill Fisher, Laurel Martin, and John Gorgone** are in the midst of their elected terms and continue as Trustees. Newly elected or re-elected Trustees are **Bill Johnson, Katherine Meifert, Kathryn Denney, and Brad Amidon.** For the coming year, Katherine returns to the Chair, a position she held during her last term on the Board, ending in 2003. Bill Fisher takes over as Secretary, John as Treasurer, and Bill Johnson as Church Liaison. Laurel, Kathryn, and Brad will serve as Trustees-at-large. Board meetings are open to the membership. Minutes of Board meetings, which include meeting schedules, are available on the Savoyards' web site.

**Fall Craft Fair** - The Savoyards will be presenting our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Craft Fair in Hawes Hall at the Sudbury United Methodist Church on Saturday, October 9. The organizers, **Donna and Andrea Roessler**, report that all crafter slots have been filled, the earliest this milestone has occurred since our fairs began. The fair will also need baked goods donated for the bake sale table, all proceeds of which go to world hunger relief through UMCOR. We could also use a few volunteers to help the crafters set up and break down, and man our concession tables. Prospective bakers and fair staff are encouraged to contact Donna or Andrea at 508-628-9772 or by email to donnarslr@rcn.com.

**50th Anniversary in 2011** - The Board of Trustees has selected the double bill of *HMS Pinafore* and *Trial by Jury* as the Savoyards' Winter 2011 production. This double bill was last presented by the Savoyards in 1998, but the more important distinction is that 2011 marks both the fiftieth anniversary of the Savoyards and the fiftieth Gilbert and Sullivan production presented by the Company. *Trial by Jury* was the founding production of the Savoyards (who weren't yet so-named at the time) in 1961. The Company is planning for a gala season leading up to and beyond these noteworthy anniversaries. The first big undertaking is a **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Cookbook** and *we are looking for our members to contribute favorite recipes.* For more information on the different food categories and how to submit your recipes, please go to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary page on our website. Remember, the relief of world hunger begins at home!



As part of our celebration, we are eager to reconnect with Savoyards of all eras, and are planning a **Savoyard Reunion Dinner** during the run of our 2011 double bill. In support of our reunion, we are seeking "missing members" who have drifted away from the Company or the area. Again, go to the Savoyards' web site to see a list of valued folks we've lost contact with. Perhaps you can help us reconnect. And if this is the first Sandwich Board you've received, maybe it's because we've found you again already. If that's the case, please let us know whether you'd like to stay on the mailing list.

We're also working on a documentary video to record Savoyard history of the First Fifty Years, and continuing to collect memorabilia of past Savoyard activities. If you have something to share, please get in touch with archivist Andrea Roessler at [ajr-asid@juno.com](mailto:ajr-asid@juno.com).

For our 2011 large-stage production, **Steve Malione** will serve as Music Director for both elements of the double bill. **Kathy Lague** will be the Stage Director for *HMS Pinafore*, and Savoyard newcomer **Joe Stallone** will be Stage Director for *Trial by Jury*. Auditions will be held in November, with the production to be staged, as usual, in February. Producers **John Gorgone** and **Paul Sliney** are eagerly recruiting for all those critical business, technical, and support staff positions needed to put on a Sudbury-scale production. People interested in taking any production role in this milestone presentation should email the producers at [producer@sudburysavoyards.org](mailto:producer@sudburysavoyards.org). Look for more word on the plans for the show, including the all-important Two-Ring kickoff meeting, in the Fall issue of this newsletter, and on the Savoyard web site.

Sudbury Savoyards  
Sudbury United Methodist Church  
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