

May 2009 Newsy Letter

The Florentine Players

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Jim Herron

Wow, it seems I just did this.. oh yeah I did, but I need to keep you informed of the activities coming up in May.

The first of these is the melodrama "The Ol' Razzle Dazzle", which will be performed on two consecutive Friday and Saturday, May 8th, 9th, 15th, and 16th. Please attend and support your fellow Florentiners. Also remember that the reason for our existence is Florence Historical, which our profits go to support. And one of the events they put on is Florence Days, which will be on May 9th, with a parade and other events celebrating the

community of Florence.

The next item is the annual general meeting and awards presentation, which will happen this year on Sunday, May 17th. We do this usually after the last melodrama performance on Sunday, but this year we will not be doing a Sunday performance. The cast and crew of the melodrama will meet at 2PM to take down and store the sets and props. Then at 4PM we will start the general meeting. The highlight of this meeting is the election of board members. We have a 15 member board of which 3 members are permanent from Florence Historical, the secretary and treasurer, who are also permanent, and the im-

mediate past President. The other 9 members are elected 3 at a time to a 3 year term. I encourage all Florentine Players in good standing to come to the general meeting and meet the members of your board, current and new. If you cannot attend the general meeting, you can cast an absentee ballot. The candidates will be listed in this newsletter, along with an absentee ballot which you can use.

I hope to see you at the melodrama, Florence Days, and the general meeting!

Final Plea for Scripts / Directors / Ideas

by Derek Kowal

The Florence Follies show is running July 31st - August 1st. I believe Florence has a great wealth of talent in our membership, and I am looking for a fresh take on Follies this year. I know I've said this three times now, but nobody seems to be listening or responding for that matter, so I

trudge on.

I am soliciting you, our members, for any scripts or script ideas for this upcoming show.

It is my goal to have the Follies show this year be a way to showcase the talent we have in Florence.

The Follies is a variety show. As per last year, this will also

involve the Florenteenies performers, so we do ask for the material to be appropriate for all audiences. Your submissions can be scenes for adults, or children, or both.

I don't want to sound like I'm begging, but if begging is what gets people motivated, then I am willing to do that... grovel, too. I will not pay however.

For those of you interested in writing a scene or a One Act play, we are asking that you provide a submission five to ten minutes in length. The deadline is May 17th, 2009.

If you have any questions or are even remotely interested, please feel free to contact me at 402-320-5997 or info@florentineplayers.com.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Please make sure to cast your vote for the three candidates you would like to represent you on the Board in Florence. The General meeting will be held May 17th , 2009 at 4:00 PM along with the Melodrama awards ceremony. The following is a list of the candidates and an explanation in their own words why they should get your vote.



Erin Barker

I have been with the Florentine Players for the past 5 years. I have enjoyed every minute of my time with everyone that has been around since I have been involved in this group. I believe I could bring a lot into this group. I have had leadership skills throughout my life that I believe will benefit this group in the upcoming years. I have been a captain for the color guard team back in high school, which I can say that has definitely improved my communication and team building skills.

I can't wait for many more years with the Florentine Players!



Jim Herron

Hello, this is Jim Herron, your current President. I am up for re-election to your board. I bring many years of experience in theatre, as well as experience in serving on other boards, both theatrical and business. I am also the person who lights the many productions we do every year, as well as other events that happen in our building.

You may have heard of me referred to as "Sparky", which is a nickname used by many theatrical electricians. I represent the technical side of the theatre community, which provides a balance with the actors on the board to provide the best performances possible.

I hope you will re-elect me to the board.



Linda Leimbach

I am running for the board because even though I don't participate in the actual shows I like to think that I do participate when greeting our guests as they come into each show and thanking them as they leave. I enjoy helping Gracie with the ticket sales and the memberships. I am also willing to help out whenever or wherever needed.



Brittany O'Connor

My name is Brittany O'Connor. I am currently attending UNO, majoring in psychology and I also work part time at Bath and Body Works. I have been a Florentine Player since I was 6 weeks old when my grandmother Cha Chey took me to the Fall Follies at Venelaus Park. That is when I made my first appearance on stage. I have grown up as part of the Florentine kids, helped behind stage, been on stage in the fall follies, walked the parades, I have done clean up work, raised money for the city hall and now I am a fourth year can-can. This show group means a lot to me and it brings a lot to the community of Florence and to many people from all around. I just want to insure it continues for generations to come so many more people can have memories like I have from this group.



Faith White

The reason I have chosen to run for the board is I feel I have a good rapport with all the members and can bring a new, fresh perspective. I've always been attached to the history of Florence and wish I would have been involved with this organization sooner. I enjoy the creative spirit of all the people and like being involved in good causes.

ANNOUNCEMENT

It was 18 years ago, April 22, 1991 when I called Diane

Lemen to tell her I couldn't make the board meeting that night as I was in labor. I was the secretary that year, she was the president. Bre & Cady arrived a couple of hours later. Three weeks later they spent their first melodrama in a crib while I helped with make-up. The Florentine Players are their second family, and we consider ourselves blessed sharing that relationship. This is a busy 5 weeks at our house, between eighteenth birthdays and High School graduation. It

was 18 years ago, April 22, 1991 when I called Diane Lemen to tell her I couldn't make the board meeting that night as I was in labor. I was the secretary that year, she was the president. Bre & Cady arrived a couple of hours later. Three weeks later they spent their first melodrama in a crib while I

helped with make-up. The Florentine Players are their second family, and we consider ourselves blessed sharing that relationship.

This is a busy 5 weeks at our house, between eighteenth birthdays and High School graduation.



Please join us to celebrate this milestone in the girl's lives.

A Graduation Open House in their honor will be held:

Saturday, May 23, 2009

11 am to 3pm

Our home- 3721 N. 86th Street

John and I are so proud of these girls and their accomplishments. Both girls will graduate with honors, being ranked in the top ten students of their class. Breanna will be attending UNO in the fall with a declared Journalism major. Caitlin is

undecided as to a major as of this time. She has been accepted to 5 colleges and as of this printing she is still considering those options.

My family and I say thank-you for your support and friendship over the years.
Laura Hayden



OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT FLORENTINE PLAYERS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please vote for three (3):

- Erin Barker
- Jim Herron
- Linda Leimbach
- Brittany O'Connor
- Faith White
- (Write-in candidate Name _____)

Print your name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date Received: _____

Ballot must be remitted (handed, mailed, faxed) to President, Jim Herron, anytime before the election on Sunday, May 17. NO PHONE VOTES.

Jim Herron

H: 1712 North 126th St., Omaha (68154)

W: Nebraska Methodist Hospital, 8411 West Dodge Rd, Omaha (68114)

Fax: 402-354-4801

The Florentine Players

P.O. Box 12061

Florence, NE 68112



PRESENT

The Ol' Razzle Dazzle

A Musical Melodrama

May 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th

Show Starts 7:00 PM

Doors Open 6:00 PM

Florence City Hall

29th and State

See you there!

Tickets available at Hy-Vee Food and Drug, Maker's Market, on our website (www.florentineplayers.com), or by calling 502-2444.

Reminder

Mailing Address Goes Here

Membership Form

Valid May 20____ - May 20____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Renewal

New Member

Membership categories:

Headliners: \$1000 and up

Producers: \$500

Directors: \$100

Patron: \$25

Stars (family 3+ more) \$15

Players: \$5

Florenteensies: free (participants only, not the family)

Gift / Donation in the amount of

\$ _____

Please Donate this portion of my gift to the Florence Capital Improvement Fund _____

Please mail this form to:

Florentine Players
Membership
P O Box 12061
Omaha, NE 68112

