



Trouper *Trumpet*

October, 2002

“Loudly let the trumpet bray” – Iolanthe

Mark Your Calendar



Stuffing Party

Come join the board at the **Strettons** to help mail out our

fund-raising appeals, Sat. and/or Sun. Nov. 2 & 3, 11 am. Call 203-637-5845 for directions

Christmas Party We are scheduling a Christmas party this year. Date is Dec. 7 at Jim Cooper's house, 48 Old Driftway, Wilton. Directions will be posted on the web site.

Rehearsals begin: Monday, January 6, 2003

Show dates: April 11, 12, 13 (matinee), 18, and 19, 2003

Ruddigore Cast Announced

Auditions for Ruddigore went well and we welcome veteran and new members to the Troupers fold. The principal roles are:

Rose...**Amanda Garies**
Zorah...**Valerie Szeto**
Mad Margaret...**Linda Palmer**
Hannah...**Kate Burt**
Ruth...**Judy Raines**
Richard Dauntless..Not yet cast
Robin... **Craig Schreiber**
Despard...**Tom Zimmerman**
Roderick ... **John Matilaine**
Old Adam...**Marc Packer**

Chorus and speaking roles will be filled by **Jim Cooper, Ken Hedden, John Matilaine, Guy Stretton, Dexter Anderson, Holly Adams, Carey Bates, Josephine Biagi, Mary Conseur, Wendy Falconer, Emma Fyffe, Diana Gladden, Heather Handley, Richar Huie, Bill Lamoreux, Silloo Madan, Michelle McNaughton, Rica Mendes-Barry, Maureen O'Connell, Kelly Parrillo, Judy Raines, Israel Rodriguez, Brianne Schickler, Charles Shelley, Joan Stietzel, Valerie Szeto, Paul Vidulich, Joyce Veishlow, Bernie Warmflash, Jiaxing Weng.** We welcome veteran, new, and returning members of Troupers!

Lend Us a Tenor (and a Few Good Men)

The auditions went well and we have a fine cast of principals and women's chorus. We could use more men for the male chorus, so if you know of anyone who would like to join us, send out the word.

We also have one principal role to fill, that of **Richard Dauntless**, which is a tenor role. Come on you tenors, we know you're out there! Step up to the plate and be Dauntless.

Ruddigore “Spelled Out”: Program Notes

Ruddigore, or *The Witch's Curse*, satirizes unreasonable sense of duty and stiff-upper lip determination in the face of ridiculous events. It also provides a satire of popular mustachioed villain melodramas of the time. *Ruddigore* was written in 1887, and clearly is lampooning the Gypsy's curse in *Il Trovatore* (1853). Each Baronet of *Ruddigore* has been cursed to commit a crime each day or perish in agony. Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd runs away and hides in a fishing village as Robin Oakapple where he falls in love with Rose Maybud, while his younger brother Sir Despard is forced to become the Bad Baronet. When Robin's half-brother Richard, who also has designs on Rose, tells Despard of Robin's duplicity, Robin is forced to

become the Bad Baronet and Sir Despard becomes a blameless

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school teacher. Richard can now marry Rose.

(As they say in the serials—**TO BE CONTINUED**)

October, 2002

Troupers in the News

Michelle McNaughton is playing the role of Sister Mary Leo in "Nunsense" with The Orange Players October 18, 19, 25, & 26.

Anne Wachman will be singing with New York Grand Opera Chorus in the Aida section of their concert at Carnegie Hall, Thursday, Nov. 7. All Troupers invited!

This follows a very exciting trip to Canterbury Cathedral this summer, singing Handel's *Israel In Egypt* with the Berkshire Choral Festival.

"An amazing experience," Anne tells us.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the Berkshire Choral Festival, which operates in Mass., Santa Fe, Canterbury & Salzburg, please ask **Anne**.



Get in the Picture!

At the October 23rd gathering, all cast members will receive a "Get in the Picture!" packet urging them to get involved with the Trouper family. What does "Get in the Picture!" mean? It means, getting involved

in all aspects of Troupers. Here are some ways.

- * **Ticket sales:** We send out a mailing to about 1500 people. Even if everyone came, this would not fill the house. We put on five performances and want to fill up every seat! That's our goal. Start thinking now who you can invite to the show. The brochures will be available in early 2003, so begin talking it up. It costs about \$60 to put a performer on stage and we ask that every Trouper commit to selling 10 tickets. Also, wear your "Ask Me What Troupers is Doing Next" button to start the conversation. It really works!
- * **Ad sales:** Ads pay for the program and enough ads can pay for a lot more besides. Copies of the ad sales sheet are available now to take to the merchants. We also have on hand copies of last year's program to show them how their ad will look. Our ads are reasonably priced and excellent value They will also be entitled to complimentary tickets.
- * **Troupers Needs You:** Getting involved is what Troupers is all about. Let the Board know what you'd like to do this year to help out.

If you didn't receive a "Get in the Picture!" packet or a button, call us and we'll make sure you get one. They will also be at the Christmas party and the first rehearsal.

Send news of Troupers to the address on the left or e-mail:

b.stretton@worldnet.att.net. Thanks! *Barbara Stretton*

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c/o Barbara Stretton
62 North Ridge Road
Old Greenwich, CT 06870