



## Milton Players Score Grand Slam

The talk of the local community theatre scene is The Milton Players! We did the impossible: we hit a grand slam with our 81<sup>st</sup> season at Mass Hospital School. With increased audience, increased revenues, new technical support, and three successful shows, we are positioned to keep swinging in Season 82 and have started planning more hits for Season 83.

Everyone stand up and take a deep, long bow! In less than a year's time you moved us out of our home of 80 years into a new facility, sorted and reconfigured thousands of our costumes, props, furniture, lighting equipment, stage flats and lumber. You created a team atmosphere that has won praise from our audiences, the hospital staff, and school administration. And you did it while adding technically better equipment and complying with stringent fire/building rules.

So let's celebrate our achievements on June 1<sup>st</sup> at our season ending party. Reply to the evite sent to you and be part of the boffo enthusiasm!

And one last shout out to the cast and production crew of *Laura* - Bravo!

Here are some important dates/announcements for upcoming activities:

- Summer outing at home of Erin Stulb on Sunday June 1 at 2:00 PM.
- July summer projects
- Auditions for *Inherit The Wind* at Mass Hospital School, August 18 and 19. Callbacks if necessary August 21.

### **Executive Board Proceedings, Monday, May 5, 2014 at American Joe's, Braintree (Minutes recorded by Glenn Ryan)**

1) Board members Dawn, Frank, Laura, Erin, Vickie, Kevin, and Glenn were in attendance. Pat Brawley and Jen Fenlon were guests.

2) Minutes for April 14, 2014 were approved. As nominating committee chair Glenn informed board of process committee used this year. Working with proposed incoming president, Glenn and committee filled all proposed positions to enable us to be up and running on June 1<sup>st</sup>. If elected president, Erin Stulb would have Vickie Kirichok as Playreading Chair, Frank Moffett as Business Manager, Pat Brawley as Publicity Chair, and Kevin Lowney as Technical Director.

3) Corresponding Secretary report: last month's Callboard contained a technical glitch - we pasted April's minutes into March's minutes. We are working out kinks in new software program and expect May's Callboard to be correct.

4) Treasurer report: Dawn's analysis of expenses showed that all three shows made about the same. We had less expenses this year and an increase in audience has positioned us with sufficient revenues to enable us to plan for a

musical in the 2015-2016 season. Upon Dawn's recommendation the board voted to give a \$200 scholarship to a selected Milton High School student. Dawn recommended that next year we give two scholarships: one to Milton High School and one to Mass Hospital School.

5) Production report for *Laura*: Production manager Frank Moffett thanked everyone who worked on the show noting special thanks to Vickie for getting front of house organized this year.

6) Publicity (a) Erin said newspaper coverage for *Laura* was spotty with some locals choosing not to include text and/or photos she sent but it was good to see that Canton paper picked up stories and printed. (b) \$50 Facebook ad targeted 16,533 friends within 5 miles of Canton/Milton area with 56 likes and 1 share. (c) Board approved sending out new Steve Hamilton designed season subscription flyer to everyone who bought online by June; emailing same to 1200 people on our email list; and the sending out of letter with flyer to current subscribers.

7) Laura Dunkum reported that we sold 436 tickets for *Laura*. A discussion ensued about the 18 no shows who had reserved tickets and not paid. Board agreed to discuss a new cash/check/credit card policy at June board meeting.

8) Front of House. Vickie mentioned that we should have someone outside on Sundays to welcome in the seniors even though the new signs worked extremely well. The lack of heat was noted with Frank saying that security had to be notified by 10:00 AM on matinees and 4:00 PM for evening shows. Dawn purchased a wheel chair for the handicapped; Steve offered to spray paint sign on chair. It was noted that we can use refrigerator in 17A for anything except alcohol.

9) MHS Issues: (a) Steve Hamilton's addition of three sandwich boards for patrons to easily find parking and entrance to the theatre worked great. Additionally Steve created a checkoff list of all current signage so that we can hand off to whomever is hosting front of house that evening. Both entrance doors to auditorium were utilized, although the new sandwich boards did relieve need for two people to work outside parking, increased audience still requires 6-8 people working front of house each performance except matinee. (b) Frank said more work this summer needs to be done to get sound and lighting perfected especially if we want to do a musical.

10) All three directors accepted positions for next season's plays and have been invited to June party. The producers have contacted the directors. The Inherit The Wind producers ( Dawn Labrie and Vickie) will set up a pre-meeting next month and announced that Maureen Truax will stage manage and Bruce Houston will assistant stage manage. Auditions are scheduled to be held at the Mass Hospital School - a first!

11) The board approved Craig Truax, Erin Stulb, Laura Dunkum, Dave Daly and Vickie as the Playreading Committee. Process Timeline Goals were established and, the chair will share the following Guidelines and Goals with committee.

1. Call from members of recommendations of plays by June 15. Present monthly short lists for discussion/feedback with board as early as September, and then again in October.
2. Have recommended slate (6 plays and 3 musicals) to board by November meeting.
3. Board approve slate as early as December, no later than January.
4. 'Call for directors' made in January after director 'guidelines' agreed upon by board. Director committee appointed simultaneously.
5. Final selection of candidate recommendations made by director committee as early as February, no later than early March. Hire no later than mid March

12) The end of year party was set for June 1 at 2:00 PM at the home of Erin Stulb. The board will supply hamburgers and hot dogs, beer, wine and soft drinks. Invitees will be requested via evite to bring a dessert or side dish when they RSVP.

13) New Business: (a) summer project schedule to be developed for a props area cleanout, furniture photo book creation, revamping set building area, lighting for costume area, and an 'instruction and responsibilities' list to be

added to Policies and Procedures revamp (b) Katie Fetrow ( now in Florida) has offered any production staff this upcoming season her services to design/produce 3d version of sets via 'Google Skecth-up.' (c) two season subscriptions were approved for Tony Emma at Fontbonne for his help and storage of our furniture (d) request mass Hospital School to fix ripped black stage curtain ( e) Frank to contact Woman's Club Bursar for follow-up to close out financials.

14) As his final time as president Frank thanked the board for all of their help over the last year in making our new home a success and noted special thanks to Harriet Ryan for all her help. The board thanked him back to a loud uproarious cheer that brought our waitress to the table and thus with the next board meeting announced for Fuller Village on June 16 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM.

( End of board minutes)