

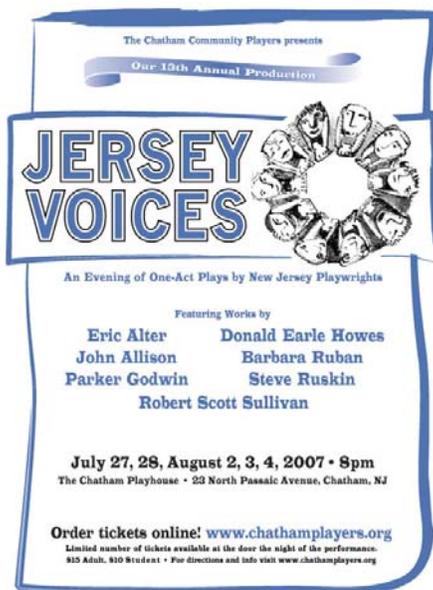
July, 2007



BACKSTAGE

Chatham Community Players Newsletter

SUMMER THEATER



Our 13th annual JERSEY VOICES, presenting original one-act pieces by New Jersey playwrights, under the leadership of **Bob Denmark** and **Bob Lukasik**, will be presented on Friday and Saturday, July 27-28, and again on August 2-4 at 8 p.m. in our Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham. Tickets are \$15, adults, and \$10 for youth. They can be ordered online at www.chathamplayers.org and clicking on "TicketLeap." For information call our box office at 973-635-7363 or go online. It is highly recommended that tickets be purchased in advance; we've often been sold out, and only a limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

More than 40 authors submitted 92 scripts, from which the following six plays and one dance piece were chosen.

"*Johnny We Hardly Knew Ye*" by **Parker Godwin**, Chatham, with **Tricia Beyer, Tom Wardach, Stacey Simon, Cy Friedman, David Hoffman**, and **Paul Bettys**. Director is **Maybelle Cowan-Lincoln**. Cowan-Lincoln has often appeared on our stage, and has previously directed for us.

"*The Chair*" by **John Allison**, Ewing, performed by **David Hoffman** and **Katie Parziale**. **Kate Daly** directs.

"*Speed Dating*" by **Barbara Ruban**, with **Tom Wardach** and **Mike King**, and directed by **Arnold Buchiane**. Buchiane has performed on our stage, and directed for "*Jersey Voices*."

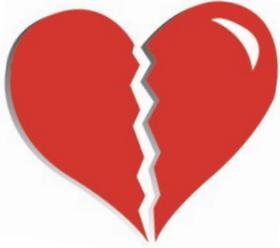
"*Waiting*" by **Eric Alter**, with **Diane Gilch, Brian Carroll, Joshua Dick** (a former high school intern with Chatham Community Players), **Lex Ackerman**, and **Nicholas Pasquali**, and **Mark Phelan** directing. Alter's plays have frequently appeared in "*Jersey Voices*" previously, and Phelan has previously directed for "*Jersey Voices*."

"*Love in Vein*" by **Steve Ruskin**, Chatham, with **Julie Jin, Mike King, Jim Clancy**, and directed by **Joann Scanlon**, well-known area director. Ruskin's piece last year was a happy hit.

"*Destinations*" by **Robert Scott Sullivan**, Dover, with **Rebecca Holmes, Katie Van Rensalier, Dan Salvatore** and **Chris Klinger**, directed by **Tom Blewitt**.

"*Grand Changement*" by **Donald Earle Howes**, Chatham, with dancers **Matt Burns, Erin Honcharuk, Ballet Tanzerin, Heather Rich**, and **Erika Sullivan**.

AUDITIONS: “CRIMES OF THE HEART”



The Chatham Community Players is pleased to announce auditions for “**Crimes of the Heart**” by **Beth Henley**. The show opens November 2 and runs through November 17. Rehearsals will begin after Labor Day. Auditions will be held on Monday, July 30, and Monday, August 6, at 7 p.m. at The Chatham Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham. Director **Bob Cline** asks that actors come prepared to read from the script. Cline has previously directed our shows “*To Kill a Mockingbird*,” “*Into the Woods*,” and “*Come Back to the Five & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*.” The Chatham Community Players has an open casting policy. All roles are open; none are pre-cast. For more details, please visit our [auditions page](#). If you

have any questions or concerns, please contact Kristin Barber at (732) 208-4184 or email casting@chathamplayers.org

“*Crimes of the Heart*” is a tale of three sisters who are trying to make sense of their lives. In Hazlehurst, Mississippi, the three Magrath sisters have gathered to await news of the family patriarch, their grandfather, who is living out his last hours in the local hospital. Lenny, the oldest sister, is unmarried at thirty and facing diminishing marital prospects; Meg, the middle sister, is back after a failed singing career on the West Coast; while Babe, the youngest, is out on bail after having shot her husband in the stomach. The three reminisce over old memories while making new ones. Like most families, these three sisters have their fair share of laughter, jealousy, and differences. All characters are extremely southern, and must have great comic timing, as well as emotional depth. The ability to add real detail to character work is a plus. We can easily play with some of the ages and character descriptions below, as we are seeking the best actor for each part.

Lenny Magrath: 30, the oldest sister is described as having a round figure and face. Most importantly, she is the oldest and has had to embrace all that that entails. **Meg Magrath:** 27, the middle sister, described as having sad magic eyes, moved to Hollywood to become a famous singer; she's back in town to help out. Self-reliant and an individual. **Babe Magrath:** 24, the youngest sister, is described as having an angelic face and fierce volatile eyes and by her sisters as being the prettiest and most perfect. When the play opens, she has just shot her husband the night before. Must be capable of portraying everything from exuberance to devastation. **Chick Boyle:** 29, the sisters' first cousin, is described as a brightly dressed matron. Could be tall and skinny, or even lanky. Knows how to sniff out drama, and sort of knows no boundaries. Makes self at home. **Doc Porter:** 30 (but appears older), Meg's old boyfriend. Described as an attractive worn man with a slight limp that adds rather than detracts from his quiet seductive quality. **Barnette Lloyd:** 26, Babe's Lawyer, is a slender, intelligent young man with an almost fanatical intensity that he subdues by sheer will.



Our thanks to “**Edible Arrangements**,” one of our advertisers for the 2006-2007 season, for providing samples of their wonderful bouquets of fruit for the opening and closing performances of our seasons' productions.

Also, we hope you have all enjoyed the lovely landscaping installed around the parking lot entrance of our building by one of our sponsors, **Birch Hill Landscaping**.

RED, WHITE & BLUE!



This year's July 4th Parade was blessed with cooler weather and CCP attracted **21** volunteers (including a dog) to march down Main Street in Chatham, NJ. Mara Lundstrom organized our group and made sure we all wore Red, White & Blue to celebrate the holiday. This year also marked the year that we had our best position in the Parade...Number 24!! It was nice not to have to walk the additional ¼ mile.

We were so excited to announce our new season to the town: **"Crimes of the Heart," "Ah, Wilderness!"** and **"Little Women, The Musical."** Go to our website to learn more about the shows!

~ ~ ~ www.chathamplayers.org ~ ~ ~

REPORT ON ANNUAL MEETING; CHANGE OF OFFICERS

Outgoing President **Chris Furlong** treated the crowd to one of his spectacular programs detailing the highlights of the season. **Debbie Hennessy**, chair of the Awards Committee, made two special presentations. **Fran Harrison** was honored with the Shipler Award for her outstanding contributions to Players during the 2006-07 season. The prestigious Dawley Award, for outstanding long-term work for Players, went to **Joelle Bochner**. Our high-school interns and other members of the high school drama program, under the supervision of Kathy Ruskin, entertained the audience with a comedic script reading.

Outgoing and incoming Trustees and Council members met at the end of June at the home of Richard and Debbie Hennessy. New officers take control beginning July 1: President Roy Pancirov, Vice-President Steve Stubelt, Secretary Mara Lundstrom, Treasurer, Kathy Rex, Business Manager Steffi Denmark, and Past President Chris Furlong.

Funding for Chatham Community Players has been made possible in part by funds from the Arts Council of the Morris Area through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

HERE AND THERE...

We all at Chatham Community Players offer our heartiest congratulations to Chris Furlong and Kristin Barber on the news of their engagement! The happy occasion will take place in May, '08!... Chris Cantalupo ("Pippin") and Cody Dalton ("Brighton Beach Memoirs," "Enchanted April") are starring in "BARE" at the Edison Valley Playhouse...Porch Room Productions presented "An Evening on the Porch," a collection of original one-act plays by John Dowgin (Jersey Voices Playwright) and Peter Barry, with David Neal ("Jersey Voices," "A

View From The Bridge") and Catherine Rowe ("Blythe Spirit") performing...Robert Cox ("Blood Brothers"), Scott Hart ("Joseph...Dreamcoat," "West Side Story"), Steven Nitka ("Cuckoo's Nest," "Brighton Beach Memoirs," "Jersey Voices"), Dave Villepique ("Amadeus") and Kathryn Davis ("Master Class") performed in "1776" at Chester Theatre Group....4th Wall Theatre presented "NINE" starring Tracey Lynne Haskell ("Blood Brothers"), Elissa Strell ("Into The Woods"), Kathy Comiciotto Tilley ("Blood Brothers") and Leslie Reagos ("A Christmas Carol," "Funny Thing...Forum" and former CCP Council member).