



# STAGE LINES

Volume 5, Issue 1

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*The Official Newsletter of Stage Coach Theatre*

## How 'Suite' it is!

### Callboard

The place to look for upcoming auditions:

**"The Harry and Sam Dialogues,"** presented by Stage Coach Theatre and directed by Erin Van Engelen. Show dates are Nov. 26-27, Dec. 2-5, 9-11. Needed are two men ages 35-55, to portray blue collar workers who have been friends their entire lives. Auditions are at 2 p.m. Sept. 18-19 in the lobby of Stage Coach Theatre. Rehearsals will begin no later than Oct. 10th. For more info, call Erin Van Engelen at 859-2045.

**"The Grapes of Wrath"** at Boise Little Theatre, directed by David Priest. Auditions are 3-6 p.m. on Sept. 11, 1-5 p.m. on Sept. 12, 7-? p.m. on Sept. 13. For information, call David Priest at 939-2163.

It's no wonder Neil Simon is America's most popular playwright. Not only has he written some of the most beloved comedies of all time, but he's also done pretty well with his "Suite" plays, including "London Suite, which opens Friday, Aug. 27th at Stage Coach Theatre.

Like "Plaza Suite" and "California Suite" before it, "London Suite" is a collection (suite, get it?) of mini-plays that all take place in the same hotel suite. Simon constructs the show like a symphony, varying the comic and dramatic elements of each playlet, building to a flat-out farce in the final scene that will leave audiences with big smiles on their faces as they leave the theatre. Best of all, the actors in the show play multiple roles—an excellent opportunity for some of Stage Coach Theatre's most popular actors to show off their acting chops.

The show begins with "Settling Accounts," featuring a man with a gun and a man with a briefcase in a tale of betrayal. Next up is "Going Home," in which a woman and her grown daughter visit London for shopping, but the daughter wants to play matchmaker for her widowed mom.

After intermission, Simon revisits some familiar characters from his prior play, "California Suite," in the poignant "Diana and Sidney." The show ends with "The Man on the Floor," with



The cast of "London Suite" (from left, Kevin Kimsey, Kevin Labrum, Ben Ulmen, Nancy Suiter, and Helene Myers) rehearse the final scene of the show.

American tourists headed to Wimbledon but waylaid by a serious case of back spasms.

"London Suite" is directed by LaRae Walker and features Kevin Kimsey, Kevin Labrum, Helene Myers, Nancy Suiter and Ben Ulmen.

**"London Suite" opens Friday, August 27, and runs through September 11 with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8:15 Fridays and Saturdays and 2:00 on the single Sunday matinee on September 5. Tickets are \$12 Fridays/Saturdays, \$10 Thursdays/Sundays. Call the box office at 342-2000 for reservations and information.**

## 'Misery' reigns at rained-on picnic

Despite some dark clouds and sultry temperatures, Stage Coach Theatre's awards picnic and annual meeting drew a large crowd Aug. 21 at "Cederstrom Park" (the lovely back yard of Don and Vera Cederstrom).

During the annual meeting portion of the event, SCT members filled four open seats on the board of directors, adding three newcomers and electing Elizabeth Greeley to an additional term on the board. See the sidebar at left for the lineup of board officers for our 2004-2005 season.

This was the final board meeting for Helene Myers, who has finished her stint on the board and as president of the theatre. Thank you, Helene, for all of your hard work! Many thanks

also go to retiring board members Kevin Labrum and Debbie LaFond.

After the board elections, it was time to give out Masque Awards for the 2003-2004 season. Every show was represented among the nominees, but this year's big winner was "Misery," winning eight of the nine awards for which it was eligible. A complete list of nominees and winners is below.

After that, the deluge. Since "Misery" seemed to be the theme of the day, the weather played along and turned miserable. Just as the awards ceremony ended, the skies darkened, the wind howled and whipped through the back yard, and much of the crowd scattered. It was certainly an exciting end to an eventful day.

### 2003-2004 Masque Award nominees

Award Recipients Are Indicated By \*

#### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN:

##### PROGRAM DESIGN:

Stacey Reed for *Punch and Judy*  
\*Kim Labrum for *Proof*  
Scott Levey for *Breaking Legs*

##### SOUND DESIGN:

\*Ben Ulmen for *Misery*  
Ben Ulmen, Erin Van Engelen for *Punch and Judy*  
Larry Dennis for *Breaking Legs*

##### LIGHTING DESIGN:

Don Walker for *Solitary Confinement*  
\*Mike Mullens for *Misery*  
Don Walker for *Punch and Judy*

##### SET DESIGN:

Don Walker for *Solitary Confinement*  
\*Jerry Snodgrass for *Misery*  
Larry Dennis for *Breaking Legs*

##### COSTUME DESIGN:

\*Debbie Hoover for *Misery*  
Summer Day, Jennifer Bertino for *Weekend Comedy*  
Elizabeth Greeley for *Breaking Legs*

##### BEST ACTOR IN A MINOR ROLE:

Jay Sherlock as "Norval" in *Dearly Departed*  
Perry A. Decker as "Clyde" in *Dearly Departed*  
\*Kevin Labrum as "Frankie Salvucci" in *Breaking Legs*

##### BEST ACTRESS IN A MINOR ROLE:

Shelley Ward as "Veda" in *Dearly Departed*  
\*Melissa Snowball as "Nadine" in *Dearly Departed*  
Melody Whigam as "Juanita" in *Dearly Departed*

Deanna McMahon as "Vivian" in *Lover's Leap*

##### BEST ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE:

Mike Mullens as "Royce" in *Dearly Departed*  
\*Mike Cronen as "Robert" in *Proof*  
Rick Hunt as "Harry" in *Lover's Leap*  
August Pollio as "Mike Francisco" in *Breaking Legs*

##### BEST ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE:

\*Julie Miller as "Marguerite" in *Dearly Departed*  
Genevieve Winters as "Claire" in *Proof*  
Becky Jaynes as "Linda" in *Lover's Leap*  
Stacey Jacks as "Jill" in *Weekend Comedy*

##### BEST ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE:

Anthony Polidori as "Richard Jannings" (and Supporting Cast) in *Solitary Confinement*  
\*Mike Cronen as "Paul" in *Misery*  
Jeremy Chase as "Hal" in *Proof*  
Don Walker as "Frank Jackson" in *Weekend Comedy*  
Rick Hunt as "Louis Graziano" in *Breaking Legs*

##### BEST ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE:

\*Michele Cronen as "Annie Wilkes" in *Misery*  
Angela Simitzes as "Carol" in *Punch and Judy*  
Jennifer Stockwell as "Marina" in *Punch and Judy*  
LaRae Walker as "Peggy Jackson" in *Weekend Comedy*

##### BEST DIRECTOR:

Don Walker for *Solitary Confinement*  
\*Mike Mullens for *Misery*  
Erin Van Engelen for *Punch and Judy*

##### OUTSTANDING OVERALL PRODUCTION:

\**Misery*  
*Punch and Judy*  
*Dearly Departed*  
*Breaking Legs*

### Stage Coach Theatre announces its 2004-2005 Board of Directors:

Karl Johnson,  
*President*

Erin Van Engelen,  
*Vice President*

Perry Decker,  
*Treasurer*

Elizabeth Greeley,  
*Secretary*

Larry Dennis,  
*Business Manager*

Kevin Kimsey,  
*Artistic Director*

Nicole Bayer

Michele Cronen

Wendy Koeppel

Kim Labrum

Janelle Walters



## HELP WANTED

**Stage Coach Theatre is run entirely by volunteers. If you love our theatre as much as we do, there are many ways you can help:**

**HOUSEKEEPER:** Stage Coach Theatre, Inc. has an immediate opening for some hard working, well-organized volunteers to help clean up after the actors. Duties include ensuring that the theatre is spotless before opening night and occasional spot cleaning other times. The Housekeeping Crew keeps inventory of cleaning supplies and replaces them as necessary. If you'd like to head up the Housekeeping Crew or just serve on it, call Karl Johnson at 284-5462.

**MICROWAVE OVEN:** Our theatre is in need of a microwave oven to prepare food items for shows, both onstage and off. If you have a microwave you'd like to donate, we'd love to take it off your hands. And, since Stage Coach Theatre is a non-profit organization, your donation is tax-deductible. Call Karl Johnson at 284-5462.

## Stage Coach to offer free acting workshops

The 2004-2005 season brings an outstanding opportunity for actors who want to work on their craft. Whether you are in a show, working on an audition piece or are just interested in improving your technique, the SCT Actors Workshop is your chance to participate in a learning experience usually reserved for college or professional theatres.

Led by veteran actor Mike Cronen, the workshops will be collaborative efforts, where the curriculum will focus on the actor's process. "This will allow for feedback and observations from everyone involved, not just those who are 'running' the workshop," Cronen explained

The workshops are FREE. The only things participants need to bring are a handful of scripts (to give the group plenty to work on) and the willingness to participate. The schedule for the workshops will be decided by the participants and will not interfere with show rehearsals.

"Just because we don't get paid to act in community theatre doesn't mean we can't practice and improve our craft the same way professionals do," Cronen said.

If you are interested in attending the workshops, have any questions, or would like to be added to the contact list, call Mike Cronen at 323-7720 or email [myspeed@rmci.net](mailto:myspeed@rmci.net).

## Casino Night draws a crowd and hits the jackpot

Thanks to more than 70 people who enjoy gambling, auctions, and lots and lots of fun, Stage Coach Theatre's latest Casino Night was its most successful yet, netting more than \$2500 for the theatre.

As usual, the success of Casino Night is due in large part to the many volunteers who worked at the event, the people who rounded up excellent

donations for the auction, and of course the individuals and companies who donated prizes, beverages, and more. Our theatre and its patrons are very, very grateful!

The next Casino Night is scheduled for Saturday, February 5th. If you'd like to help, contact Casino Night coordinator Erin Van Engelen at [erin.j.vanengelen@smithbarney.com](mailto:erin.j.vanengelen@smithbarney.com).

**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAIL LIST.** Get updates, opening night reminders, and Stage Lines on line (with color pictures!). To subscribe, send an e-mail to: [StageCoachTheatre-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:StageCoachTheatre-subscribe@yahoo.com)



## 'Jekyll & Hyde' in rehearsals for October opening

Director Rick Hoover promises that Stage Coach audiences will be amazed by the wonderful singing voices in "Jekyll & Hyde," which opens October 8 and runs through October 30.

The cast has been rehearsing all summer to prepare for this challenging musical.

At left, Angela Simitzes (as Lucy) and Gregg Irwin (as Jekyll/Hyde) rehearse the song "Dangerous Game."

At right, Irwin and Kellie Chavez (as Emma) rehearse the song "Once Upon A Dream."

Mark your calendars for this special Stage Coach Theatre event!



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF STAGE COACH THEATRE

***Dare to do it live!***



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## Backstage Chatter

*News and notes from the Stage Coach Theatre "family"*

August started off with a bang as a big bunch of theatre folks met at our favorite karaoke bar, Mike's Lounge (our breezeway neighbor at Hillcrest) to celebrate the 30th birthday of **Jeremy Chase** at the stroke of midnight on Aug. 1. A week later, Jeremy continued to celebrate his birthday by jumping out of an airplane. (What IS it about SCT folk that makes them want to sky dive? Hmmm, could it be... **John Myers**??)

After the Stage Coach picnic on Aug. 21, **Kevin Kimsey** held his annual "After Picnic Party." However, Kevin failed to think things through, and he al-

lowed the SCT gang of crazies to use his house while he was attending a concert at the fair. While he was gone, a group of partiers decided to rearrange his furniture, putting his foosball table where the dining table used to be, the air hockey table and the dining table into the living room, and some assorted mischief in the bedroom. (Kevin showed up before they could do a *Godfather* homage and put a boar's head into his bed.) When Kevin arrived back home and commented about the strange decorating makeover, **Don Walker** eloquently put it in a nutshell: "It's Queer Eye for the absent guy!"

Here's a note from **Jennifer Bertino**:

"Our very own **Stacey Jacks** has moved to Las Vegas to pursue a career as a Paramedic. She has an advanced EMT certificate and after some more schooling will be a paramedic. Until very recently she was planning to join the Peace Corps, but the Corps fell through and she decided to pursue the medical services profession that has interested her for years--it takes a special person to WANT to arrive first at a car crash. I will certainly miss her company and I'm sure the community will miss her talent. Best of luck to you, Stacey!"

Other SCT days to celebrate:

Birthdays:

Aug. 7: **Mike Mullers**

Aug. 15: **Leah Cronen**

Aug. 30: **Ryan Kimsey**

Sept. 6: **Katie Kimsey** (sweet 16!)

Sept. 21: **Daniel Hunt**

Anniversaries:

Aug. 15: **Rick and Debbie Hoover**, 34 years (yippee!)

Aug. 28: **Mike and Michele Cronen**, 22 years

*You can submit your Backstage Chatter to Stage Lines editor Michele Cronen at [MLCronen@rmci.net](mailto:MLCronen@rmci.net).*