



# The Prompter

Rome Community Theater

8911 Turin Road Rome, NY

(315) 337-5920

Feb. 2020

## Presidents Column

Happy 2020 Theater Supporters! Another new year full of great theater opportunities for you has begun. Who doesn't love a murder mystery--especially one that's funny! Make your reservations for "The Game's Afoot" soon; this fun and funny whodunit should have large audiences and you don't want to miss it.

Many thanks to John Frank, John Doiron and their merry band of carpenters, electricians and other skilled craftsmen on the final touches of "Fred's Shed." The much-needed storage room, named to honor and remember founding member of RCT and timeless volunteer Fred Normand, has taken shape recently and will house lots of props, furniture and set pieces to make the stage area much more efficient.

Community theater is always on the move and our next play, "Amadeus," based on the life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and directed by Eric Almleaf, has been cast and is in rehearsals for their April performances.

It is fast approaching the time we will be looking for a team to produce a summer children's show, too; musical or non-musical--a production for all of our young theater enthusiasts is a crucial part of our educational charter. The Play Reading Committee is deep into selecting the slate of shows for 2020-2021; costumes and props are being cleared, cleaned and organized; many volunteer hours keep YOUR theater running on a day-to-day basis. Should you wish to lend a hand in any way at RCT, please contact me ([bjseaton@usa.net](mailto:bjseaton@usa.net)) to indicate your interest and we'll gratefully find a space for you to help.

See you at the show! Barbara Seaton  
RCT President 2019-2020

## "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street" TANYs Awards

Co-directors Barbara Seaton and Deb Holling are pleased to announce that TANYs adjudicator Joan Luther gave the show the following awards:

- Meritorious Achievement in Acting to **Karista Fisher** as Susan Walker
- Meritorious Achievement in Acting to **Stephen Hampe** as Kris Kringle
- Meritorious Achievement in Ensemble Performance to **the Elves of Elf Theatre**

## "The Game's Afoot" Opens February 13

RCT presents the comedy/mystery: "The Game's Afoot" February 13-15 at 730PM and February 16 at 230PM. It is December 1936 and Broadway star William Gillette, admired the world over for his leading role in the play Sherlock Holmes, has invited his fellow cast-members to his Connecticut home for a weekend of revelry. But when one of the guests is stabbed to death, the festivities in this isolated house of tricks and mirrors quickly turn dangerous. Then it's up to Gillette himself, as he assumes the persona of his beloved Holmes, to track down the killer before the next victim appears.

Cast in this production are:

William Gillette - Eric Almleaf  
Martha Gillette - Deborah Martin  
Felix Geisel - Richard Stoodley  
Madge Geisel - Linda LaPorte-Stoodley  
Simon Bright - Vincent Cavo  
Aggie Wheeler - Melissa Brass-Maggio  
Inspector Harriet Goring - TJ Phister  
Daria Chase - Valerie Abel

Director Adrian Maggio suggests anyone planning to go to this production buy tickets in advance on the RCT website [www.romecommunitytheater.org](http://www.romecommunitytheater.org). In addition, the box office will be open for reservations at 315-337-5920 starting on February 6 between 6 & 10PM. Makes for a great Valentine's Day date!

## RCT Annual Holiday Party

On Sunday January 5 RCT held its annual Holiday Party and Variety Show. Singing, story telling and flute playing were featured in this event. Performing these acts were John Parker, Maria Parker, Caitlyn Hampe, Connie Watkins (singers), Barb Seaton (flute) and Barb Bertone (Story Telling). Donations of items were collected and distributed by overall event coordinator Ella Alsheimer. Also thanked is Barb Seaton who volunteered to MC the event. Lastly, thanks to all the audience non-performers who came to show their support and enjoy the evening.

ROME COMMUNITY THEATER  
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## **Editor's Note** **“Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street”**

Some regular patrons to RCT stopped me after the show and said unprovoked that this production was one of the **best** they ever had seen at RCT. That compliment says a lot for the effort of many especially since the show could not use the actual set until after the TANYs Festival concluded on Nov. 25. Co-Directors Barb Seaton and Deb Holling are commended for pulling it all together. John Frank and John Doiron contributed designing and constructing the portable set pieces and Mike Sharp worked with the directors to design the set projections. All in all there are many others who made this all possible and given the circumstances did a great job pulling off this wonderful production. John Parker, editor RCT Prompter



## **Volunteers Needed**

RCT is looking for a volunteer to take over the responsibilities of overseeing the publishing of the Season Program. This would include getting advertisers, designing the program, and coordinating the printing of the program. If you have any questions you can contact Chris Galin at [cgalin@msn.com](mailto:cgalin@msn.com).

RCT is looking for a director for its annual summer youth production. If you are interested (even if you do not have any idea of a play you want to do) contact Barb Seaton, [bjseaton@usa.net](mailto:bjseaton@usa.net) by 6 March.

## **Boscov's Fundraisers**

RCT participated in two fundraisers in cooperation with Boscov's Department Store in New Hartford.

In the Fall, Ella Alsheimer and Sharon Parker headed up the Friends Helping Friends campaign. They sold shopping passes to an annual Boscov's anniversary celebration and profited \$5 for each pass sold. They were sold in-store as well as at our shows (thanks to all who bought one!).

In December, RCT participated in wrapping Christmas presents for patrons at Boscov's for a donation to RCT. This was headed up by Barb Seaton with help from her elves Laura Sharp, Ella Alsheimer, Sharon Parker, AJ Parker, Maria Parker, Kirstin Walker and Lauren Impicciatore. RCT raised a total of \$798 in both fundraisers. RCT thanks all for their time and efforts.



## **Quick News**

- RCT's next production "Amadeus" has been cast by director Eric Almleaf. The show will be performed April 16-18 at 730PM and April 19 at 230PM. Mark your calendars. Details will be in the next Prompter.
- Congratulations to RCT's John Frank for receiving the M. Proctor Theatre Guild Lifetime Achievement Award. Each year they honor someone that has worked in community theater to keep the arts alive. They honored him for his tireless work with both RCT and the Rome Capital Theater.